

LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL

FULL COUNCIL MEETING – 2019/02/20 – 114

MINUTES OF THE EXTRA ORDINARY MEETING OF LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL held in the Council Chamber, Claremont House, Lydney on Wednesday 20 February 2019 at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT: Cllrs B Berryman (Chairman), R Christodoulides, C Harris, R Holmes, W Leach, C Legg, B Pearman, A Preest, T Tremlett and C Vaughan

Mrs J Smailes – Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

Miss C Wheeler – Executive Officer (EO)

Miss A Crawshaw – Grants and Events Administrator

Cllr Berryman informed all present that no practice fire evacuation had been scheduled for the duration of the meeting. All attendees were then informed of the locations of the nearest fire exits.

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received and noted from Cllrs Biddle and White.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Holmes re content of discussion.

EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC & PRESS
Pages 116 – 122 (Inclusive) - CLOSED SESSION

Standing orders suspended in order that the Council may continue in “closed session” under the provisions of The Public (Admission to Meetings Act 1960) as the business to be discussed is considered to be of a confidential nature

3. **COMMUNICATIONS**

- **Resolved to issue/release the following press release and relevant supporting documentation into the public domain:-**

“Lydney Town Council would like to address the claims in the press and social media by an individual that he was likened to the murderer of the late Jo Cox MP. At no time has any individual or group been described in this way by Lydney Town Council.

Lydney Town Council was merely addressing concerns regarding potential risks to female members of staff when leaving late evening winter meetings. This genuine concern for staff has been grossly distorted and misrepresented.

The original document referenced by the individual may be viewed (link to the relevant documentation) and although marked “confidential” is released, supported by all relevant information made publicly available supported by legal opinion.

Over the last 9 years Lydney Town Council has worked hard to correct prior illegal practices evidenced in the Public Interest Report available via the website. These efforts culminated in the award of Quality Gold status under the Local Council Award Scheme, at the time only the second Town Council nationally to achieve this top award”.

Recorded Vote taken.



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Votes For

Cllr Berryman
Cllr Christodoulides
Cllr Harris
Cllr Legg
Cllr Pearman
Cllr Preest
Cllr Tremlett
Cllr Vaughan

Votes Against

Abstentions

Cllr Holmes
Cllr Leach

- Resolved that a Recorded Vote be taken on whether the CEO was to face any formal complaint in relation to communications issued or indeed any other matter relating to her conduct/work performance.

Recorded Vote taken.

Votes For

Votes Against

Abstentions

Cllr Berryman
Cllr Christodoulides
Cllr Harris
Cllr Holmes
Cllr Leach
Cllr Legg
Cllr Pearman
Cllr Preest
Cllr Tremlett
Cllr Vaughan

Unanimous. No action required.

Meeting closed at 8.41 pm

Chairman 

Date 11-3-19