

LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL

FULL COUNCIL MEETING – 2019/04/08 – 134

MINUTES OF THE LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING held in the Council Chamber, Claremont House, Lydney on Monday 08 April 2019 at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT: Cllrs B Berryman (Chairman), D Biddle, R Christodoulides, J Greenwood, C Harris, R Holmes, W Leach, C Legg, B Pearman, A Preest, T Tremlett & C Vaughan

One member of the public
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.

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received and noted from Cllr Ives.

Cllr White's disqualification from office due to non-attendance was noted.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

3. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Approval of the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 11 March 2019 were **proposed by Cllr Preest, seconded by Cllr Pearman. Vote carried.**

4. **POLICE MATTERS**

Cllr Berryman advised that following a meeting with the police, a police report would once again be produced by an officer and circulated where possible ahead of each monthly meeting.

The CEO advised that Dan Wilce had returned to the local area as a fully established police officer.

Cllr Harris noted that the police report still indicated a high number of undetected crimes and queried the meaning of this terminology; Cllr Berryman explained his understanding that such referred to committed crimes where the perpetrator was still to go to court/was awaiting sentencing.

Cllr Berryman advised that the police currently had a policy that provided leniency toward minors and where possible, the arrest of under 18s, however it was possible for a police officer to stop and search individuals.

Cllr Berryman stated that a number of flowerbeds had been destroyed in the park however the Ground Staff had since replanted the area. Cllr Preest also drew members attention to the graffiti evident around the lake/Hams Road area that had appeared over the weekend.

5. **YOUTH FORUM**

Deferred to June meeting



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6. **OPEN FORUM**

[Cllr Berryman proposed that this item of business be moved to the end of the meeting, the minutes however reflect the agenda order].

No requests to speak were received.

7. **COMMUNICATIONS BY THE MAYOR**

Cllr Berryman advised that since the last meeting he had:

- Attended the Coleford Chairman's Civic Dinner
- Received a letter of thanks from Lydney Boxing Club in respect to the donation of £150 which was provided from the Civic Fund.

8. **PROTOCOL**

Cllr Berryman advised Members that he was saddened by the actions of a couple of councillors; there actions resulting in the necessity for the Council to seek legal advice from its solicitor and for employees to consult with their Union.

Cllr Berryman reminded Members of the content of a prior Full Council Meeting when it had been made abundantly clear to all present that if any Member had an issue with any Council employee they were required to follow the Council's set procedure; namely reporting the perceived issue in the first instance to the CEO or, if the member preferred, reporting the matter to the Mayor or Personnel Chair direct.

Cllr Berryman stated that despite no one member advising at the last meeting when a recorded vote was taken that they had a specific issue with an officer, he had been concerned to hear the comment made by one councillor as he was leaving the meeting in which the member had stated that whilst he had voted not to lodge a complaint against the CEO that night, tomorrow was different day.

Cllr Berryman advised that following the meeting last month at which the recorded vote had been taken, he had been contacted the following day FODDC's Monitoring Officer (MO) who had advised him that a number of Lydney Town Councillors had seen fit to bypass him/ignore the Council's policies/procedures and instead complain directly to the Monitoring Officer about how Lydney Town Council was run. The MO further advised that she felt that the councillors concerns related in part to comments made by the CEO in relation to the late Jo Cox MP (a confidential email, later released on the council's solicitors advice) and how the CEO takes an active role in council meetings; these members had also complained that the CEO had an aggressive manner about her and they were unhappy with certain social media posts.

Cllr Berryman stated that he felt the actions of these members were both disgusting and underhand and further advised that despite the MO advising these members that she had no jurisdiction over Lydney Town Council and that the members should refer to the Town Council's policies, one councillor sought clarification for a second time from FODDC.

Cllr Berryman asked why these members had voted not to lodge a formal complaint against the CEO but had instead seen fit to go behind his back? Cllr Berryman reminded all members that the Council's solicitor had advised at the time that there was no issue with the wording contained in the confidential email written by the CEO and that all Press

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Releases issued by the CEO/Office were checked by either himself or the Deputy Mayor prior to issue; that as Mayor/Meeting Chairman it was at his discretion whether he allowed the CEO to speak at meetings and reminded councillors that it was part of the CEOs role to advise council on policy and legalities.

Cllr Berryman reminded all members that they had a *Duty of Care* to their staff and stated that he openly welcomed the involvement of the Union who he advised were now closely monitoring the situation; that on-going harassment and /or victimisation of any council officer would not be tolerated as it affected the physical well-being of the employee.

Cllr Berryman then invited Cllr Leach to make comment on what he had said following the last meeting in respect to the lodging of a formal complaint, be it on another day, against the CEO.

Cllr Leach denied making any such comment concerning the CEO at the end of the last meeting however Cllr Berryman stated the he had heard him and that being an ex-police officer he was used to telling the truth despite Cllr Leach saying he did not recall making such a comment.


Cllr Pearman spoke as Personnel Chairman saying he too had heard the comment made by Cllr Leach and asked why Cllr Leach had seen fit to contact the MO for a second time when he had already been advised by her that it was not within her jurisdiction to address? Cllr Pearman reminded members that only when councillors and officers respect each other's roles and responsibilities will the council function correctly and referred members to several documents that clearly outline the role of Clerk/CEO including the Scheme of Delegation.

Cllr Pearman told members that a Union Representative had been invited to attend the last Personnel Committee Meeting and had advised that the CEO had grounds to take action against the council, that as Committee Chairman he had since spoken at length to the council's solicitor and Ellis Whittam, both of whom agreed with the findings of the Union. Cllr Pearman also advised that the Personnel Committee would be referring the CEO to Occupational Health.

Cllr Berryman invited the two councillors who had approached FOODC's MO to explain their actions:

Cllr Holmes said that it was the MO who had asked to speak with him following a Labour Party discussion held at the District Council Office.

Cllr Vaughan felt the council had a right to know the names of the two members who were calling the CEO's professionalism into disrepute and felt that all councillors had a duty to abide by the council's Code of Conduct, Standing Orders and its policies.

Cllr Harris reiterated the sentiments conveyed by Cllr Vaughan, and **Proposed that the Mayor went around the table to establish the two members who had approached the MO**, adding that she felt the CEO did an outstanding job, demonstratable by what the council had achieved. 

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Cllr Preest also praised the CEO, adding that he had been the whistle-blower who approx. nine years ago had called into question the actions of the former clerk resulting in a Public Interest Report. Cllr Preest added that the CEO had invested much time in correcting inaccuracies in policy and procedure and that he had nothing but respect for her and the manner in which she supervises council staff. Cllr Preest felt it was unfair that the CEO was subjected to constant criticism, especially criticism from within the council for merely addressing her role and responsibilities and suggested that members and officers alike should all be working to improve Lydney. **Cllr Preest then seconded Cllr Harris's prior motion**

Cllr Holmes reiterated that it was the MO who asked to speak to him in the first instance.

Cllr Leach stated that he had approached the MO but merely for clarification at which point Cllr Preest called a point of order.

Recorded vote taken to establish which Members had approached the MO

NO

Cllr Berryman
Cllr Biddle
Cllr Christodoludies
Cllr Greenwood
Cllr Harris
Cllr Legg
Cllr Pearman
Cllr Preest
Cllr Tremlett

YES

Cllr Holmes (*as stated above*)
Cllr Leach (*as stated above*)

Cllr Pearman reiterated the process that was to be followed if a member had an issue with an officer, Cllr Tremlett queried what should happen if the member however felt they were not gaining a suitable response from the Mayor/Personnel Committee, supporting the approach made by Cllr Leach to the MO.

Cllr Berryman said that policies needed to be adhered to and not by-passed.

The CEO asked Cllr Tremlett whether it was she who had advised Cllr Leach to go straight to the MO?

Cllr Berryman gave an undertaking to contact once more the MO to ascertain which version of events was correct.

Cllr Pearman stated that all members need to understand the ramifications of their actions; that harassing/undermining officers was unacceptable, that a successful claim against the council could potentially result in a substantial financial hit to the council.

Cllr Berryman said he could not understand Cllr Leach going to the MO, Cllr Leach said he was not prepared to make further comment as the meeting was not in 'closed session', Cllr Harris questioned why that would prevent Cllr Leach from making comment on this occasion as he had not held back with his criticism of the CEO in public on more than one other occasion.

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9. FINANCIAL MATTERS

a. End of year Accounts

Cllr Pearman congratulated the CEO and Finance Assistant for completing Year End accounts under what amounted to ‘difficult’ circumstances. Thanks, were also expressed to the Independent Internal Auditor for the promptness of their report.

Members were asked to consider/approve acceptance of the end of year balance/bank reconciliation figures (as audited by the Independent Internal Auditor and shown on the AGAR).

FINANCIAL STATEMENT -	MARCH 2019	
Opening Bank Balances as 1st April 2018		
LLOYDS BANK - Current account		96,414.19
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
Receipts MAY		6,850.07
Receipts JUNE		990.76
Receipts JULY		16,858.58
Receipts AUGUST		2,352.37
Receipts SEPTEMBER		261,379.05
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
Receipts MARCH		4,070.80
<i>Lydney In Bloom: Income banked to LIB current a/c</i>		850.00
	Total Receipts YTD	605,019.20
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	
Payments PRIOR TO YEAR END	23,784.07	See Below
<i>Lydney In Bloom: Cheque Payments to date from LIB a/c</i>	1,252.30	
	Total Payments YTD	603,433.68
		442,657.58

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Reconciled Bank Statements as at end		March- 19	
LLOYDS BANK - Current account			98,188.61
LLOYDS BANK - Lydney In Bloom - Current			1,362.14
LLOYDS BANK - LGPS - Current			23,498.30
LLOYDS BANK - Earmarked Reserves:			
S106		29,191.50	
Lydney War Memorial		2,000.00	
Play Areas (General)		5,000.00	
Play Area (Leaze Court)		129.86	
Cemetery		13,842.14	
Cemetery: St Mary's Churchyard/Wall		4,000.00	
Cemetery: Memorial Testing		12,500.00	
Cemetery: Additional Burial Space		20,000.00	
Cemetery: Additional Burial Space		1,500.00	
Election Costs		10,000.00	
Machinery		8,500.00	
Town Panel Maps		1,062.00	
Town Events/Christmas (Grotto Etc)		7,000.00	
Environment Agency 2019/2020 Payment		5,500.00	
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	

		149,095.50	
LLOYDS BANK - General Reserve		170,513.03	319,608.53
Bank Balances as at: 31-March-19			442,657.58

MARCH YEAR END PAYMENTS

Payment made by Direct Debit/Standing Order

			<u>Chq. No</u>
Garden Camping	08.03.19	105.94	Debit Card
DVLA	08.03.19	250.00	Debit Card
Bathurst Park Recreation Trust	12.03.19	10,000.00	BACS
ATOS Fuel Genie	13.03.19	110.89	Mthly DD
Forest Equipment Services Ltd	20.03.19	985.18	Mthly STO
Barriers Direct	20.03.19	67.03	Debit Card
EE & T-Mobile	25.03.19	14.08	Mthly DD
Cable Stream	25.03.19	135.08	Mthly DD
Redline Telecom	28.03.19	38.94	Mthly DD
Public Works Loan Board	29.03.19	7,643.43	½ Yearly
		<u>19,350.57</u>	

Payments for Year End:

Corporate: Payroll	29.03.19	347.11	BACS	Monthly	March
Corporate: HMRC	29.03.19	159.42	BACS	Monthly	March
Corporate: Glos LGPS	29.03.19	145.25	BACS	Monthly	March
		<u>651.78</u>			

Coinros Park Nurseries Ltd	11.03.19	296.81	9254	Ad Hoc	E/M Playarea Leaze Course/E/M Gr
Gloucestershire Scout Awards – A Howells	11.03.19	200.00	9255	Annual	Youth Engagement Project
C Wheeler	11.03.19	85.00	9256	Ad Hoc	Civic
Forest Equipment Services Ltd	26.03.19	584.10	9257	Monthly	Litter-Dogwaste-Harbour
Forest of Dean Wye Valley Review Ltd	26.03.19	345.60	9258	Annual	Meeting Costs
Lydney Town Hall Management Committee	26.03.19	50.00	9259	Annual	Meeting Costs
Duncan Matthews	26.03.19	190.50	9260	Ad Hoc	Vehicle Costs
Office Star Group Ltd	26.03.19	122.25	9261	Monthly	Stationery
P B Safety Supplies Ltd	26.03.19	38.34	9262	Ad Hoc	PPE
Whitehouse Press (Printers) Ltd	26.03.19	1,740.00	9263	Annl/Qrtly	Newsletters/Mtg Costs
Cash	26.03.19	129.12	9264	Monthly	PPE/Mtg Costs/Estb
Payments for approval: Sub total		3,781.72			

TOTAL PAYMENTS MARCH 23,784.07

A list of unrepresented Cheques (For Information only)

Mincost Ltd	20.60	9185
Mincost Ltd	66.12	9218
IOG	150.00	9243
Lydney Engineering Co Ltd	323.90	9244
Total	560.62	

LB

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Acceptance of the end of year balance/bank reconciliation figures were **Proposed by Cllr Harris, Seconded by Vaughan - Unanimous**

Members were also provided with copies of the Independent Internal Auditor's End of Year Audit 2018 - 19 report which had been provided.

The End of Year Independent Audit Report was duly accepted. **Proposed by Cllr Pearman, Seconded by Cllr Harris - Unanimous**

Annual Governance and Audit Return (AGAR)

Members were asked to consider:-

Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2018/19

To consider and acknowledge that as Members of Lydney Town Council we have a responsibility for ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control, including the preparation of accounting statements. We therefore confirm to the best of knowledge and belief that the answers shown in Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2018/19 are correct. **Proposed Cllr Harris, seconded by Cllr Greenwood. Unanimous**

The Mayor was instructed to sign, the RFO to countersign.

Section 2 – Accounting Statements for 2018/19

To consider/certify that for the year ending 31 March 2019 the accounting statements contained in this Annual Governance and Audit Return present fairly the financial position of Lydney Town Council and its income and expenditure, as the case may be. **Proposed by Cllr Harris, seconded by Cllr Greenwood. Unanimous.**

The Mayor was instructed to sign, the RFO to countersign.

b. Monthly Accounts

FINANCIAL STATEMENT -

APRIL 2019

Opening Bank Balances as 1st April 2019

LLOYDS BANK - Current account	98,188.61	
LLOYDS BANK - Lydney In Bloom - Current	1362.14	,110.00
LLOYDS BANK - LGPS - Current	23,498.30	

LLOYDS BANK - Earmarked Reserves:

S106	29,191.50
Lydney War Memorial	2,000.00
Play Areas (General)	5,000.00
Play Area (Leaze Court)	129.86
Cemetery	13,842.14
Cemetery: St Mary's Churchyard/Wall	4,000.00
Cemetery: Memorial Testing	12,500.00
Cemetery: Additional Burial Space	20,000.00
Cemetery: Green Burial Space	1,500.00
Election Costs	10,000.00
Machinery	8,500.00
Town Panel Maps	1,062.00
Town Events/Christmas (Grotto etc)	7,000.00
Civic	1,000.00
Pear Mapping Cemetery	1,870.00
Lydney in Bloom	1,000.00
Environment Agency 2019/20	5,500.00
Youth Provision (The Hub)	25,000.00

LLOYDS BANK - General Reserve

149,095.50	
170,513.03	319,608.53
	<u>442,657.58</u>

RECEIPTS

Receipts APRIL
Receipts MAY
Receipts JUNE
Receipts JULY



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Receipts AUGUST
 Receipts SEPTEMBER
 Receipts OCTOBER
 Receipts NOVEMBER
 Receipts DECEMBER
 Receipts JANUARY
 Receipts FEBRUARY
 Receipts MARCH

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

0.00

Total Receipts YTD 00.00

PAYMENTS

Payments APRIL

5,127.18

Payments MAY
 Payments JUNE
 Payments JULY
 Payments AUGUST
 Payments SEPTEMBER
 Payments OCTOBER
 Payments NOVEMBER
 Payments DECEMBER
 Payments JANUARY
 Payments FEBRUARY
 Payments MARCH
 Payments PRIOR TO YEAR END

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

Total Payments YTD 5,127.18

437,530.40

Reconciled Bank Statements as at end	MARCH 19	
LLOYDS BANK - Current account		93,061.43
LLOYDS BANK - Lydney In Bloom - Current		1,362.14
LLOYDS BANK - LGPS - Current		23,498.30
LLOYDS BANK - Earmarked Reserves:		
S106	29,191.50	
Lydney War Memorial	2,000.00	
Play Areas (General)	5,000.00	
Play Areas (Leaze Court)	129.85	
Cemetery	13,842.14	
Cemetery: St Mary's Churchyard/Wall	4,000.00	
Cemetery: Memorial Testing	12,500.00	
Cemetery: Additional Burial Space	20,000.00	
Cemetery: Green Burial Space	1,500.00	
Election Costs	10,000.00	
Machinery	8,500.00	
Town Panel Maps	1,062.00	
Town Events	7,000.00	
Civic	1,000.00	
Pear Mapping	1,870.00	
Lydney in Bloom	1,000.00	
Environment Agency 2019/20 Payment	5,500.00	
Youth Provision (The Hub)	25,000.00	149,095.50
LLOYDS BANK - General Reserve	170,513.03	319,608.53
Bank Balances as at: 31-March-18		437,530.40

APRIL PAYMENTS

Chq. No

Payments for approval at meeting held on: 8th April 2019

Corporate: Payroll	Via Delegated Powers	BACS	Monthly	April	
Corporate: HMRC		BACS	Monthly	April	
Corporate: Glos LGPS		BACS	Monthly	April	
C Wheeler	60.00	9361	Annual	Easter Egg Event	
A Crawshaw	70.00	9362	Annual	Easter Egg Event	
C Evans – Alpha Design	420.00	9363	Annual	Website Maintenance	
P Blatchly & Son	449.25	9364	Ad Hoc	C/F 18/19 Cemetery Plaques	
D B C Solutions Ltd	198.00	9365	Annual	Establishment	
Ellis Whittam	2,185.30	9366	Annual	Insurance/Gen IH	
P B Safety Supplies	164.82	9367	Ad Hoc	PPE	
Network Connections (UK) Ltd	1,500.00	9368	Annual	CCTV	
Expenses	68.90	9369	Ad Hoc	Civic	
Cash	10.91	9370	Monthly	Mtg Costs/Playarea Maintenance	
Payments for approval: Sub total	5,127.18				

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TOTAL PAYMENTS	APRIL	5,127.18	
<u>A list of unpresented Cheques (For Information only)</u>			
Mincost Ltd		20.60	9185
Mincost Ltd		66.12	9218
IOG		150.00	9243
Lydney Engineering Co Ltd		323.90	9244
Gloucestershire Scout Group		200.00	9255
Forest Equipment Services Ltd		584.10	9257
Forest of Dean & Wye Valley Review Ltd		345.60	9258
Lydney Town Hall Committee		50.00	9259
Duncan Matthews			
P B Safety Supplies Ltd		38.34	9262
Whitehouse (Press) Printers Ltd		1,740.00	9263
	Total	3,709.16	

Monthly Payment Listing – Month 1

Receipt of the monthly payment schedule (Month 1 – including the transfers/virements shown below) was **proposed by Cllr Vaughan, seconded by Cllr Harris.** Unanimous.

Approval of the payments therefrom **proposed by Cllr Vaughan, seconded by Cllr Harris.** Unanimous.

The use of the Council’s Debit Card was duly noted.

The CEO requested that consideration be given to ‘standing on’ with existing cheque signatories following the election process until such time as bank mandates could be changed.

Approval proposed by Cllr Harris, seconded by Cllr Preeest – Unanimous

c. Insurance

All members had previously been provided with a copy of a new insurance quotation for cyber cover (cost £624.20). Cllr Harris queried what such cover offered and the CEO read out the policy wording.

Cllr Pearman commented that Gloucestershire police had recently invested in similar cover which he felt was required to protect the council from all associated risk. Cllr Tremlett recognised that most business now partake of such cover.

Proposed by Cllr Pearman, seconded by Cllr Tremlett that the council invest in cyber insurance cover – unanimous **Action by – the CEO**

10. AMENITIES

Cllr Harris (Amenities Chairman) advised that the following items had been included as there was insufficient business to warrant the convening of an Amenities Committee Meeting on the 15th May 2019.

- i) Members were asked to note; bench, flower trough and room hire charges that were imposed as of 1st April 2019. Noted
- ii) Members of the Amenities Committee were asked to consider purchasing two additional dog bins which were to be located at Grove Lane and Kimberely Drive/Close. Despite no being a member of the Amenities Committee Cllr Tremlett queried as to whether there was sufficient in the budget to cover the purchase.
Cllr Harris proposed the purchase/siting and emptying of two new dog bins, unanimous



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- iii) Committee members were the asked to consider either pollarding or reducing branch length of a number of trees at Beauchamp Meadow; **It was proposed by Cllr Vaughan, seconded by Cllr Harris** that the trees be pollarded at a cost of £390.00
- iv) **Cllr Harris then proposed the meeting minutes of the last Amenities Committee Meeting be dually approved, vote carried.**

11. BURIAL

- i) Members were asked to note the Burial Charges imposed as of 1st April 2019. Noted
- ii) Members of the Burial Committee were asked to consider/approve the charge payable by Aylburton Parish Council in respect of use of Lydney Cemetery, **a charge of £307.46 for 2019/20 was proposed by Cllr Harris, seconded by Pearman, vote carried.**

12. FORMAL CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

Gloucestershire Association of Parish and Town Councils (GAPTC)

E-mail from Sue Creswick, Senior Advisor, extending an invitation to Member Councils to propose topics for debate at their AGM on Saturday 20 July 2019. If Lydney Town Council wish to submit a Resolution it would need to agree the Resolution and submit it to GAPTC by Friday 10 May 2019. Please note that a Lydney Town Councillor would need to attend the AGM to present the Resolution, which will need a seconder for it, to be found either in advance or at the meeting, before the Resolution could be debated.

*Members to consider if they wish to submit a Resolution for debate at the AGM and note the requirement for a Councillor to attend the meeting. **No Resolution submitted***

Mr G Lewis

Letter requesting that the Council provide an explanation regarding the increase in the Town Council's Precept for 2019/20 of 4.6% when other Agencies have remained within the recommended 3%. Furthermore, Mr Lewis felt that the Council had not been painted in a good light in recent press reports.

The CEO's response provided Mr Lewis with a copy of Lydney Town Council's approved budget for 2019/20; advised that press reports were aimed at selling papers and directed Mr Lewis to the Press Statement displayed on Lydney Town Council's website; provided Mr Lewis with a copy of the Annual Town Meeting Report which detailed the activities/improvements addressed by the Council during 2018/19. **Noted**

Mr K Wilks

Letter commending the Council for the work undertaken on behalf of Lydney's electorate. Mr Wilks also stated that he enjoyed attending the Annual Town Meeting and listening to the positive reports provided by organisations and sporting clubs which highlighted the work the council had addressed during 2018/19 **Noted**

Facebook Post

Member of the public congratulating the Bathurst Park and Recreation Trust on their decision to provide accessible disabled benches for picnics. **Noted**



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Forest of Dean District Council

Statement of Persons Nominated in respect of the Ordinary Elections to be held on 2 May 2019. Awaiting hard copy prior to placing on the noticeboards. *Noted*

13. MEETING DATES

As per the meeting schedule:

2nd May - Ordinary Elections

13th May 2019 @ 7pm – Annual Council Meeting

14. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (last meeting prior to current Councillors end of Term of Office)

I sign these Minutes as retiring
Councillor/Mayor of Lydney Town Council as
confirmation that the content of such is a true
and accurate reflection of the last meeting of
the current Council held on the 8-4-19

Meeting closed at 7.55pm

Chairman 

Date 30-4-2019