

LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL

FULL COUNCIL MEETING – 2020/03/09 – 133

MINUTES OF THE LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING held in the Council Chamber, Claremont House, Lydney on Monday 9 March 2020 at 7.01 pm.

PRESENT: Cllrs W Leach (Chairman), L Arnold, Z Arnold, J Carr, J Greenwood, A Harley, R Holmes, S Holmes, R Kemsley, P Macklin, A Preest, S Stockham, T Tremlett and S Turner

PCC Martin Surl (Agenda Item 6 – Police only)

Mr A Maliphant – The Community Works (Agenda Item 13 only)

District Cllr Topping, Forest of Dean District Council (Agenda Item 4 only)

District Cllr Leppington, Forest of Dean District Council (Agenda Item 12 only)

One member of the Public

Mr R Balgobin – Locum Town Clerk

Mrs I Litton – Locum Responsible Finance Officer

Miss C Wheeler – Assistant Clerk – Minute Taker

Cllr Leach 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**

None.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

3. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Cllr Tremlett wished to clarify that at the last meeting she had asked if the Council wanted a report from the Health Forum.

Approval of the public minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 10 February 2020 was **proposed by Cllr Tremlett, seconded by Cllr L Arnold.** Unanimous.

4. **DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT**

District Cllr Topping informed Members that he had produced two draft leaflets regarding his Solar Streets initiative. District Councillor Topping hoped to be in a position to forward a copy of the final version to the Clerk for consideration at the next meeting as he expressed a desire to include Lydney Town Council's crest.

District Cllr Topping informed Members that a feasibility study was being undertaken on ground source heat pumps for properties which were off the gas grid.

Regarding the Holms Farm planning application, District Cllr Topping advised that the application would be considered by the District Council's Planning Committee the following day and was aware that some late documentation had been submitted.

Finally, District Cllr Topping voiced his intention to organise some community litterpicks around the lake and the recreation ground on either 25 April 2020 or 9 May 2020.

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5. **COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT**

County Cllr Preest felt that the Town had been let down by the rapid emergency plans which had been produced and he felt that “dry run” exercises needed to be conducted involving all agencies. County Cllr Preest felt that Forest of Dean District Council should adopt an emergency telephone system similar to that operated by Gloucestershire County Council which should be made available to the Town Council. Cllr Greenwood called for all emergency plans to include provision for all scenarios.

Regarding VE Day, County Cllr Preest called for assistance from his fellow Members with organising an event to mark the occasion. Cllr Kemsley kindly offered to attend a meeting with Cllr Preest and members of the RBL Lydney Branch on 11 March 2020 at 12 noon to discuss arrangements.

6. **POLICE MATTERS**

Cllr Leach welcomed PCC Martin Surl to the meeting.

PCC Surl informed Members that crime levels for Lydney were slightly up and that consideration had been given as to how the Police could do things differently. PCC Surl was delighted to announce that Lydney Police Station would re-open, as would Berkeley. Members noted that IT and new entry systems would need to be installed in the building before it could be operational and it was anticipated that 20 officers would be based there. Responding to a question raised by Cllr Leach, PCC Surl advised that whilst he could not guarantee that the building would have a receptionist, anyone who rang the doorbell would receive an answer.

Members noted that a press release would be issued on the re-opening of the building and PCC Surl excused himself from the meeting.

At this point Cllr Leach brought forward Agenda Item 12 – Lydney Harbour Project, however, the minute reflect the order as shown on the agenda.

7. **OPEN FORUM**

No questions were posed by members of the public.

8. **YOUTH FORUM**

Cllr Macklin advised that a press release was currently being formulated regarding the release of funding to Lydney Hub. Cllr Leach reminded Members that the Council had previously agreed to award £25,000 funding to The Hub which would be released in staged payments.

9. **TOWN CLERK’S REPORT**

The Clerk drew attention to the completed actions list which had been circulated prior to the meeting, the contents of which were noted (Appendix A).

The ratification the decision by the Personnel Committee to appoint Mr R Balgobin as the Locum Clerk and Mrs I Litton as the Locum RFO was unanimously agreed.

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10. FINANCIAL MATTERS

FINANCIAL STATEMENT -

MARCH 2020

Opening Bank Balances as 1st April 2019

| | | | | |
|--|-----------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| LLOYDS BANK - Current account | | 98,188.61 | | <u>2018/19 Commitments</u> |
| LLOYDS BANK - Lydney In Bloom - Current | | 1,362.14 | | <u>Brought Forward</u> |
| LLOYDS BANK - LGPS - Current | | 23,498.30 | | £6,110.00 |
| LLOYDS BANK - Earmarked Reserves: | | | | |
| S106 | 29,191.50 | | | |
| Lydney War Memorial | 2,000.00 | | | |
| Play Areas (General) | 5,000.00 | | | |
| Play Areas (Leaze Court) | 129.86 | | | |
| 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 2019/2020 | 5,500.00 | | | |
| Youth Provision (The Hub) | 25,000.00 | 149,095.50 | | |
| LLOYDS BANK - General Reserve | | 170,513.03 | 319,608.53 | |
| | | | 442,657.58 | |

RECEIPTS

| | | | | |
|--|--|---------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Receipts APRIL | | 280,260.31 | | |
| Receipts MAY | | 13,032.47 | | |
| Receipts JUNE | | 2,476.93 | | |
| Receipts JULY | | 14,059.69 | | |
| Receipts AUGUST | | 4,275.48 | | |
| Receipts SEPTEMBER | | 280,414.65 | | |
| Receipts OCTOBER | | 29,110.03 | | |
| Receipts NOVEMBER | | 2,951.91 | | |
| Receipts DECEMBER | | 1,623.76 | | |
| Receipts JANUARY | | 6,747.37 | | |
| Receipts FEBRUARY | | 1,116.62 | | See Separate Sheet |
| Receipts MARCH | | | | |
| <i>Lydney In Bloom: Income banked to LIB current a/c</i> | | | 1,100.00 | |
| | | Total Receipts YTD | 637,169.22 | |

PAYMENTS

| | | | | |
|--|--|---------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Payments APRIL | | 5,127.18 | | |
| Payments MAY | | 72,529.88 | | |
| Payments JUNE | | 92,281.41 | | |
| Payments JULY | | 38,696.34 | | |
| Payments AUGUST | | 44,497.63 | | |
| Payments SEPTEMBER | | 6,525.77 | | |
| Payments OCTOBER | | 92,632.15 | | |
| Payments NOVEMBER | | 44,936.92 | | |
| Payments DECEMBER | | 31,878.70 | | |
| Payments JANUARY | | 30,139.57 | | |
| Payments FEBRUARY | | 41,378.08 | | |
| Payments MARCH | | 46,466.17 | | Detailed Below |
| Payments PRIOR TO YEAR END | | | | |
| <i>Lydney In Bloom: Cheque Payments to date from LIB a/c</i> | | | 776.25 | |
| | | Total Payments YTD | 547,866.05 | |
| | | | 531,960.75 | |

Reconciled Bank Statements as at end

FEBRUARY 20

| | | |
|--|--|------------|
| LLOYDS BANK - Current account | | 174,174.03 |
| LLOYDS BANK - Lydney In Bloom - Current | | 1,685.89 |
| LLOYDS BANK - LGPS - Current | | 23,509.10 |
| LLOYDS BANK - Earmarked Reserves: | | |

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|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| S106 | 29,191.50 | |
| Lydney War Memorial | 2,000.00 | |
| Play Areas (General) | 5,000.00 | |
| Play Areas (Leaze Court) | 129.86 | |
| Cemetery | 13,842.14 | |
| Cemetery: St Mary's Churchyard/Wall | 5,500.00 | |
| Cemetery: Memorial Testing | 13,000.00 | |
| Cemetery: Additional Burial Space | 20,000.00 | |
| Cemetery: Green Burial Space | 5,500.00 | |
| Election Costs | 9,000.12 | |
| Machinery | 8,500.00 | |
| 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 2020/21 Payment | 5,500.00 | |
| Youth Provision (The Hub) | 25,000.00 | |
| LLOYDS BANK - General Reserve | 179,558.11 | 332,591.73 |
| Bank Balances as at: 29-Feb-20 | | 531,960.75 |

| FEBRUARY PAYMENTS | | Chq. No | Description/Spending Power: | | |
|---|-------------------------------|------------------|------------------------------------|-----------|--|
| Payment made by Direct Debit/Standing Order | | | | | |
| Glamorgan Telecom | 03.02.20 | 264.00 | DD | Annual | Telephone/Internet |
| Mail Box Door Drop | 11.02.20 | 121.42 | BACS | Quarterly | Newsletters |
| ATOS Fuel Genie | 13.02.20 | 123.83 | DD | Monthly | Van Fuel/Cemetery/BPRT Recharge |
| Forest Equipment Service Ltd | 20.02.20 | 1,212.90 | STO | Monthly | Litter – Gen/Harbour/Cemetery/Dogwaste |
| EE Limited | 24.02.20 | 14.45 | DD | Monthly | Telephone/Internet |
| Cable Stream Ltd | 24.02.20 | 163.87 | DD | Monthly | Telephone/Internet |
| Redline Telecom | 28.02.20 | 38.94 | DD | Monthly | Telephone/Internet |
| | Direct Debits: | | | | |
| | Sub total | 1,939.41 | | | |
| Interim Payments made in advance of meeting: | | | | | |
| Tate Computer Technology Ltd | 10.02.20 | 75.60 | 9607 | Ad Hoc | Office/it Equip/Maintenance |
| Community Heartbeat Trust (Solutions) Ltd | 10.02.20 | 151.20 | 9608 | Annual | H & S |
| Greenworks Solutions | 10.02.20 | 84.00 | 9609 | Annual | Establishment |
| Sherbornes Solicitors Ltd | 11.02.20 | 1,291.80 | 9610 | Ad Hoc | Legal Fees |
| Wye Valley & Forest of Dean Tourism | 11.02.20 | 144.00 | 9611 | Annual | Subscriptions |
| Lydney Hub | 25.02.20 | 9,654.00 | 9612 | Ad Hoc | E/M Youth Hub |
| 3 Hill Street Lydney | 25.02.20 | 93.00 | 9613 | Ad Hoc | Civic Expenses |
| | Interim Payments Total | 11,493.60 | | | |
| Payments for approval at meeting held on: 10th February 2020 | | | | | |
| Corporate: Payroll Correction Feb | | -1,731.22 | BACS | Monthly | February |
| Corporate: Payroll | | 11,788.46 | BACS | Monthly | March |
| Corporate: HMRC Correction Feb | | -731.43 | BACS | Monthly | February |
| Corporate: HMRC | | 3,325.71 | BACS | Monthly | March |
| Corporate: Glos LGPS | | 4,266.66 | BACS | Monthly | March |
| | Payments Sub Total | 16,918.18 | | | |
| Arkell & Hurcombe Ltd | | 193.20 | 9614 | Ad Hoc | Cemetery Plaques |
| Chapel Tree Services Ltd | | 4,596.00 | 9615 | Ad Hoc | Trees (H&S) |
| Duncan Matthews | | 156.00 | 9616 | Annual | Vehicle Costs |
| Forest Equipment Services Ltd | | 90.42 | 9617 | Monthly | Litter -General -Dog Waste |
| Exhaust Tyres & Batteries (Worcester) Ltd | | 19.99 | 9618 | Ad Hoc | Vehicle Costs |
| GAPTC | | 525.00 | 9619 | Ad Hoc | Clr Training |
| FoDDC | | 195.00 | 9620 | Annual | Cemetery Maintenance |
| Light Fantastic DIY Ltd | | 50.06 | 9621 | Ad Hoc | Playarea Maint/Cemetery Maintenance |
| Lydney Engineering Company Ltd | | 377.71 | 9622 | Quarterly | Establishment |
| Public Works Loan Board | | 7,643.43 | 9623 | ½ Yearly | PWLB |
| Travis Perkins Trading Co Ltd | | 122.86 | 9624 | Ad Hoc | Contingency |
| Expenses | | 238.50 | 9625 | Monthly | Training |
| Cash | | 106.81 | 9626 | Monthly | TPH/Establishment/Mtg Costs |

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|---|------------------|------|--------|-------|
| Lydney Town Hall Trust | 500.00 | 9627 | Ad Hoc | Grant |
| Victoria Centre | 300.00 | 9628 | Ad Hoc | Grant |
| Forest Pulse | 500.00 | 9629 | Ad Hoc | Grant |
| Lydney Festival | 500.00 | 9630 | Ad Hoc | Grant |
| Payments for approval: Sub total | 16,114.98 | | | |

| | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| TOTAL PAYMENTS | YEAR END | 46,466.17 |
|-----------------------|-----------------|------------------|

A list of unpresented Cheques (For Information only)

| | | |
|--|-----------------|------|
| Window Competition Winner 2 | 60.00 | 9568 |
| Richard Cole Contracting | 296.23 | 9573 |
| Gloucestershire Playing Fields Association | 100.00 | 9578 |
| GAPTC | 150.00 | 9592 |
| Payroll | 2,462.65 | |
| Total | 3,068.88 | |

The RFO advised that the Finance Assistant was working hard to complete the End of Year routines and it was hoped that the new financial software would be operational in the new financial year. The RFO expressed a desire for Members to receive a version of the Financial Statement in advance of the meeting for their consideration, with the final version being tabled on the night of the meeting.

Monthly Payment Listing – Month 12

Receipt of the monthly payment schedule (including the transfers/virements shown below) was **proposed by Cllr Leach**. Unanimous.

Approval of the payments therefrom **proposed by Cllr Leach**. Unanimous.

Virements

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

Transfers

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

Public Works Loan Board

Members noted that Parliament had legislated to revise the statutory basis of the Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) which did not affect existing PWLB loans, new loans or the process for applying for loans.

Payroll Facility

Members were asked to consider a recommendation from the Finance & Scrutiny Committee that the Council's payroll facility be outsourced to Makinson & Co.

After a short discussion it was **proposed by Cllr Leach** that the Council would accept the Committee's recommendation. Vote carried.

Revision of Grants Policy

Members were asked to consider a recommendation from the Finance & Scrutiny Committee that the Grants Policy be amended to allow for grants to be awarded up to £1,000 in exceptional circumstances.

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After a short discussion it was **proposed by Cllr Stockham, seconded by Cllr S Holmes**, that the Finance & Scrutiny Committee would submit a recommendation to Full Council for any grants in excess of £500.00 in order that Full Council would make the decision. Unanimous.

Month 13

It was **proposed by Cllr Leach** that Delegated Powers would be bestowed on the Clerk/RFO in respect of Payroll/Month 13 Year End Accounts. Unanimous.

11. **REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS**

Whilst she had originally indicated that she wished to become the Council's second representative to the Forest of Dean Health Forum, Cllr S Holmes advised that she had reconsidered taking on the appointment as she was no longer able to attend the meetings.

Regarding the Town Council's Dementia Leads, Cllr Carr informed Council that she wished to stand down as the Council's representative. Cllr S Holmes was duly appointed as the Council's representative.

Members were asked to consider the request by Forest of Dean District Council that they appoint a second representative to the Yorkley Court Farm Community Fund. Cllr Kemsley volunteered to undertake the role.

12. **LYDNEY HARBOUR PROJECT**

Cllr Leach welcomed District Cllr Leppington to the meeting. District Cllr Leppington informed Members that whilst Cllr Bernie O'Neill was now the Cabinet Member for Development, FEP and Infrastructure, Business Support and Jobs (Destination Lydney Harbour would therefore fall under his portfolio), it had been agreed that Cllr Leppington had offered to continue to present updates on the project to Lydney Town Council.

District Cllr Leppington advised that an ecological consultation had been undertaken to discharge some of the planning conditions; a site meeting with Western Power had been undertaken; that a meeting had taken place with the café provider. Legal agreements had been completed between Forest of Dean District Council and Gloucestershire County Council regarding works to the highway and the Coastal Communities Team Executive Group had authorised a number of contracts. Responses were awaited from the Environment Agency regarding land/building licences and permission for works to the canal. Consultation on the public artworks was being undertaken and a potential build premises may have been found for the skiff project.

Responding to a number of questions put to District Cllr Leppington, Cllr Leach advised that works to the outer gates was a separate project to the Harbour project and that the Environmental Agency had applied for separate funding to undertake the works. Furthermore, at the last Multi Agency Stakeholder Flood Defence Meeting a request had been made to the Environment Agency to provide a presentation, the dates for which were currently being agreed.

Cllr R Holmes advised that he had previously spoken to District Cllr O'Neill regarding parking charges for people who needed to access the Doctors surgery in Lydney and he questioned if any further action had been taken. District Cllr Leppington was not aware of any action and stressed that the District Council was not in a position to continue to subsidize parking.

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Cllr Carr advised that she had been approached by three members of the public questioning the decision to expend funding on the Harbour when residents were still experiencing issues with flooding. District Cllr Leppington advised that Forest of Dean District Council were considering what assistance it could provide.

13. LYDNEY REGENERATION

Cllr Leach welcomed Mr A Maliphant, The Community Works, to the meeting in order that he provide Members with a presentation on the issues discussed during the informal meeting which took place on 15 February 2020, including options on how the project could be progressed and indicative costs.

During discussion the Locum Clerk reminded Council that it needed to formally decide if it wished to lead on the regeneration of the Town and if it wished such work to be undertaken internally or if it wished to engage the services of an external consultant. It was suggested that as an initial step the Council may wish to commission a scoping exercise which Mr Maliphant felt may cost £5-7,000.00. The Clerk reminded Members of the need to operate a formal tender procedure in respect of the scoping exercise in line with its Governing Documents.

It was noted that over the years a number of reports/funding bids/engagement with the community and landowners had already been produced/submitted which would provide the Council with an invaluable source of reference. The need to update the existing NDP was also recognised, but it was felt to be a separate project. A number of Members felt that the Council did not have sufficient resource to undertake the scoping exercise and supported the engagement of an external consultant as they felt that it would facilitate greater community involvement.

It was **proposed by Cllr Stockham, seconded by Cllr Z Arnold**, that the Council wished to undertake a tender process in order that quotations could be obtained from a number of organisations to undertake a scoping exercise which may then lead to formal funding bids being submitted. Unanimous.

Action by – the Clerk

Mr Maliphant then excused himself from the meeting.

14. CLIMATE ACTION DAY FOR TOWN AND PARISH COUNCILS

Attention was drawn to the invitation which had been received to attend the conference which would take place at Forest of Dean District Council on Monday 30 March 2020. It was agreed that Cllrs Stockham, Carr and Harley (dependent upon availability on the day) would attend on behalf of the Council.

15. FORMAL CORRESPONDENCE

- Anonymous Letter – Questioning how funding for Lydney Hub could be used to set up and run a café, advertising itself as community, yet incorporated as a limited company.
- Forest of Dean District Council – Notification that the Alvington Neighbourhood Development Plan Revised Policy NE3 is available to view and comment from 19 February 2020 to 18 March 2020.
- Forest of Dean District Council – E-mail from Waste & Recycling Officer (Promotions) detailing the Love Your Forest initiatives comprising of an art installation competition for local artists and also a trial of litter picking stations.
- Mr & Mrs Osborne – E-mail requesting that, as part of the community of Lydney, thanks is given and recorded to Cllr L Arnold for his work undertaken to try and

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reduce the flood risk to Lydney and for keeping the community updated as to the road works which are making such a mess of the Town.

16. COMMITTEE AND OTHER REPORTS

Cllr Tremlett advised that she had attended a Charitable Trust training Course; that a Community Christmas Light meeting had gone well and that Cllr Turner had set up a related Facebook page (Lydney Light Switch On); that an amount of funding had been secured for the lights; that the Group had a number of ideas for the 2020 event; that the Town Hall had been booked for 5 December 2020 and that a road closure and collection licence would be requested for the event. Cllr Tremlett then informed Members of some of the ideas which the Group had suggested and stressed that the Group was very much community led.

Cllr Tremlett also informed Members that she had attended a meeting with the Destination Lydney Harbour Community Projects Leader at Forest of Dean District Council and was pleased to report that groundwork for the project was being undertaken; that she had attended a meeting of the Local Health Forum; had attended a consultation event during which a number of questions had been raised about the future of the Post Office and Pharmacy if the Co-operative store closed; had produced a report on behalf of the Amenities Committee for the Annual Town meeting.

Cllr Greenwood advised that the Multi Use Track Group had now changed its name to Dean Forest Greenways. Cllr Carr spoke on new route which had been identified and walked by the Group and whilst the route was exciting, she stressed that people's expectations should not be raised. Cllr Carr requested an agenda item for the next meeting to allow a discussion to take place on how funding could be agreed to support a planning application for the route¹ and advised that West Dean Parish Council had agreed to cover the cost of an ecology report amounting to £3,000.00. An extensive discussion then took place as Members were informed that not all landowners had agreed to the route passing over their land and questions were raised about the morality of spending public funds on surveys when landowners had not consented to the route on their land. Cllr Carr advised that Mr Bob Freshwater had offered to attend a future Council meeting to discuss the project.

Cllr Turner advised that she had attended Lydney Dial-a-Ride and Taurus Craft as she was interested in supporting vulnerable members of the community and gave a commitment to provide a report in the future.

Cllr L Arnold advised that he would pursue landowners in order to identify who owned the footbridge from Station Road to Railway Cottages in a bid to have the bridge removed. Cllr S Holmes reminded Members that the footbridge may have become a right of way if it had been in existence for a number of years.

Cllr R Holmes advised that the Finance & Scrutiny Committee had declined one grant application at their recent meeting and had suggested a revision to another application; that he had attended a Lidl presentation; had assisted at the recent flooding incident.

Cllr Leach advised that he had assisted with sandbag filling during the recent flooding incident; attended an event hosted by Forest Singers; attended a meeting of the Personnel Committee.

¹ Attention is drawn to page 13 of the minutes of Lydney Town Council Full Council meeting on 8 May 2017 (Full Council Meeting – 2017/05/08 – 13)

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Cllr Tremlett provided Members with an update on the closure of the meal facility provided by Age Concern and it was felt the Gloucestershire County Council's contractor would now take over this service.

Multi Agency Stakeholder Flood Defence meeting

Cllr Leach provided Members with an overview of the meeting which had taken place the week prior. Whilst it had not been possible for a representative from the Environment Agency to attend the meeting they had been asked to attend a future meeting and provide a presentation on why the level of the River Lyd had been allowed to rise. It was noted that representatives from Severn Trent had attended and provided a presentation at the meeting and were in the process of undertaking a strategic review.

During discussion the amount of flytipped rubbish which had been removed from the Lyd by the Fire Brigade was highlighted and it was noted that the Brigade had been asked to provide the meeting with a report. Furthermore, it was noted that the Town Council's supply of sandbags had been exhausted within 30 minutes of the flooding event and that no supplies could be obtained from either Forest of Dean District Council or Gloucestershire County Council. It was highlighted that Lydney Town Council were not responsible for providing sandbags to residents but had previously chosen to hold a limited supply in its stores. Cllr Greenwood felt that the Council should consider improving its telephone tree in order that messages were sent to all Councillors when assistance was needed.

Environmental Working Party

Cllr Harley informed Members of the desire of the Group to hold a "Plant a Wheelbarrow" competition as part of Party in the Park as the Group felt that the event could be used to communicate their environmental strategy. Cllr Harley requested the release of £100 from the Lydney in Bloom budget/account in order to provide a small trophy and certificates to the winners of each category. Cllr Kemsley gave a commitment to attempt to identify funding for a trophy. Cllr Harley highlighted that the Group wished to involve children, the elderly and vulnerable people in the competition, together with the possible need to call on the services of Groundstaff on the day. Cllr Carr advised that a further meeting of the Group would take place later in the week.

Members were asked to consider a recommendation from the Group to purchase Frontline Compact "no mix" equipment at a cost of £150.00 gross plus a supply of chemical and cleaner (approx. £300.00 gross). The purchase was unanimously approved by Members.

Action by - the Clerk

Cllr Harley felt that signage would be needed once the Head Groundsman commenced his trials for weedkilling option. Cllr Leach felt that a press release could be produced in the future.

17. **PRESS RELEASE**

It was agreed that press releases would be issued on the release of funding to Lydney Hub, the "Plant a Wheelbarrow" competition and the weedkilling trials.

18. **MEETING DATES**

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

23 March 2020 at 6.30 pm - Burial Committee

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- 23 March 2020 at 7.00 pm - Charitable Trust meetings
- 14 April 2020 at 6.30 pm - Planning & Highway Committee
- 14 April 2020 at 7.00 pm - Full Council

At 9.57 Cllr Leach proposed that Standing Order 3x be suspended to allow the meeting to continue for a further 30 minutes. Unanimous.

EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC & PRESS Page 143 (Inclusive) - CLOSED SESSION

19. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Approval of the confidential minutes from the closed sessions on 10 February 2020 were **proposed by Cllr Z Arnold seconded by Cllr Greenwood.** Unanimous.

20. **STAFF MATTERS**

To approve the recommendation from the Personnel Committee regarding annual reviews.

Meeting closed at 10.03 pm

Chairman

Date