

LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL

FULL COUNCIL MEETING – 2015/08/17 – 40

MINUTES OF THE EXTRA ORDINARY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING held in the Council Chamber, Claremont House, Lydney on Monday 17 August 2015 at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT: Cllrs B Berryman (Chairman), D Biddle, R Christodoulides, J Greenwood, C Harris, H Ives, C Legg, J Openshaw, B Pearman, A Preest, D Pugh, S Rudge, D Street and C Vaughan

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 Cllrs Beddis.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

3. **OPEN FORUM**

No members of the public were in attendance.

4. **WRITTEN STATEMENTS**

Members were asked to consider and approve as correct the Council's written statements, which summarised the Council's current systems/procedures/actions, in respect of the following:

Performance of the Council as a "Corporate Body" and of its individual Members and employees

Members requested that the Council be uniformly referred to within each statement as Lydney Town Council (LTC thereafter). Members also requested that the statement be amended to include an explanation of the acronyms used (i.e. WWYC = Working With Your Council).

Adoption **proposed by Cllr Greenwood, seconded by Cllr Pugh**, subject to the above amendments. Unanimous.

Value for Money

Adoption **proposed by Cllr Harris, seconded by Cllr Openshaw**. Unanimous.

Leadership in Planning for the Future of the Community

Members requested the inclusion of the work undertaken in respect of Lydney Revolutions which has been embedded in Gloucestershire County Council's Lydney Transport Strategy. Furthermore, Members called for reference to be made to the Council's continued partnership working with Gloucestershire County Council in respect of the Local Transport Plan (LTP3) and the improvements schemes contained therein.

Adoption **proposed by Cllr Openshaw, seconded by Cllr Pugh**, subject to the above amendments. Unanimous.

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Duties under Biodiversity and Crime & Disorder

Members requested reference was made to the Council's prior decision to provide (install and maintain) CCTV for the Town in order to facilitate a greater sense of community safety.

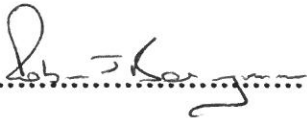
Adoption **proposed by Cllr Harris, seconded by Cllr Street**, subject to the above amendments. Unanimous.

The CEO advised that in line with the above, once the Council's written statements had been amended they would be published on the Council's website, with copies of the statements forwarded to Gloucestershire Association of Parish and Town Councils (GAPTC)/ Local Council Award Scheme (LCAS) Accreditation Panel.

Members were then advised of the comments which the LCAS Accreditation Panel had made relating to the Council's Annual Report for 2014-2015, particularly the need to provide an Executive Summary. Whilst Members noted the comments, they did not feel it to be a prudent use of the Council's Officer resource to produce an Executive Summary for the 2014-2015 report, however, they agreed that such a summary would be provided alongside the full Annual Report for 2015-2016. It was **proposed by Cllr Greenwood, seconded by Cllr Pugh**, that the CEO was requested to provide a Statement of Intent to the LCAS Accreditation Panel to the above effect and to address the points raised by said Panel in relation to how the Council takes the lead in actively representing and serving all parts of its community; how it uses a wide range of social and medial tools; arranges Councillor surgeries throughout the year in different locations at varying times; uses storyboards which it places at alternating supermarket sites and arranges appointments upon request, mitigating social barriers associated with employment status (hours of work), housing and social skills thereby encouraging and allowing all members of the community the opportunity to converse and engage with the Town Council and its elected Members. It was further proposed that a copy of the Council's Statement of Intent would be uploaded to the Annual Town Meeting report page on the Council's website. Unanimous.

Action by – the CEO

Meeting closed at 7.47 pm

Chairman 

Date 15/9/2015