

LEOMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENT AND SERVICES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Environment & Services Committee meeting held on Monday 16th July 2018 commencing at 19:00 hours in the Council Offices, 11 Corn Square, Leominster HR6 8YP.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors Herschy (Chair), Bartlett, Lacey, Marsh, Sutcliffe and Thomas.

OTHERS PRESENT: Ward Councillor Stone.

OFFICER PRESENT: Town Clerk and the Environmental Supervisor.

ES13/18 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Davies (illness) and Norman (work).

ES14/18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declaration of interest was made:

- Cllr Lacey: Allotment holder.

ES15/18 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

There had been no requests for dispensation.

ES16/18 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no members of the public present. Cllr Stone congratulated Cllrs Norman and Herschy on the election as Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee.

ES17/18 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Environment & Services Committee meeting held on 21st May 2018 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

Minute ES08/18 – Committee noted the clarification to this minute that the Ward Councillors would be raising the matter of relationships between Herefordshire Council and towns and parishes within the County via the Scrutiny Committee and not the specific issues relating to Leominster Town Council.

ES18/18 CLERK'S REPORT

Committee Members were provided with a copy of the commitments developed by the Earl Mortimer Collage and Sixth Form Centre to support Leominster's Armed Forces Community and the Armed Forces Covenant. This was welcomed by the Committee and a letter of thanks would be sent to Earl Mortimer College.

ES19/18 COMMITTEE UPDATE REPORT

Committee considered the Committee Update Report in detail and, following discussion, it was **RESOLVED**:

- That the report be noted;
- To note that the judging for Leominster in Bloom took place on Friday 6th July 2018;
- That Committee Members submit any amendments, additional and other comments to the draft Corporate Objectives by Friday 7th September 2018 so that the final Objectives could be formally agreed;
- That negotiations with Herefordshire Council continue as outlined in Section 5 of the report;
- That the possible lease of the Westbury Street public conveniences and ticket office be pursued but not as a priority;
- That consideration be given to combining the visit to the waste plant with a visit to the waste energy plant in Worcestershire.

Committee **RESOLVED** to express its disappointment and concern to Herefordshire Council regarding the lack of communication between it and the Town Council regarding the impending termination of the Interserve cleaning contract for public conveniences. A new contract has been awarded to Balfour Beatty who will not be providing additional services to other organisations including the Town Council.

Two public conveniences were asset transferred to the Town Council in 2016 alongside the cleaning contract, which at the time was being undertaken by Interserve Ltd. The cost of the cleaning service was affordable and on the same basis as the costs previously incurred by Herefordshire Council, as Interserve Ltd had the contract for all of Herefordshire's public conveniences.

The consequence of this decision by Herefordshire Council to award the new contract to Balfour Beatty will be a potentially significant increase in the cleaning costs directly to the Town Council. The Town Council took the assets over in good faith on the understanding that there would continue to be partnership working between it and Herefordshire Council

ES20/18 HEREFORDSHIRE SUSTAINABLE ROUTE MAP

Committee received a brief overview of the Herefordshire Sustainable Route Map Brightspace Foundation Pilot project proposal for Leominster. Following discussion it was agreed to invite Brightspace Foundation to give a presentation to the Committee prior to its meeting on Monday 17th September 2018.

ES21/18 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

As certain items were expected to include the consideration of exempt information the Environment & Services Committee **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 would 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.

(a) **Sydonia Update** – Committee considered the report presented and, following discussion, **RESOLVED:**

- That the report be noted;
- To ensure that the issues highlighted in the report and the post installation report were addressed and the site was safe to use;
- To agree a cost reduction due to the additional issues the Town Council has had to address and the additional works undertaken by the Town Council;
- To secure safer surfacing for the remaining unit as part of the cost reduction agreement;
- That an opening ceremony be fully funded by HAGS.

ES22/18 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Committee noted that the next meeting would be held on Monday 17th September 2018 at 19:00hrs in the Council Chamber, 11 Corn Square, Leominster HR6 8YP.

There being no other business, the Chair thanked members for their attendance and closed the meeting at 8:45pm.

CHAIR:

DATE: