

LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL

FULL COUNCIL MEETING – 2019/03/11 – 123

MINUTES OF THE LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING held in the Council Chamber, Claremont House, Lydney on Monday 11 March 2019 at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT: Cllrs B Berryman (Chairman), D Biddle, J Greenwood, C Harris, R Holmes, H Ives, W Leach, C Legg, B Pearman and A Preest

Five members of the Public

District Cllr R Leppington, Cabinet Member for Development, Asset Management, Infrastructure and Housing, Forest of Dean District Council (late arrival)

Mrs J Smailes – Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

Miss C Wheeler – Executive Officer (EO)

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.

No presentation was received from Mr Tom Beveridge, The Dean Academy, due to the lack of his attendance.

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received and noted from Cllrs Christodoulides, Tremlett, Vaughan and White.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Ives – Agenda Item 14 – Formal Correspondence Received (reference Bathurst Park and Recreation Trust)

Cllr Berryman – Agenda Item 13 – Bathurst Swimming Pool

3. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Approval of the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 11 February 2019 were **proposed by Cllr Ives, seconded by Cllr Harris**. Vote carried.

Approval of the public minutes of the Extra Ordinary Town Council meeting held on 20 February 2019 were **proposed by Cllr Harris, seconded by Cllr Legg**. Vote carried.

Members were then provided with an opportunity to read the Exempt minutes of the Extra Ordinary Town Council meeting held on 20 February 2019. At 7.15 pm it was resolved to move in to “Closed Session” as a query was raised relating to Staffing issues. At 7.18 pm the meeting re-convened and it was **proposed by Cllr Berryman** that the minutes be amended. Vote carried. It was **proposed by Cllr Pearman, seconded by Cllr Berryman**, that the minutes, as amended, be accepted. Vote carried.

District Cllr Leppington arrived at this point.

4. **POLICE MATTERS**

Cllr Berryman requested that the CEO raise the issue of a small group of young people who seemed to be running unchecked through the Town; wished the CEO to highlight the report that a serious assault had occurred on the weekend; an increase in the number of acts of vandalism/graffiti which were incurring in the Town. Cllr Berryman requested an urgent



LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL

FULL COUNCIL MEETING – 2019/03/11 – 124

meeting be arranged with the Police, the date of which to be circulated to all Members, in order to discuss the concerns raised.

Action by – the CEO

5. YOUTH FORUM

Annual Community Litter Pick

Cllr Ives reminded members that the event had take place for the previous two years and he expressed a desire for the Council to organise the event once again this year. Cllr Ives felt that it would be possible to extend an invitation to representatives of the Scouts, Forest Wombles and Lydney Hub to get involved. It was **proposed by Cllr Greenwood, seconded by Cllr Legg**, that the Council would organise a further Community Litter Pick. Unanimous.

Cllr Ives offered to liaise with local schools to agree a mutually convenient date.

Action by – Cllr Ives

At this point Cllr Berryman advised that Agenda Item 6 – Open Forum, would be moved until after Agenda Item 16 – Forest of Dean District Council Cabinet Member for: Regeneration, Asset Management, Infrastructure & Housing Report Committee & Other Reports, however, the minutes reflect the order as shown on the Agenda.

6. OPEN FORUM

Cllr Berryman advised all present that under the 1960 Admission to Public Meeting Act all Council meetings were open to the public unless the business to be discussed was of a confidential nature, in which case the Council was permitted to exclude the Public/Press and continue in “Closed Session”. Furthermore, there was no legislation which permitted for public speaking at Council meetings; such is instead prescribed and controlled under the Council’s Standing Orders. Cllr Berryman advised that whilst it was “Best Practice” to encourage engagement with the Town’s electorate, when there was an obvious disregard for the Council’s meeting protocol the Council was within its rights to remove the right of individuals to address the Council. Noted.

In view of the above Cllr Berryman advised Mr Z Arnold that, as was made publicly known on his Facebook page, his and his associate’s rights to address Lydney Town Council had been revoked. Cllr Berryman then continued to read out the letter which had been sent to Mr Arnold, despite constant interruptions from Mr Arnold. Cllr Holmes questioned why Councillors had not been informed of the letter/been provided with a copy of the letter which had been sent to Mr Arnold. Cllr Pearman advised that the letter had been sent under advice from the Council’s Solicitor. Cllr Holmes questioned what was understood by “known associates” and was advised that following legal advice it concerned any member of the public who was associated/had commented on Mr Arnold’s Facebook posts. The Solicitor’s letter advised that all future correspondence from Mr Arnold was via the Council’s Solicitor for the Town Council would no longer entertain engaging in dialogue/written correspondence with him.

7. COMMUNICATIONS BY THE MAYOR

Cllr Berryman advised that since the last meeting he had attended the following events:

- Forest of Dean District Council’s Chairman’s Dinner
- Forest of Dean Sea Cadets Parade
- Opening of iron bridge at St Mary’s Halt

LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL

FULL COUNCIL MEETING – 2019/03/11 – 125

- Inauguration of Gloucester City Mayor at Gloucester Cathedral

8. CEO'S REPORT

A copy of the CEO's report had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting, the contents of which were duly noted (Appendix A).

Attention was drawn to the response which had been received from the Forest Voluntary Action Forum in respect of the Town Council's request for its representative to sit on the Steering Committee for the Forest of Dean Youth Association.

Members were also advised that a response was awaited from Lydney Town Hall Trust regarding the possibility of holding a joint Christmas Lights Switch On and it was noted that the event would be considered by the new Council following the May elections.

Lydney Town Council's Website Host

Members were informed that the current host had notified the Council of their intention to cease practicing. The CEO advised that the hosting services would be taken over by Alpha Designs who would be provided with an annual contract, with charges incurred for any support work required. Noted.

9. FINANCIAL MATTERS

FINANCIAL STATEMENT -

MARCH 2019

Opening Bank Balances as 1st April 2018

LLOYDS BANK - Current account	96,414.19	<i>2017/18 Commitments Brought Forward £10,303.48</i>
LLOYDS BANK - Lydney In Bloom - Current	764.44	
LLOYDS BANK - LGPS - Current	15,990.28	
LLOYDS BANK - Earmarked Reserves:		
S106	29,191.50	
Lydney War Memorial	2,000.00	
Play Areas (General)	5,000.00	
Play Areas (Primrose Hill inc S106 residue)	23,529.43	
Play Area (Leaze Court)	9,439.12	
Leaze Court (GCC & Aviva Grant)	600.00	
Cemetery	13,842.14	
Cemetery: St Mary's Churchyard/Wall	4,000.00	
Cemetery: Memorial Testing	11,500.00	
Cemetery: Additional Burial Space	20,000.00	
Election Costs	10,000.00	
Machinery	7,178.03	
Town Events/Christmas(Grotto etc)	7,000.00	
Contingency	4,000.00	
Civic	1,000.00	
Pear Mapping Cemetery	4,000.00	
Environment Agency 2018/19	5,000.00	
	157,280.22	
LLOYDS BANK - General Reserve	170,622.93	327,903.15
		441,072.06
RECEIPTS		
Receipts APRIL	261,238.27	Includes 1 st Precept Payment
Receipts MAY	6,850.07	
Receipts JUNE	990.76	
Receipts JULY	16,858.58	
Receipts AUGUST	2,352.37	
Receipts SEPTEMBER	261,379.05	Includes 2 nd Precept instalment of 2
Receipts OCTOBER	20,099.40	
Receipts NOVEMBER	1,187.30	
Receipts DECEMBER	1,176.61	
Receipts JANUARY	26,542.95	
Receipts FEBRUARY	1,423.04	See Separate Sheet

LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL

FULL COUNCIL MEETING – 2019/03/11 – 126

Receipts MARCH

Lydney In Bloom: Income banked to LIB current a/c

	850.00
Total Receipts YTD	600,948.40

PAYMENTS

Payments APRIL	2,230.71
Payments MAY	66,609.25
Payments JUNE	149,581.84
Payments JULY	34,524.23
Payments AUGUST	43,550.78
Payments SEPTEMBER	26,662.87
Payments OCTOBER	37,331.09
Payments NOVEMBER	69,579.47
Payments DECEMBER	41,700.55
Payments JANUARY	28,204.78
Payments FEBRUARY	42,954.09

Payments MARCH	35,467.65	See Below
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Payments PRIOR TO YEAR END

Lydney In Bloom: Cheque Payments to date from LIB a/c

	1,252.30
Total Payments YTD	579,649.61
	462,370.85

Reconciled Bank Statements as at end

February- 19

LLOYDS BANK - Current account	140,546.28
LLOYDS BANK - Lydney In Bloom - Current	362.14
LLOYDS BANK - LGPS - Current	15,997.69

LLOYDS BANK - Earmarked Reserves:

S106	29,191.50
Lydney War Memorial	2,000.00
Play Areas (General)	5,000.00
Play Area (Leaze Court)	370.32
Leaze Court (GCC & Aviva Grant)	442.00
Cemetery	13,842.14
Cemetery: St Mary's Churchyard/Wall	3,544.00
Cemetery: Memorial Testing	12,500.00
Cemetery: Additional Burial Space	20,000.00
Cemetery: Additional Burial Space	1,500.00
Election Costs	9,572.95
Machinery	7,599.03
Town Events/Christmas (Grotto Etc)	7,000.00
Contingency	4,000.00
Civic	1,000.00
Pear Mapping: Cemetery	1,870.00
Lydney In Bloom	1,000.00
Environment Agency 2019/2020 Payment	5,500.00
Youth Provision (The Hub)	25,000.00

150,931.94

LLOYDS BANK - General Reserve	154,532.80	305,464.74
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Bank Balances as at:	28-Feb-19	462,370.85
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MARCH PAYMENTS

Chg. No

Description/Spending Power:

Payment made by Direct Debit/Standing Order

Glamorgan Telecom	01.02.19	264.00	Annual DD		Telephone
ATOS Fuel Genie	13.02.19	66.01	Mthly DD		Fuel/Mower/Cemetery Maintenance
Forest Equipment Services Ltd	20.02.19	985.18	Mthly STO		Litter-General/Harbour/Dog Waste
EE & T Mobile	25.02.19	14.08	Mthly DD		Telephone
Cable Stream	25.02.19	215.81	Mthly DD		Telephone
Redline Telecom	28.02.19	38.94	Mthly DD		Telephone
		1,584.02			

Interim Payments made in advance of Meeting:

Sage (UK) Ltd	11.02.19	40.20	9227	Annual	Establishment Charges
FoDDC	11.02.19	60.00	9228	Annual	Civic
P & P Pest Control Ltd	11.02.19	768.00	9229	Annual	Cemetery Maintenance
Lydney Boxing Club	12.02.19	150.00	9230	Ad Hoc	Civic
Wildboar Weightlifting Club	21.02.19	500.00	9231	½ Yearly	Grants

LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL

FULL COUNCIL MEETING – 2019/03/11 – 127

Lydney Community Centre	21.02.19	500.00	9232	½ Yearly	Grants
Lydney Festival	21.02.19	500.00	9233	½ Yearly	Grants
Forest of Dean Sea Cadets	22.02.19	350.00	9234	½ Yearly	Grants
SARA	21.02.19	900.00	9235	½ Yearly	Grants
		3,768.20			

Payments for approval at Meeting held on: 11th March 2019

Corporate: Payroll		13,114.83	BACS	Monthly	March
Corporate: HMRC		4,652.57	BACS	Monthly	March
Corporate: Glos LGPS		5,230.86	BACS	Monthly	March
	Payments Sub Total	22,998.26			

Philip Blatchley & Son		948.45	9236	Ad Hoc	Cemetery Plaques
Dean Mowers Ltd		334.27	9237	Ad Hoc	Machinery/Tools Repairs
Forest Equipment Services Ltd		223.50	9238	Monthly	Dog waste/Litter Docks
FoDDC		160.00	9239	Annual	Cemetery Maintenance
GAPTC		2,967.98	9240	Annual	Subscriptions
Gloucestershire County Council		76.50	9241	Ad Hoc	H &S/GCC OH
Greenworks Solutions Ltd		84.00	9242	Annual	Establishment
IOG		150.00	9243	Annual	Subscriptions
Lydney Engineering Co Ltd		323.90	9244	Qrtly	Establishment
Lydney Settled Estate		337.50	9245	Ad Hoc	E/M Lease Court Play Area
Lydney Town Hall Trust		40.00	9246	Annual	Meeting Costs
Office Star Group Ltd		138.86	9247	Mthly	Stationery
P B Safety Supplies		76.50	9248	Ad Hoc	PPE
SLCC		37.50	9249	Ad Hoc	Subscriptions
SLCC		187.00	9250	Annual	Training
The Royal Horticultural Society		58.00	9251	Annual	Subscriptions
TrunkArb Tree Surgery Ltd		867.00	9252	Adhoc/Ann	Trees H/S & Annual Inspections
Cash		106.21	9253	Mthly	Machinery Repairs/Civic/Estb
	Payments for approval: Sub total	7,117.17			

TOTAL PAYMENTS	MARCH	35,467.65
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A list of unrepresented Cheques (For Information only)

Mincost Ltd	20.60	9185
Gloucestershire Playing Fields	100.00	9207
Coleford Town Council	66.12	9218
Expenses	70.00	9224
	30.15	9225
	Total	286.87

Monthly Payment Listing – Month 12

The CEO advised Members that it was anticipated that the Council would end the year within its Budget.

Receipt of the monthly payment schedule (Month 12 – including the transfers/virements shown below) was **proposed by Cllr Ives, seconded by Cllr Pearman.** Unanimous.

Approval of the payments therefrom **proposed by Cllr Ives, seconded by Cllr Pearman.** Unanimous.



LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL

FULL COUNCIL MEETING – 2019/03/11 – 128

Virements

<u>Amount</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
£60.00	Meeting Costs	Newsletters
£400.00	Stationery	Subscriptions

Transfers

<u>Amount</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
None		

Lydney Town Council Debit Card

<u>Date of Transaction</u>	<u>Supplier</u>	<u>Details of Purchase</u>	<u>Amount of Expenditure</u>	<u>Name of LTC Employee placing order</u>
None				

HMRC VAT Digital

Members noted that HMRC VAT Digital for Parish and Town Council's was supposed to come on line in October 2019, however, advice regarding the proposals for Local Councils was still awaited from SLCC/GAPTC.

Month 13

It was **proposed by Cllr Greenwood, seconded by Cllr Harris**, that Delegated Powers would be bestowed on the CEO, in conjunction with two Members, in order that Month 13 payments may be addressed prior to Year End. Unanimous.

At this point attention was drawn to an item of correspondence which had been received from the Bathurst Park and Recreation Trust regarding a further donation of £10,000 towards the cost of enclosing the Memorial Gardens. Members noted that the Trust had been awarded a grant of £24,450.00 towards the cost of the work, however, Forest of Dean District Council would claim 3% of the grant total as it had acted as the "Accountable Body". Cllr Pearman advised that it was necessary for the Town Council to donate £10,000.00 to the project in order that the work could be undertaken and highlighted the need to issue a purchase order for the work prior to Year End. Accordingly, **Cllr Pearman proposed** that the Council provide a donation of £10,000.00 toward the scheme. **Seconded by Cllr Harris**. Unanimous.

Action by – the CEO

During discussion Members noted that other Local Authorities had acted as the "Accountable Body" for similar funding applications but had not elected to claim any percentage of the grant which had been awarded. Members questioned the approach which had been taken by Forest of Dean District Council and Cllr Preest gave a commitment to raise the practice with said Authority.

Action by – Cllr Preest

10. TRAINING

In line with the previous Resolution, Members were informed that two training sessions had been organised for all Councillors following the May Election:-

- 21 May 2019 – Councillor Fundamentals – 6.30 pm to 9.00 pm
- 3 June 2019 – General Power of Competence – 6.30 pm to 9.00 pm



LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL

FULL COUNCIL MEETING – 2019/03/11 – 129

The need for all Members to attend, irrespective of whether they were re-elected or a new Member, was stressed as the training played a crucial part in determining the Council's future plans/financial governance.

11. **RECORDING OF MEETINGS**

Cllr Berryman proposed that as only one quotation had been received at the time of the meeting, further consideration of the matter would be deferred to the new Council to consider after the May elections. Unanimous.

Action by – the CEO

12. **AMENDMENT TO STANDING ORDERS**

Cllr Berryman proposed that the matter would stand adjourned to the new Council in order that they may consider. Unanimous.

Action by – the CEO

13. **BATHURST SWIMMING POOL**

As Cllr Berryman had declared an interest in this matter Cllr Pearman assumed the role of Chairman for this item only.

Members were informed that when the Council had decided to hand the Pool over to “The Friends” (which was significantly prior to the employment of the current CEO) the matter had not been correctly addressed. Accordingly, the Council was now required to consider the following matters, as advised by The Charity Commission:-

- i) *Whether Members are satisfied that The Friends of Bathurst Swimming Pool have all necessary policies and safeguards in place, including public liability insurance. It was **proposed by Cllr Pearman**, that the Council was satisfied as outlined above. Unanimous.*
- ii) *To consider, under the powers of clause 4 of the Scheme of 1969, delegating the management of the Charity to the members of the management committee for the time being of the Friends of Bathurst Swimming Pool. It was **proposed by Cllr Pearman** that the Council would delegate the management as outlined above. Unanimous.*
- iii) *To consider/approve, as trustee of the Charity 301568, the transfer of the pool by pre-merger, to the Friends of Bathurst Swimming Pool, once the CIO has been duly registered, thereby allowing for the transfer of the council's assets and liabilities to the CIO. It was **proposed by Cllr Pearman** that the Council would approve the transfer as outlined above. Unanimous.*
- iv) *To consider/approve, following the aforementioned step, the transfer of the land that is currently vested in the name Official Custodian to then be registered under the name of the CIO. It was **proposed by Cllr Pearman** that following the aforementioned step, the transfer of the land that is currently vested in the name Official Custodian to then be registered under the name of the CIO. Unanimous.*

Cllr Pearman relinquished the role of Chairman and Cllr Berryman continued to chair the meeting from this point forward.

Cllr Berryman drew Members' attention to inaccuracies regarding the creation of the pool (which had been built by the Bathurst family) included in the narrative regarding the pool on a

LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL

FULL COUNCIL MEETING – 2019/03/11 – 130

local political party's website. Cllr Holmes gave a commitment to take the matter up with the member of the public who administered the website and ensure it was corrected.

Action by – Cllr Holmes

14. FORMAL CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- Forest of Dean District Council – E-mail from Ms C Hughes, Monitoring Officer, following an enquiry made by the CEO concerning when CCTV cameras would be installed in Newerne Street Car Park. Ms Hughes advised that cameras would be installed W/C 11 February 2019.
- Gloucestershire County Council – E-mail from Mr R Smith, Contracts Manager (HRCs Recycling & Disposal) advising that from Monday 18 March Oak Quarry Household Recycling Centre will be temporarily closed to facilitate some upgrades.
- Lydney Boxing Club – E-mail from Mr B Higgs extending an invitation to all Councillors to visit the Club one evening to view how it functions.
- Lydney Town Hall – E-mail from Ms K Halford, Chairperson, advising that she will raise the matter of the Town Hall holding a “joint” Christmas event on 23 November 2019 at the next Committee meeting.
- Forest Voluntary Action Forum – E-mail from Mr C Brown, Manager and Development Officer, advising that the Steering Committee for the Forest of Dean Youth Association had agreed that only contributing Parish and Town Council's were entitled to a representative on the already large group. Furthermore, that a maximum of five other members from Youth and Community Groups were permitted and these had been elected at the last meeting. Mr Brown gave a commitment to ensure that Cllr Ives was added to the mailing list for public meetings and if a slot from the Youth and Community Groups allocation became available Mr Brown invited a member of Lydney Hub to join them.
- Bathurst Park and Recreation Trust – Letter from Chairman requesting an urgent donation of £10,000 to facilitate phase 3 of the ironwork railings in the Park.
- Lydney Sea Cadets – E-mail thanking the Council for the £350 grant awarded to them which they have used towards re-flooring the main hall of their building.
- Forest of Dean Tourism Association – E-mail advising of a “Business to beat Brexit” Seminar on Wednesday 13 March 2019 from 4.30 pm.
- Single Use Plastics Letter and responses – Received from Lidl and the Co-operative; both in favour of trying to reduce further the use of single-use plastics.

15. COMMITTEE & OTHER REPORTS

Amenities Committee

Members noted that the draft minutes of the last meeting were available from the Town Council's website/hard copy in Public Minute Books.

Burial Committee

Members noted that the draft minutes of the last meeting were available from the Town Council's website/hard copy in Public Minute Books.

Planning & Highway Committee

Members noted that the draft minutes of the last meeting were available from the Town Council's website/hard copy in Public Minute Books.



LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL

FULL COUNCIL MEETING – 2019/03/11 – 131

Finance & Scrutiny Committee

Members noted that the draft minutes of the last meeting were available from the Town Council's website/hard copy in Public Minute Books.

Personnel Committee

Members noted that the approved minutes of the last meeting were available from the Town Council's website/hard copy in Public Minute Books.

Coastal Communities Team (CCT)

Cllr Pearman advised that he had only attended part of the meeting, which had included an in-depth presentation on behalf of Mr R Cook. Cllr Pearman provided Members with a precis of the meeting.

Community Safety Partnership

Cllr Berryman advised that no meeting had taken place since the last meeting.

Market Town's Forum

Cllr Pearman advised that no meeting had taken place since the last meeting.

Flood Defence Stakeholder Meeting

Cllr Berryman advised that the next meeting would take place on 24 April 2019.

Forest of Dean Health Forum

Cllr Harris advised that no meeting had taken place this month.

Multi-use Track Stakeholder Meeting

Cllr Greenwood advised that West Dean Parish Council had confirmed that they still had an appetite for the project.

Parish and Town Council Liaison Meeting

Cllr Ives reported that no meeting had taken place since the last meeting.

Lydney Town Hall

No report due to the absence of Cllr Tremlett.

16. DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

No report received.

17. FOREST OF DEAN DISTRICT COUNCIL CABINET MEMBER FOR: REGENERATION, ASSET MANAGEMENT, INFRASTRUCTURE & HOUSING REPORT

Prior to the meeting Members were provided with a copy of District Cllr Leppington's written report, the contents of which were duly noted (Appendix B).

Cllr Biddle questioned who had been in charge of the spend for the Cinderford Northern Quarter. District Cllr Leppington advised that various organisations had been "in charge" e.g. Homes and Communities Agency, Gloucestershire County Council and the previous administration at Forest of Dean District Council. Cllr Harris questioned if District Cllr Leppington was looking to investigate why the spend has been so great, considering what had been provide to date. District Cllr Leppington felt that there was insufficient time to be able to investigate further. Cllr Preest urged Forest of Dean District Council to ensure that a



LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL

FULL COUNCIL MEETING – 2019/03/11 – 132

similar amount of money was not wasted in respect of the Five Acres site and encouraged the organisation to seek external professional assistance (e.g. Gloucestershire County Council).

18. **COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT**

County Cllr Preest advised that a new timetable had been produced by Stagecoach in respect of their services which would commence 1 April 2019 as they had taken over a number of local routes. County Cllr Preest urged members of the public to use the services or risk losing them.

County Cllr Preest was delighted to announce that Gloucestershire County Council had pushed the provision of the Oakdale Bus Link forward and highlighted a number of issues which had failed residents due to a lack of adequate/appropriate planning conditions/enforcement by the Local Planning Authority.

19. **COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

Cllr Pearman advised that he had attended the opening of the Iron Bridge at St Mary's Halt which had been organised by Dean Forest Railway; had produced an "Expression of Interest" in respect of the Future High Street Fund only for Forest of Dean District Council to produce a scoring sheet with 15 headings after the submission which differed from the six categories which had been detailed in the original guidance. Cllr Pearman advised that Cinderford had been the only other Town to submit an "Expression of Interest" and as a result of the FODDC scoring sheet Cinderford was now two points ahead of Lydney. It was noted that the scoring sheet had not been issued until the Town Council's submission had been prepared and Cllr Pearman expressed a desire for FODDC's Cabinet to look at the supporting documentation which had been submitted, not purely the scoring sheet.

Cllr Leach advised that Dean Forest Railway had been given consent to extend their line to Cinderford and he felt that it would need to run alongside the cyclepath. Cllr Berryman advised that the trainline would follow a designated route.

Referencing the Press Release which had been issued after the Extra Ordinary Full Council meeting on 20 February 2019, Cllr Leach reported that a member of the public did not understand that the comment contained in the press release had been issued by the Council. Cllr Leach also expressed a belief that the prohibition placed on Councillors commenting to the Press should also be extended to that of the Office too.

Cllr Harris requested an agenda item for the next Amenities Committee meeting relating to a dog waste bin for Kimberley Close/Kimberley Drive junction.

Action by – the CEO

20. **PRESS RELEASE**

None.

21. **MEETING DATES**

As per the meeting schedule (unless cancelled/postponed due to insufficient business by the relevant Chairman).

25 March 2019 at 6.30 pm - Burial Committee
25 March 2019 at 7.00 pm - Trust meetings



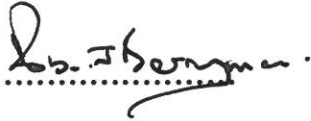
LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL

FULL COUNCIL MEETING – 2019/03/11 – 133

Members were reminded that the Annual Town Meeting would take place in Lydney Town Hall on Monday 18 March 2019 at 7.00 pm, to which all Councillors were expected to attend. All present were reminded that all questions were to be submitted in writing to the Council by 12 noon on Thursday 14 March 2019.

Meeting closed at 8.25pm

Chairman



Date

8/4/2019

Actions from Full Council meeting on 11 February 2019

Agenda Item	Action
5.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Ives to attend future FVAF Working Group Meetings on behalf of Lydney Town Council regarding the Forest Youth Association. FVAF Notified • CEO to write a "Letter of Support" to Lydney Hub advising of the earmarked sum and the caveats which had been placed on said sum to protect the Public Purse. Done
10.	Councillor training to be delivered by a contractor to GAPTC shortly after the Ordinary Elections. Dates TBC
11.	Resolved to defer further consideration of the recording of Lydney Town Council meetings until quotations obtained. Agenda item
12.	If the Motion to amend Standing Orders fails, Councillors to inform the CEO of any amendment to wording they believe is warranted prior to the April FC Meeting so that it may be dually included on the agenda. Members requested to note correct protocol
13.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lydney Town Council to appoint a representative to attend North & West Gloucestershire Citizens Advice meetings at the Annual Council meeting. ACM Agenda item • CEO to inform Forest of Dean District Council that Lydney Town Council wished its name to be added to the letter the Leader of said Council would be sending to the Head Office off all the supermarkets in the Forest of Dean requesting they use the Forest as a pilot for a serious reduction in their use of single plastics. Done • Cllr Ives to be registered to attend the Society of Local Council Clerks Branch Annual General Meeting on 21 March 2019. Done
14.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CEO to approach Lydney Town Hall and the proprietor of Lydney Car Wash to ascertain their interest in holding the Christmas Lights Switch On at either of their establishments. Email sent to LTHTMC to ascertain their interest in hosting a joint event - Response pending • Delegated Powers bestowed on the CEO to purchase three replacement sets of Christmas Tree Lights due to vandalism. Done • District Cllr Leppington to ascertain why the funding bid for the outer gates at Lydney Harbour had failed. Response pending - DCllr Leppington
19.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Ives to formulate a press release on the "Letter of Support" and funding sum earmarked in respect of Lydney Hub. Done

Budget

The Forest of Dean District Council budget for 2019/20 was approved by Full Council. There will be a small rise in Council Tax (roughly 10p per week for a band D). There will also be some increased charges for discretionary services like the Green Bin waste (£2 per annum). There are no service cuts. Car parking charges remain the same. Discretionary Council Tax Relief continues. However, a balanced budget was only achieved at the cost of depleting reserves. As Government funding decreases and then ceases completely, whoever forms the new administration in May will face significant challenges in delivering future balanced budgets.

5 Acres

The Forest of Dean District Council are still waiting to get ownership of the College and Leisure Centre site. We have now been informed that the final decision has been referred to the Minister responsible for Homes England. Cabinet are hugely disappointed at this delay and are currently seeking an audience with Mr. Brokenshaw to accelerate our ownership bid.

Cinderford Northern Quarter

Unfortunately, Forest of Dean District Council's bid for funding to develop the spine road and unlock further plots for commercial development and housing has proved unsuccessful. After the expenditure of huge sums of money under the previous administration, the future Cabinet will have to take some very challenging decisions about the future of this project.

MS