



MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the **COUNCIL** held at The Guildhall, Mill Street, Ludlow on **MONDAY 4th MARCH 2024** at **7.00 PM**.

FC/287 **PRESENT**

Chairman: Councillor Ginger

Councillors: Childs; Garner; Gill; Hall; Parry; Pote; Tapley; Thompson, Urka; B Waite, S Waite.

Officers: Gina Wilding, Town Clerk
Lucy Jones, Senior Finance Officer

FC/288 **ABSENT**

Councillor Jones was absent.

FC/289 **SILENCE**

A one minute silence was held in remembrance of Councillor Sean O'Neill.

FC/290 **WELCOME**

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the Full Council meeting, and requested that in the event of a fire alarm, everyone should leave in an orderly fashion by the main exit at the front of the building. The assembly point is outside on the pavement away opposite the Guildhall.

FC/291 **RECORDING OF MEETINGS**

The Mayor notified those present that under the Openness of Local Government Regulations 2014, recording and broadcasting is permitted during public session of Council Meetings. The act of recording and broadcasting must not interfere with the meeting.

The Council understands that some members of the public may not wish to be recorded and asked that they make this known at this point in the meeting.

FC/292 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Jones because she is on holiday.

FC/293 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTDisclosable Pecuniary Interests

None

Conflicts of Interest

| <u>Member</u> | <u>Item</u> | <u>Reason</u> |
|---------------------|-------------|------------------|
| Councillor Parry | | Ludlow in Bloom |
| Councillor Thompson | 18 | Ludlow 21 member |
| Councillor Pote | 18 | Ludlow 21 member |
| Councillor Garner | 18 | Ludlow 21 member |
| Councillor Urka | 18 | Ludlow 21 member |

Personal InterestsMember

None

FC/294 PUBLIC OPEN SESSION (15 minutes)

There were 12 members of the public present.

A representative of Ludford Parish Council said that the Boundary Review report misrepresented the relationship between the Council's. She added that Ludford Parish Council's majority view is that no change should be made to the boundaries.

A representative from Ludlow Residents Group informed the Council that at the first meeting of the Ludlow Residents Group in January, the Town Walls received the most attention and the loudest demand for action. They have now set up a Focus Group which includes representatives from the Civic Society, St Laurence's church and a conservation architect.

The Focus Group's first meeting will be held on the 15th March, after which the Focus Group will request a meeting with Ludlow Town Council to look at how we can work together to move this project forward. A Freedom of Information request had been made to the Council asking for information about the Town Walls.

He added that the state of the Garden of Rest could be improved, a wooden or a more in-keeping fence could be installed and the area tidied up.

A second representative of Ludlow Residents Group informed the Council that a focus group had been established to discuss empty shops, retail planning applications and town centre development. This group will meet as soon as

possible and present a report to Ludlow Town Council. The group would be working closely with the Chamber of Trade and other local groups on this as the number of empty properties and high commercial rent prices are a real issue for Ludlow.

A third representative of Ludlow Residents Group said that crime and policing in Ludlow had been identified as a key issue a focus group had been set up to discuss and report back to Ludlow Town Council. A poll had identified concerns with the lack of police presence, drug use and the Police response times. The group will be meeting and speaking with the PCC at a drop-in meeting on the 12th of March at the Mascall Centre.

A representative of Ludlow in Bloom stated that she was shocked at the wording of the Boundary Review report, and asked when the planters would be return to their positions on Castle Square.

FC/295 LUDLOW POLICE UPDATE

The Town Clerk read out an update from the Ludlow Safer Neighbourhood Team, she stated that this would be circulated to Councillors to comment.

FC/296 LUDLOW UNITARY COUNCILLORS SESSION

Unitary Councillor V Parry, Ludlow South was present at the meeting.

FC/297 MINUTES

RESOLVED (unanimous) GG/TG

That the minutes of the Council meeting held on the Monday 22nd January 2024, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

FC/298 ITEMS TO ACTION

RESOLVED (Unanimous) GG/RP

That the Items to Action from the Council meeting held on the 22nd January 2024, be noted.

FC/299 CO-OPTION

First round

Penny Acton received 3 votes.
Anabelle Brousse De Gersigny received 4 votes.

Sarah Price received 5 votes.

Anabelle Brousse De Gersigny and Sarah Price proceeded to the second.

RESOLVED (7:5:0)

That Annabel Brousse De Gersigny be co-opted as Councillor for Rockspring Ward.

FC/300 TOWN CENTRE REGENERATION

The Town Council received a presentation from Sally Themans on the work undertaken by Good 4 Good to regenerate the town centres of Bridgnorth, Wellington and Shifnal and how this could also be done in Ludlow.

Councillor Thompson asked how this work was funded, Sally Themans replied that the project was paid for by the town but that they may be funding available for national government or Shropshire Council.

FC/301 SEVERN TRENT

The Town Council received a presentation from Severn Trent on the current works to upgrade Ludlow's waste water system to minimise spills into rivers. The main impact on Ludlow during these works would be the closure of Temeside from the 29th April to the 19th July. Councillors expressed their concerns for the closure of one of main thoroughfares in Ludlow particularly during the tourist season and during both the Mayfair and the Spring Food Festival, and the impact this may have on the town footfall.

FC/302 LUDLOW CASTLE CONCERTS

RESOLVED (Unanimous) GG/BW

That Councillors provide their feedback to the Town Clerk and the item is brought back to the next Council meeting.

FC/303 PARISH BOUNDARY REVIEW

RESOLVED (10:0:3) TG/GG

To merge Ludford Parish into Ludlow Town Council to become Ludford Ward.

FC/304 SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL FINANCES

RESOLVED (Unanimous) GG/BW

To note Shropshire Council's financial position and that the specific potential impacts for Ludlow are unknown.

FC/305 PROJECT SUPPORT GRANT

RESOLVED (11:0:2) GG/DT

That Girl Guiding Ludlow is awarded a Project Support Grant of £1,000.00.

FC/306 LUDLOW FOOD FESTIVAL

RESOLVED (Unanimous) GG/EG

That Ludlow Town Council holds a 'Festival Market' on the market square during the Ludlow Food Festival on Sunday 15th September 2024.

FC/307 LUDLOW GREEN FESTIVAL

RESOLVED (Unanimous) GG/TG

That Ludlow Town Council run a stall on the market square during the Green Festival.

FC/308 LUDLOW CARNIVAL

RESOLVED (Unanimous) GG/EG

That permission cannot be granted for use of Events Square until public liability insurance is provided by the organiser.

FC/309 VISIT SHROPSHIRE

RESOLVED (Unanimous) GG/BW

To note the update from Visit Shropshire.

FC/310 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

RESOLVED (Unanimous) GG/EG

That Councillors Hall and De Gersigny become member of the Climate Action Sub-Committee.

FC/311 MEETING EXTENSION

RESOLVED (Unanimous) GG/TG

That the meeting be extended by 15 minutes.

FC/312 POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

RESOLVED (12:0:1) SW/TG

That the recommendations from Policy and Finance Committee be approved.

Market Regulations

That the Market Regulations, as amended, be adopted.

Cashless Market Rent Payments

That:-

- a) a separate SumUp account to be set up for Market transactions;
- b) a SumUp Solo machine be purchased for £79.00;
- c) the procedure modifications outlined in the report be put into place for the use and reconciliation of the market rent payments.

FC/313 COMMITTEE MINUTES

Services Committee

RESOLVED (11:0:2) BW/TG

That the draft minutes of the Services Committee meeting held on the 21st February 2024, be received.

FC/314 Representational Committee

RESOLVED (12:0:1) GG/RP

That the draft minutes of the Representational Committee meeting held on the 6th February 2024, be received.

FC/315 Policy and Finance Committee

RESOLVED (11:0:2) SW/GG

That the minutes of the Policy and Finance Committee meeting held on the 15th January 2024, be received.

FC/316 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC: PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

RESOLVED (Unanimous) GG/BW

That the Chair move that the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item(s) of business pursuant to section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

The meeting closed at 9.05 pm

Town Mayor

Date

NB. Closed session minutes WILL be issued.