

LEOMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Leominster Town Council Meeting held on Monday 25th July 2016 commencing at 19:00 hours in the Council Chamber, 17 West Street, Leominster HR6 8EP.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors A Pendleton (Mayor), R Pendleton (Deputy Mayor), Bartlett, Barton, Davies, Freedland, Lacey, Marsh, Mifflin and Rumsey.

OFFICER PRESENT: Town Clerk.

ALSO PRESENT: Ward Cllrs McCaull and Stone, one press representative and three members of the public.

36/16 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Evans (illness), Gibson, (Illness), Norman (holiday), Rosser (personal), Taylor (work) and Thomas (holiday).

37/16 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following Declarations of Interest was made:

- Cllr Lacey: Allotment plot holder.

38/16 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

No requests for dispensation had been received.

39/16 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no questions submitted from members of the public.

40/16 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

It was proposed by Cllr Davies, seconded by Cllr Lacey and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Leominster Town Council meeting held on 14th May 2016 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

It was proposed by Cllr Davies, seconded by Cllr Rumsey and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Leominster Town Council meetings held on 16th May 2016 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

41/16 CLERK'S REPORT

The following Clerk's Report was **NOTED**:

- (a) **Refugee Crisis** – Council noted that the Leominster Refugee Crisis Collection organisers had been served notice to vacate the Old Mortuary with immediate effect. Following consideration it was agreed to allow the organisation to use the annex of 11 Corn Square, once completion of the purchase of the building had taken place, as a temporary storage area until alternative accommodation had been secured.

- (b) **Tennis Club Grant** – Council noted the correspondence thanking it for the grant to Leominster Tennis Club. The Club had run the first session for disabled adults, which had gone very well.
- (c) **Herefordshire Family Festival** – A request had been received to provide financial support for the participants and their families to attend the Family Festival Art exhibition. Following consideration it was proposed by Cllr R Pendleton, seconded by Cllr Davies and **RESOLVED** to provide a grant of up to £100 to help fund the transport.

Council also agreed to investigate the possibility of developing a family event in Leominster as part of the Festival, which would be taking place between 22nd and 30th October 2016.

Members noted that the Priory Holiday Club was currently taking place and an invitation to attend the final session on Friday 29th July 2016 had been received.

- (d) **Travellers Sites Development Plan** – Council **NOTED** that consultation had commenced on this Plan and would close on 19th September 2016. This matter would be considered by the Planning & Highways Committee.
- (e) **Food Fayre 3rd September 2016** – Council **NOTED** the request received from the Leominster Food Fayre Committee to help fund the road closure fee upfront, with the possible reimbursement if the Fayre attracted enough income to cover its costs. The Town Council was an organisation partner and provided insurance cover and other support for the Fayre.

Following consideration it was proposed by Cllr Rumsey, seconded by Cllr Freedland and **RESOLVED** to fund the required road closures for the Food Fayre to be held on Saturday 3rd September 2016.

42/16 COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Council **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the following meetings:

- (a) **Planning & Highways Committee** – It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the Planning & Highway Committee meetings held on 6th and 27th June and 18th July 2016, and authorise the decisions and recommendations contained therein.
- (b) **Environment & Services Committee**– It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the Planning & Highway Committee meeting held on 11th July 2016, and authorise the decisions and recommendations contained therein.
- (c) **Finance & General Purposes Committee** – It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the Planning & Highway Committee meeting held on 27th June 2016, and authorise the decisions and recommendations contained therein.

43/16 FINANCES

- (a) **Financial Report** – Following consideration, it was **RESOLVED**:

- That the Quarter One Financial Report for the 2016/17 financial year be noted;
 - That all payments made during Quarter One amounting to £129,587.89 be ratified;
 - That income received, amounting to £248,203, including the precept and transitional grant, be noted;
 - That Petty cash expenditure amounting to £382.41 be noted;
 - That the balances at the bank amounting to £275,789 as at 30th June 2016, be noted;
 - That the projected income and expenditure for 2016/17, currently showing an £11,000 overspend, be monitored.
- (b) **Grant Application** – Following consideration by Council of the grant request received from the Bridge Street Sports Centre to help renew the artificial playing surface, it was **RESOLVED** to award a grant of £500, subject to the Sports Centre securing a grant from Sport England.
- (c) **Destination Leominster** – Council received the report from Orphans, Leominster, outlining the cost of developing Destination Leominster branding. Following consideration, it was **RESOLVED** to allocate a sum of £1,000 towards this project from the Corn Square Development Fund.
- (d) **CAB Herefordshire** – Council receives an update regarding the future of the CAB service in Herefordshire. It was noted that a meeting between Herefordshire Council, CAB and the Market Towns had been held on Wednesday 20th July 2016. Following that meeting, a request had been received to support the development of the Herefordshire Information and Advice Partnership.

Following consideration it was **RESOLVED** that a sum of £600 be awarded to the development of the Information and Advice Partnership, subject to further support being received from the other market towns in Herefordshire.

It was noted that further discussions would be held between Leominster Town Council and CAB to develop options to provide an advice service in Leominster through CAB. Further funding would be required.

44/16 LEOMINSTER AREA NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN (LANP)

Council **NOTED** that final amendments to the LANP had been considered and agreed by the Steering Group. The amendments were currently being finalised before final submission to Herefordshire Council.

It was proposed by Cllr Freedland, seconded by Cllr Runsey and **RESOLVED** that the Town Council formally approve the final amended Neighbourhood Plan and submit it to Herefordshire Council for examination.

45/16 MOTION

The following motion was proposed by Cllr Bartlett and seconded by Cllr Barton:

This Council resolves that:

Leominster Town Council is disturbed and disappointed to hear that people of different culture or colour have been racially abused in Leominster following the referendum.

Leominster is normally a friendly and welcoming place, and we are sure that the majority of our residents will deplore this behaviour as much as we do.

We wish to state unequivocally that Leominster welcomes people from all walks of life - and will continue to do so. We want Herefordshire to be known for being a diverse and tolerant society. Unkind speech and acts of prejudice have no place in our town, county or our country. We will continue to promote and celebrate difference and we condemn all forms of racism, xenophobia and hate crime. We encourage respect for one another in all that we say and do, and wish to reassure all people visiting and living in this area that they are valued and welcome.

Council voted on the Motion which was approved unanimously.

46/16 REPORTS

Reports were received from the following Councillors:

- Cllr A Pendleton had attended the recent HALC meeting. The HALC AGM would be held on 12th November 2016;
- Cllr Bartlett had attended the recent LARC meeting. A new CEO had now taken over;
- Cllrs R Pendleton and Gibson had been liaising with the LDCA regarding a new business plan and positive progress was being made.

Council **NOTED** that a meeting had recently been held with the Saverne Twinning Association. Following discussion Council **RESOLVED** to provide administrative support to the Association to help maintain the Twinning links now and in the future.

The following report was received from Cllr McCaull:

- The Residents Parking Scheme in Ryelands Road was now in place and being enforced;
- The potholes in Southern Avenue had now been made safe. This road required resurfacing and this would be followed up;
- Tickbridge Lane had not been cut back previously, despite confirmation from BBLP that it had. However this had now been addressed and the Lane cut back and visibility improved.

The following report was received from Cllr Stone:

- Road patching had been carried out between the level crossing and Brightwells;
- Bins were being emptied on a more regular basis and litter picking undertaken in the laybys along the A49;
- A number of Neighbourhood Plans had been adopted, with further Plans being developed throughout Herefordshire. Cllr Stone was pleased that the Leominster Plan was now back on track;

- A consultation was being carried out regarding views on the future of the libraries;
- A workshop was being held by BBLP on 4th August 2016 regarding TROs;
- Cllr Stone offered his support of the motion agreed under minute 45/16.

The following report was received from Cllr Bartlett:

- Briefings have been held by Herefordshire Council regarding the delivery of the Core Strategy and the new schedule of charges being implemented by BBLP;
- Meetings had been attended regarding the A49, Bargates junction, Neighbourhood Plan, BPI and Broad Street car park;
- Meetings have also been held with residents regarding Neighbourhood Watch, flytipping, Pinsley Mill development, the Greenies Tea Party, the community litter pick and the Leominster in Bloom judging;
- Progress is being made with Norfolk House but there is still a long way to go.

47/16 MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS

Cllr A Pendleton provided a Mayoral report and had attended the following events:

- 18th May had a meeting, with the Secretary & Chair of Leominster Twinning Society, to discuss the Town's twinning with Saverne. Following this meeting, a letter was sent by the Mayor to the Mayor of Saverne.
- 20th May Mayor attended the Annual Meeting of Herefordshire Council.
- 21st May Attended the 90th Anniversary of Queenswood.
- 28th Mayor and Consort attended the 'Mayor making Ceremony' at Ludlow.
- 27th May attended Leominster Art Exhibition at Grange Court.
- 28th May The Leominster Choral Society Concert – Haydn at the Priory.
- 29th May Mayor, Consort & Deputy, attended the Leominster Festival Service at the Priory.
- 3rd June Mayor, Consort & Deputy - Mayoral Charity Concert – Fron Choir and Luke Doyle violinist.
- 5th June Mayor, Consort & Deputy - Philharmonic Orchestra concert at the Priory.
- 6th June Mayor & Consort attended the 'Mayor Making' Ceremony at Ross-on Wye.
- 11th June Mayor & Consort attended the celebratory services in honour of her Majesty the Queen's 90th birthday at the Priory and later that day at Hereford Cathedral.
- 17th June attended the open day at Waverley Care Home.
- 18th June Leominster Medieval Pageant Procession through the town and, in the evening, the Medieval Banquet held in the Priory.
- 19th June Mayor attended the 'Medieval Service' at the Priory.
- 20th June 'Fly a Flag' for Armed Forces, held at St. Peter's Square, Hereford
- 23rd June Open day at BUPA Residential Home.
- 23rd June St John Ambulance Service 'Rededication' at St Mary's Church, Ross-on- Wye.

- 25th June – Mayor and Deputy Mayor Ledbury – RBL Parade
- 25th June – attended the Hereford String Orchestra concert at The Priory
- 26th June Mayor attended Patronal Service at the Priory
- 27th June Civic Service Funeral – Molly Cooke. The Mayor thanked Members for their attendance at the recent funeral of Molly Cooke.
- 1st July Mayor and Deputy Mayor attended a performance at St Mays Church Yazor, in celebration of Her Majesty's Birthday.
- 3rd July Mayor and Deputy Mayor attended. 'Mayor Making' Ceremony at Kidderminster
- 8th July Mayor's Consort accompanied Heart of England in Bloom Judges around Leominster Town
- 9th July Mayor's Consort officiated at Ivington Fete

48/16 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Council noted that the next Full Town Council meeting would be held on Monday 26th September 2016.

49/16 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

As certain items were expected to include the consideration of exempt information it was **RESOLVED** that, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded during the discussion of the matters referred to in the items listed below, on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information, as defined in the respective paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, and the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

50/16 PROPERTY REPORT

Council received the Property report and, following discussion, **RESOLVED:**

- That the report be noted;
- That the property known as 17 West Street, Leominster be formally disposed subject to due diligence;
- That consideration of future investment proposals be considered and reviewed at a future meeting.

51/16 ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR REPORT

Council received the Antisocial Behaviour report and, following discussion, **RESOLVED:**

- That the report be noted;
- That Council supported the setting up of an Action Group to help address the issues being experienced;
- That delegated authority be given to the Action Group to take minor decisions to help address antisocial behaviour;
- That Cllrs A Pendleton, Bartlett and Rumsey be appointed from the Town Council to sit on the Action Group.

52/16 LONDON BRIDGE

Council received the London Bridge report and, following discussion, **RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

There being no other business, the Mayor thanked Members for their attendance and closed the meeting at 21:14 hours.

MAYOR:

DATE: