

LEDBURY TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A RECONVENED MEETING OF FULL COUNCIL
HELD ON 11 OCTOBER 2023

PRESENT: Councillors Chowns, Furlonger, l'Anson (Town Mayor), McAll, Newsham and Morris

ALSO PRESENT: Julia Lawrence – Deputy Town Clerk
Charlotte Bartrop – Minute Taker

C126. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bradford, Eakin, Harvey, Hughes and Howells.

C127. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None received.

C128. TO RECEIVE AND NOTE THE MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF THE PLANNING, ECONOMY & TOURISM COMMITTEE HELD ON 10 AUGUST AND 14 SEPTEMBER 2023 AND TO GIVE CONSIDERATION TO ANY RECOMMENDATIONS THEREIN

RESOLVED:

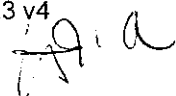
That the minutes of the meetings of the Planning, Economy & Tourism Committee held on 10 August and 14 September 2023 were received and noted.

C129. TO RECEIVE AND NOTE THE MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT & LEISURE COMMITTEE HELD ON 7 SEPTEMBER 2023 AND TO GIVE CONSIDERATION TO ANY RECOMMENDATIONS THEREIN

Officers were asked for an update in respect of progress in relation to the purchase of further land. The Deputy Clerk informed members that Officers are looking into this with specialist consultants who can assist with land purchases for Cemeteries.

Minute E47 - Councillor Chowns asked where the tree was located [Tree in Blenheim Drive] and whether there was any danger that the residents may decide to undertake the work themselves. The Deputy Clerk informed the members that Officers had been in contact with the residents and who had confirmed that they were unlikely to undertake this work.

Councillor McAll stated that he believed the decision had been made so as not to set a precedent for the future.



RESOLVED:

1. That the minutes of the meeting of the Environment & Leisure Committee held on 7 September 2023 be received and noted.
2. That Ledbury Town Council agree not to take any action on reducing the tree by 30% and that it be Council policy not to carry out works on healthy trees without good reason.

C130. MINUTES OF A WAR MEMORIAL SITE VISIT HELD ON 20 SEPTEMBER 2023 AND THE CERTIFICATE OF PROGRESS PAYMENT IN RESPECT OF WORKS CARRIED OUT TO-DATE ON THE WAR MEMORIAL

Members commented that there was good progress on the works to the War Memorial and that there was a hope that they would be finished in the next week or so, believing that it was only the obelisk to complete.

The Deputy Clerk informed the members that the works were on schedule to be completed by the end of October.

RESOLVED:

1. That the minutes of the War Memorial Site visit held on 20 September 2023 be received and noted.
2. That the certificate of Progress Payment in respect of works carried out to-date on the War Memorial be approved.

C131. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

- i. Environment & Leisure Committee
 - a. That an annual event similar to a Village Fete be held by Ledbury Town Council on the Bank Holiday Monday of the Spring Bank Holiday

Members discussed the need for a number of Volunteers in order to run this event and agreed that there should be an advert for these Volunteers as soon as possible. They agreed that if the minimum number of 20 Volunteers was not reached by the end of 2023, this event would not go ahead.

RESOLVED:

1. That an event be held on Spring Bank Holiday subject to sufficient volunteers being identified no later than the end of 2023.
2. That if 20 volunteers are not secured by the end of 2023 the event would be cancelled.

ii. Planning, Economy & Tourism

- a. That the Traffic Management Working Party be authorised to work with Clare Stone to explore the possibility of S106 monies being used for a "Ledbury Hopper" type service.
- b. S106 Wish List - Minute P93 refers

Members looked through the S106 wish list and colour coded the items on pages 702 and 703 as follows:

Project / Works Description	Project / Works Description	Priority
Public green space	Development of an additional park/green space including a recreation ground at the viaduct site	Green
	Improved lighting at the Recreation Ground & Town Trail i.e. installing solar/movement activated lighting	Red
	Picnic area at the Recreation Ground	Green
	Improve landscaping and flow on the river	Green
Paths & cycleways	Improved existing provision:	Red
	Installing solar/movement activated lighting on Town Trail	Red
	All-weather path surface on Town Trail & riverside walk	Amber
	Widening of the Orchard Lane cycle/footbridge on Town Trail	Red
Play/exercise equipment	Improved play equipment in residential areas, e.g. New Mills, Deer Park	Amber
	Running/Trim-trail round town	Green
Youth/Teen provision	Provision of a Youth Centre in the form of a coffee bar/drop-in centre.	Red
	Creative workshop facilities particularly for young people i.e. rehearsal rooms, recording suite, wet art room, technology suite	Red
	Lifelong learning workshop facility	More details required
Additional sports provision	Athletics track	Green
	Range of facilities appealing across wider gender and age ranges e.g. Padel, short tennis, netball, indoor tennis/bowls centre.	Green
Town centre improvements	More urban trees	Amber
Transport & Highways	Better pedestrian provision - wider pavements	Red
	Mini roundabout JMHS/Mabels Furlong	Green
Car Parking & Traffic	Pedestrian crossings at key points, e.g. Gloucester Road near Biddulph Way and Hereford Road near Saxon Way and the new Viaduct site	Red

	Remodelling of road junctions in Bye-Bridge- Lower Rd, Woodleigh Rd & Little Marcle Rd	Red
Community areas	Litter and dog poo bins around town	Amber
	Improved and additional notice boards	Amber
	Redevelopment of Lawnside Road area	More details required
	Public toilet on the Recreation Ground	Green
Healthcare & Emergency Services	Combined blue-light facility close to bypass	Green
	Proper hospital nursing facilities for convalescence	Green

Councillors enquired as to the current standing of the S106 funding and requested that the Clerk provide more information regarding this.

RESOLVED:

1. That members agreed that the priorities be submitted as listed above in the table.
2. That members agreed to request that the Clerk provide further information regarding the S106 fund status; how much is held by Herefordshire Council in S106 monies and likely timescales.

C132. INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT ON REVIEW OF POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Members discussed the reasons for this report having been completed and asked why it had been commissioned.

Councillor Newsham raised the following points in respect of the report:

- The presentation is quite odd.
- It does not indicate whether this is a draft report or the final version.
- The language implies that it follows on from something.
- The report should be dated.
- The methodology is not clear.
- It does not state who was interviewed and what the sources of information are.
- It has not been signed off by anyone.
- The companies headquarter address should be stated on the report.

Councillor Chowns asked whether this report was in conjunction with the work being done by Councillor Harvey's Working Party. He expressed that it would be strange for it to be carried out in tandem.

Members requested that the Clerk provide a summarised scope of the Report and breakdown of the information provided and that this be presented to the next meeting of Full Council.

Members suggested that the report be referred to the Task and Finish group which is looking into the Committee Structure in order that this can be reviewed alongside the work which is being carried out by the group.

C133. OUTSIDE BODIES

- i. Response from Ledbury Food Group to advise that they confirm they are happy to welcome Councillor Morris as the Council's representative for the municipal year and continued representation from the Council in the future.
- ii. Minutes of a meeting of the Ledbury Strömstad Twinning Association – 21 July 2023
- iii. Minutes of a meeting of Ledbury Carnival Association –23 August 2023

RESOLVED:

That the Outside Bodies information and reports be received and noted.

C134. OFFICER REPORTS

- i. **Town Clerk**
- ii. **Deputy Clerk**
- iii. **Community Development Officer**

Members requested an update on the Foamstream weeding machine. The Deputy Clerk informed the members that whilst training had been completed, there were several issues which had come to light as a result of the training. The machine needs to be fixed permanently to the trailer; the high noise levels of the machine means that it may not be feasible to use in the early hours in the mornings. The foam could present a slip hazard; the machine requires 2 people to operate it and that several applications would be required in order for a weed to be killed at the root.

It was suggested that a 3-month trial period for usage was put in place in the spring to ascertain whether the machine made a difference to the weeds within the Town and was therefore a feasible option for use by LTC operatives, along with the Lengthsman.

Members asked that the reports include a little detail of what the outcomes were and whether the meetings were successful/productive. Councillor Morris spoke about the meeting which had taken place between the Poetry Festival and LTC CDO.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That the Officer Reports be received and noted.**

2. That the Foamstream machine be trialled for a 3-month period in Spring 2024 and focus on a specific area so that its effectiveness can be monitored.
3. That the Clerk be asked to update the format of the reports to include meeting outcomes.

C135. RESTORATION OF WAR MEMORIAL SUGGESTION

Members discussed the rededication of the War Memorial and whilst Members had differing views on when this should take place and how long a service should take, agreed that a discreet short service should take place and be well advertised. It was proposed that the ceremony should take place prior to the Armistice Service on Saturday, 11 November 2023.

RESOLVED:

That Members agreed to the request from Jennifer Harrison, in that the rededication should be held prior to the Armistice Service due to take place on Saturday, 11 November 2023.

C136. REQUEST FROM THE FAMILY OF WILLIAM TURBERFIELD, FOR LEDBURY TOWN COUNCIL TO CONSIDER A MEMORIAL TO BE PLACED IN LEDBURY AS A PERMANENT REMINDER OF "BILL THE BELL" AND HIS SERVICE TO LEDBURY AS TOWN CRIER FOR 18 YEARS.

Members considered the options and agreed that a separate plaque should be placed in the Ledbury Cemetery Chapel in memory of William Turberfield.

RESOLVED:

That a plaque in memory of "Bill The Bell" be placed in the Cemetery Chapel.

C137. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED:

To note that the next meeting of Full Council will be held on 23 November 2023.

The meeting was ended at 8.26 pm.

Signed  Dated 30/11/23
(Town Mayor)