

Agenda 5
Item 23

Mayors' Meeting Notes

Tuesday 26 November, 2.30pm
Chairman's Office, Shire Hall, Hereford

1. Apologies

Mayor of Ross, Councillor Dr Jane Roberts
Deputy Mayor of Ross, Councillor Daniel Lister
Town Clerk of Ross, Councillor Sarah Robson
Deputy Mayor of Leominster, Councillor John Rumsey

2. Notes of Last Meeting

Not discussed.

3. Section 106 – Kevin Bishop & Yvonne Coleman

Yvonne discussed;

- The planning process, and more development in your area means more 106 money available!
- That comments are needed from Town Councils on the consultation process for planning on developments of 11 units or more regardless of whether you are supporting or objecting.
- The Council Education Team work with schools.
- Balfour Beatty deal with infrastructure and transport spends.
- Yvonne works with open space/play areas etc.
- We ALL work in line with Parish Councils and Community Groups.
- Open Space Officer is fully aware of utilising pockets of open space.
- Developers will also challenge us on these issues.
- A District Valuer (who is good value for money and impartial) is involved and acts in between us and the developers advising us both.
- Town Councils ROMP assessments (Reviewing Old Mineral Permissions) should feed into Herefordshire Councils plans. Town Councils need to supply that information, so that we have a coordinated plan and we then know the standards of the play areas.
- County Sports Investments plan – Open Place Officer looks after it. A group meets twice a year to look at where investment is needed.
- You can feed into Balfour Beatty via your consultation plan.

CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy)

Yvonne discussed CIL and the current situation with the new administration and looked at the growth strategy. Yvonne explained that the new administration have asked for a review of the growth strategy. As part of the review we can quantify and look at the benefits but everything else is on hold whilst this review takes place.

Action;

- Yvonne will coordinate with the Town Clerks to have a meeting about what 106 funds are available as there has been a lack of communication.
- Yvonne will on an annual basis in September email Town Clerks to ask for their wish lists. An annual spreadsheet will be sent out too.
- Yvonne confirmed a memo went out about porthouse money.
- The Infrastructure Funding Statement now has to be made available on the Council website annually. This will be done next year. All S106 is published on website for anyone to see.
- Steve Kerry asked if a working group can be set up to discuss CIL urgently.
- Kevin Bishop agreed to look into the Skate Park expansion which Councillor Paul Stephens raised. Yvonne needs to know the future plans.
- Councillor Phil Howells asked Yvonne if training on Section 106 and CIL can be arranged.
- Another meeting required in 6 months' time on this item.

Everyone thanked Yvonne and Kevin for their attendance, they were all very grateful for the information they had shared. They expressed that a lot more communication and openness is needed. They also asked that Yvonne speaks direct with the Town Councils and Parishes not just the Ward Councillors.

4. Market Towns Forum

The Chairman informed the meeting that he had asked Cllr Marsh and Councillor Harrington to attend a meeting to discuss just this item, along with the Chief Executive if he is available.

Action;

- Vicky to arrange the meeting before Christmas if possible.
- Please can Mayors send in your suggestions and structures asap if you haven't already.

5. Civic Events

- Hereford City – Re VE /VJ the River Carnival date has been moved and celebrations for VE/VJ will be during the River Carnival.

- Kington – Hosting the Civic Service for the Chairman of the Council on 29th March 2020 – for your diaries please.
- Bromyard Christmas Tree Festival this weekend in St Peters Church, Bromyard 29th Nov – 1st Dec.
- Kington - Christmas Tree Festival taking place for a month. Kington Food Festival is on 7th Dec 10am-4pm and afterwards for drinks and quiz to support Macmillan in the marquee.
- Leominster - Dec 14th Victorian Street Fayre 11am-4pm and 6-8pm is through the wardrobe 'Narnia' in the secret garden at the back, now ticketed but free. Over 600 tickets gone!! 7th Dec is small business Saturday, all the small businesses will have stalls etc 11am-4pm.
- 7th and 8th Dec - HR6 Art and craft display in Yarpole church.

Action;

- Vicky to check the online County Diary is working, as the log in had not worked for Ledbury.

6. Any Other Business

- a) Plough Lane meeting room names – The Chairman confirmed that there will be a reordering of Plough Lane meeting rooms in the near future, so hopefully they will take on board my suggestions.
- b) 5G – any concerns raised to you? Yes. Leader says the Government have signed it off and it's all safe. Councillor Phil Howells confirmed he has looked into it and its relatively minor and no serious risk.
- c) Ledbury – internet broadband facilities are atrocious. Companies are writing in complaining. We need a motion and we are going to lobby. Can we all start lobbying together please. Chairman to raise with Natalia Silver.

Meeting ended at 16.12pm.

