



MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the **COUNCIL** held at The Guildhall, Mill Street, Ludlow on **MONDAY 17th JUNE 2024 at 7.00 PM.**

FC/88 PRESENT

Chairman: Councillor B. Waite

Councillors: Garner; Gill; Hall; Harris (co-opted); Parry; Tapley; and S Waite.

Officers: Gina Wilding, Town Clerk
Kate Adams, Deputy Town Clerk

ABSENT

Councillors: Childs; De Gersigny; Ginger; Jones; and Thompson

FC/89 HEALTH & SAFETY

The Mayor, Councillor B Waite, welcomed everyone to the Full Council meeting and requested that in the event of a fire alarm, everyone was to 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/90 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/91 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Childs (lack of childcare), De Gersigny (unwell), Ginger (unwell) and Jones (working).

FC/92 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTDisclosable Pecuniary Interests

None.

Conflicts of Interest

None.

Personal Interests

Councillor Parry	Ludlow in Bloom Item 18a
Councillor Harris	Item 18a

FC/93 PUBLIC OPEN SESSION (15 minutes)

There was one member of the public present. They did not wish to address Council.

FC/94 LUDLOW POLICE UPDATE

Police did not attend or provide an update.

FC/95 LUDLOW UNITARY COUNCILLORS SESSION

Councillor Viv Parry was present and addressed the Council on the following matters:

Litter bins aren't being emptied regularly and the streets aren't being cleaned as they used to be by Shropshire Council. Town is looking untidy.

Concerns about empty shops and their appearance has been passed to Shropshire Council.

As a Council LTC should be complaining to SC. As a Shropshire Councillor she has tried to raise concerns with the relevant people but many are leaving.

FC/96 MINUTES – 8th MAY 2024**RESOLVED (6:0:1) BW/TG**

That the open and closed session minutes of the Council meeting held on the 8th May 2024, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

FC/97 ITEMS TO ACTION – 8TH MAY 2024**RESOLVED (6:0:1) BW/EG**

That the Items to Action be noted.

FC/98 **CO-OPTION****RESOLVED (unanimous) BW/TG**

To co-opt Stacey Harris as Councillor for Rockspring Ward.

Councillor Harris signed her acceptance and joined the meeting.

FC/99 **PRESENTATION**

The Council received an informative presentation about a new local charity Ludlow and Area Community Partnership from Erica Garner, who explained that the charity would be based at Ludlow Youth Centre, sharing the building with the Primary Care Network and Shropshire Council service providers.

She informed those present that the charity's aims and objectives were based around health, wellbeing and social inclusion, and the charity would support the delivery of the outcomes from the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) survey.

FC/100 **INTERNAL AUDIT****RESOLVED (unanimous) BW/RH**

To adopt the Internal Audit Report 2023/24; and to action the year end internal audit observations.

FC/101 **ANNUAL GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTING RETURN (AGAR) 2023/24****RESOLVED (unanimous) BW/TG**

To approve the Annual Return Governance Statement 2023/24 in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations.

FC/102 **RESOLVED (unanimous) BW/SW**

To approve the Annual Return Statement of Accounts 2023/24 in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations.

FC/103 **RESOLVED (unanimous) BW/EG**

To approve the dates for the period for the exercise of public rights as 1st July to 9th August 2024.

FC/104 BATHING WATERS UPDATE**RESOLVED (unanimous) BW/EG**

To receive the update, that suggests that the on-site signage would display a warning of unsuitable bathing conditions as notified by the Environment Agency; and that there should be a prominent link to the bathing Waters profile page for Ludlow on the Town Council website.

FC/105 GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCEMENT ON NEW POWERS FOR COMMUNITY REGENERATION IN ENGLAND**RESOLVED (unanimous) BW/TG**

To note the update.

FC/106 ANNUAL TOWN RESIDENTS MEETING UPDATE**RESOLVED (6:0:2) BW/SW**

To approve the resident's concerns as stated below being submitted to Connexus and Shropshire Council for their response as requested.

- Empty properties are being left and not being let to families that need them, and tenants are being left in overcrowded and unsuitable homes.
- Connexus are selling housing stock on without replacing them, thus reducing the housing stock.
- Connexus will not meet any of the tenants personally to provide clarity on what exactly is going on.

FC/107 RESOLVED (6:0:2) BW/TG

To note the minutes of the Annual Town Residents meeting held on Monday 29th April 2024.

FC/108 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**RESOLVED (unanimous) BW/EG**

To approve Committee membership matrix submitted to the meeting and changes proposed at the meeting as follows:

- Councillor Parry to join Services Committee, Representational Committee, Policy & Finance Committee, Climate Action Sub-Committee and Budget Task & Finish Group
- Councillor Tapley to join Climate Action Sub-Committee.
- Councillor Harris to join Representational
- Councillor de Gersigny to leave Climate Action Sub-Committee.

That the Climate Action Sub Committee meetings are in future held at 10am instead of 9:30 am on the previously agreed dates.

FC/109 REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

SALC (SOUTH SHROPSHIRE AREA COMMITTEE) REPRESENTATIVE FOR 2024/25

RESOLVED (unanimous) VP/EG

Councillor Parry is appointed the Town Council representative for SALC.

FC/110 PARISH PATHS PARTNERSHIP REPRESENTATIVE FOR 2024/25

RESOLVED (unanimous) SW/BW

Councillor S Waite is appointed the Town Council representative for the Parish Paths Partnership.

FC/111 LUDLOW IN BLOOM REPRESENTATIVE FOR 2024/25

RESOLVED (unanimous) VP/EG

Councillor Parry is appointed the Town Council representative for Ludlow in Bloom.

FC/112 FAIRTRADE STEERING GROUP REPRESENTATIVE FOR 2024/25

RESOLVED (unanimous) EG/BW

Councillor Garner is appointed the Town Council representative for the Fairtrade Steering Group.

FC/113 LUDLOW CASTLE CONCERTS

RESOLVED (7:0:1) BW/TG

To note the decisions taken under delegated authority that:

At this meeting it was agreed that:

- Futuresound would ensure that Castle Gardens remained open to the public at all times and that no charge would therefore be made by the Town Council.
- There would be a £60 per day charge for the use of Events Square from 18 July to 2nd August inclusive, and reasonable staff and 'out of pocket' costs

including moving and storing the benches (see below) would also be charged to Futuresound by the Town Council.

- Futuresound would move, safely store, and return the large and smaller planters at no cost to the Council.
- The Town Council would remove the middle section of benches, and the roadside benches would remain.
- Futuresound would block off access to the roadside benches with Heras fencing when they were working during the designated times, and the benches would be available for public use at all other times.

FC/114 PROJECTS

RESOLVED (unanimous) BW/EG

To receive the updates on the Council's projects.

FC/115 GROUND WATER RISK ASSESSMENT

RESOLVED (7:0:1) BW/RH

To note the ground water risk assessment, which is the basis for the next stage of the layout design work.

FC/116 GRANT FUNDING TASK & FINISH GROUP

RESOLVED (unanimous) SW/RH

To approve the Terms Of Reference of a Grant Funding Task & Finish Group.

FC/117 RESOLVED (unanimous) BW/TG

To approve the membership of the Grant Funding Task & Finish Group as follows: Councillors Garner, Ginger, Hall, Harris, Parry and S. Waite.

Councillor Parry left the meeting at 8:06 pm.

FC/118 STANDING ORDERS

RESOLVED (unanimous) BW/SW

To suspend standing orders to review the previous decision.

FC/119 MEMBERSHIP OF GRANT FUNDING TASK & FINISH GROUP**RESOLVED (unanimous) TG/SW**

That the Council would not accept the written nomination from a Councillor not present at the meeting and the approved membership of the Grant Funding Task & Finish Group would be amended to Councillors Garner, Hall, Harris, Parry and S. Waite.

FC/120 STANDING ORDERS**RESOLVED (unanimous) BW/TG**

To reinstate standing orders of the meeting.

Councillor Parry returned to the meeting at 8:09 pm.

FC/121 COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**RESOLVED (7:0:1) SW/TG**

The following recommendations from Policy and Finance Committee were approved.

- That the new NALC Model Financial Regulations be adopted.
- That the Biodiversity Policy, subject to the addition of “noticeboards” in the Reporting section of the Action Plan, be adopted.
- That the Statement on Duties Related to Biodiversity be adopted.
- That the Statement on Duties Related to Crime and Disorder be adopted.
- That the Appraisal Policy and Appraisal Form be adopted.
- That the Staff Induction Policy and Induction Checklist be adopted.
- That the Councillor Induction Policy and Induction Checklist, subject to the amendment of “May” to “July” in paragraph 4.5, be adopted.
- That the Council engage the services of Goodman Nash to challenge the rateable value of Ludlow Museum at the Buttercross.

FC/122 COMMITTEE MINUTES**RESOLVED (6:0:2) BW/SW**

To receive the minutes of Policy and Finance Committee meeting held on the 10th June 2024.

FC/123 RESOLVED (6:0:2) BW/SW

To receive the minutes of Services Committee meeting held on the 5th June 2024.

FC/124 RESOLVED (6:0:2) BW/SW

To receive the minutes of Representational Committee meeting held on the 4th June 2024.

The meeting closed at 8.12 pm

Town Mayor

Date