



## LUDLOW TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ludlow Town Council meeting held at The Buttercross, Ludlow, on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2008 at 8.30 pm.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Councillors Glaze (Town Mayor), Smithers (Deputy Town Mayor), Aitken, Bradley, Callender, Davies, Galtress, Hunt, Kidd, Mitchell, Newbold, Perks, Pope, Pound and Wilcox

**OFFICERS PRESENT:** Linda Thomas, Town Clerk, Hannah Coleman, Assistant Clerk and Roy Guestford, Market Manager

Revd Preb Brian Curnew led the Council in prayer.

**FC34/08 APOLOGIES** – There were no apologies

The Mayor informed Council that the Town Clerk would be away on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April due to a family bereavement.

**FC35/08 PREJUDICIAL AND PERSONAL INTERESTS**

Minute No.	Councillor's Name	Personal	Prejudicial	Reason
FC39/08	G. Kidd		✓	Director of the Food & Drink Festival
FC39/08	M. Mitchell	✓		Interaction with Local to Ludlow
FC39/08	G. Perks		✓	Involvement with Skillbuilders

**FC36/08 PUBLIC OPEN SESSION** – There were 36 members of the public present.

Mark Woodward, Snitton, was in favour of changing the market to improve it but he did not think there was enough room on the proposed new layout to manoeuvre the vans. He also expressed his concerns regarding the Monday market as there were too many empty stalls.

Peter Corston, Whitbach Close, asked for a rational increase in the Town Council fees and consideration towards the attraction of the markets. Visitors were the life blood to Ludlow and trading appears to have shifted from the centre of town. He asked Council to consider if the market should be run for profit or just as a service. He praised the recommendations made by the Town Clerk in her report to Council.

Pat Hanson, Station Drive, was concerned by the amount of litter and dog mess in Ludlow and also by the number of A-boards in town. On another matter, she said she felt insulted and alienated by the suggestion that one cannot be a Ludlovian unless born and bred in Ludlow.

Peter Norman, Lower Ledwyche, agreed that a review during the summer on the Town Council fees was a good idea. He reiterated that the Council would receive a further £4,000



due to the second Local Produce Market and encouraged the Council to follow the recommendations of the Town Clerk.

**FC37/08 MINUTES** – The minutes of the Special Council meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2008 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

**FC38/08 MARKET ENHANCEMENT** – It was **NOTED** that the Policy & Finance Committee had agreed to defer making a decision until further information had been obtained. A Special meeting would be called in 2 weeks accordingly.

**FC39/08 TOWN COUNCIL FEES** – The Town Clerk presented her report and announced that a petition had been received that day from the Local Produce Market calling for a rational decision.

Councillor Perks left the room during the discussion and decision.

It was proposed that Councillor Kidd could stay for the discussion under Standing Orders. The motion was not carried. He therefore used his right to speak before leaving the room.

After further discussion it was **RESOLVED** to adopt the following recommendations:

1. The proposed increases in rent for the year 2008/09 be set at a 2.5% inflation in line with the Council's policy for increases agreed on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2008, with the following exception:  
Linney – Boating, putting and car park be left at current rates in light of the problems experienced in last year's floods
2. The Town Clerk be instructed to carry out a full Review of the Operation of the Town's Markets during the summer and that a report be presented to the Services Committee on 13 October 2008 with recommendations on pricing, support and operations
3. The Services Committee present recommendations on proposed levels of charges to the Policy and Finance Committee for consideration during the Budget preparation process for 2009/10
4. The Town Clerk draw up Agreements for each sector of the market users setting out the arrangements for charging, what support can be provided and conditions of use

It was further agreed that the Town Clerk would negotiate with the Food & Drink Festival, Local Produce Market and Green Festival on their offers to pay above the 2.5% increase.

Councillors Kidd and Perks returned to the room.

The meeting closed at 9.23pm.

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Town Mayor

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Date