

TENBURY TOWN COUNCIL 2014/15 MEETING TC12

Minutes of the meeting of **TENBURY TOWN COUNCIL** held on **MONDAY 13th APRIL 2015** at 7.15pm in the Pump Rooms, off Teme Street, Tenbury Wells.

PRESENT: Mayor Cllr M Willis, Deputy Mayor Cllr S. Corfield, Cllrs S. Bowkett, J. da Costa, M. Drummond, E. Hudson, D. Ingram, J. Morgan, G Price, Cllr E. Weston

IN ATTENDANCE: 3 Members of the Public, WCC - Cllr K. Pollock, Town Clerk

APOLOGIES: Cllr M. Brennan, Cllr J. Fielder, Cllr J. Watson

12.1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Cllr M. Brennan, Cllr J. Fielder and Cllr J. Watson
RESOLVED with 8 in Favour and 2 Abstentions that apologies and their reasons be accepted.

12.2 Declarations of Interest

None

12.3 Public Participation

None

12.4 Worcester County Councillor's Report – Cllr K. Pollock

Attached Appendix A

Cllr Pollock added that Phase 2 of the Public Realm works remained very much dependent upon Tesco coming and felt it was still difficult to assess whether Tesco would go ahead with the site. He also noted that he had complained regarding signage left behind after the job was supposedly complete and felt that the signage had been the most badly managed aspect of the works and should definitely be improved on for future works. He confirmed that road works on the Bromyard Rd would begin on 20th April.

Questions/Comments from Councillors

Cllr Drummond - During the road closures Mill Lane had been used a lot as a diversion route and it had become potholed and needed work. Cllr Pollock said this would be looked at.

Cllr Price – Asked when the remaining Public Realm issues would be addressed. The Clerk reported Martin Hunt of WCC would be coming to look at the outstanding issues with Cllr Pollock, Cllr Price and the Clerk on Wednesday or Thursday that week.

Cllr Hudson - reported a pothole which Cllr Pollock would follow up on.

Cllr Pollock thanked all members who had served the last four years and look forward to working with new members after the election on 7th May.

12.5 To confirm the Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 2nd March 2015

The minutes of the meeting, held on 2nd March 2015 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record of proceedings.

12.6 To receive the Minutes and approve the resolutions of committee meetings – the Planning Committee Meetings held on 2nd and 30th March, the Amenities Committee and Premises Committee Meetings held on 9th March and the Finance & Staffing Committee held on 30th March 2015

The Minutes of the meetings had not been circulated in time so this item was deferred until the next meeting.

12.7 To approve the Monthly Accounts for March 2015 and the Outstanding Accounts for April 2015 as recommended by the Finance and Staffing Committee on 30th March 2015

As minutes containing this information had not been circulated this item was deferred until the next meeting.

12.8 To consider the recommendation of the Finance Committee that the Council should choose the Local Government Pension Scheme as its nominated pension provider in order to comply with Automatic Enrolment legal duties (which would apply to the Town Council from 1st January 2017 and would therefore need to be considered for inclusion in the 2016/17 budget in the current 2015/16 financial year)

As minutes containing this information had not been circulated this item was deferred until the next meeting.

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12.9 To consider a request from the Edmund Godson Charity regarding agreement to the nomination of Mrs Elaine Padwick as a Trustee to replace Mrs Carola Morrison.

Members agreed to this nomination and wished to thank Mrs Morisson for her work as trustee.

RESOLVED to nominate Mrs Elaine Padwick as trustee of the Edmund Godson Charity

12.10 To consider approval for essential draught proofing works and replacement stage curtain motor system at the Regal.

The Clerk reported that the Regal Trustees had requested works be carried out to improve draught proofing of the vents to either side of the stage at the Regal which made the auditorium very cold in the winter months. The need for this work had become apparent during the high winds in recent months. The difficulties of accessing the limited space involved would mean that the work would take longer than might be imagined. The stage curtain motor had been unreliable for many years but had not been included as part of the renovation works. The motor had been repaired by the Trust on numerous occasions since they took over the building but had now reached the end of its useful life and needed to be replaced. The Clerk confirmed that both items of work would be the responsibility of the Council as landlord and that sufficient funds were available in Council reserve funds designated for upkeep of the building.

Cllr Hudson - wished to understand whether there were any other works likely to be necessary given the plumbing issues raised in the Regal report (see item 12.18). Mr Ian Little of the Trust was asked for clarification and noted that such issues had to date been treated as on-going maintenance and paid for by the Trust. The Clerk reminded members that a sum for regular property maintenance was included in their budget for the coming year and was designed to cover such day to day repairs as might be the responsibility of the landlord under the terms of the lease. The draught proofing works and replacement motor were larger one off projects which is why they were being considered separately.

RESOLVED that draught proofing and stage curtain motor works be approved to proceed with funding from Council reserves subject to discussion at item 12.22 regarding quotations received.

12.11 To consider a request from Tenbury Youth Football Club to site a storage container and erect floodlights on Palmers Meadow

The Youth Football Club had previously received planning permission to install a container on Palmers Meadow in 2008/9 but had let the permission lapse. They now had the chance to buy a 40ft container and wished to apply again for permission to proceed with installation at the south side of the field set into the bank area. Use of the container would be shared with Tenbury United to allow storage of their goal posts. Members saw no objection but requested that the container be painted green to be less obtrusive. It was also suggested that existing rugby club container might be moved to an adjacent spot at the same time. The movement of the Rugby container had been planned as part of WCC works to create an overflow car parking area on Palmers Meadow which had not yet taken place.

RESOLVED that permission be granted for TYFC to site a container on Palmers as requested.

12.12 To be updated on new banking arrangements with Unity Trust and transfer of funds.

It was confirmed that the new bank accounts were up and running and funds were in the process of being transferred over. The new accounts were much simpler to work with. The Clerk was thanked for her work in managing the transition.

12.13 To be updated on Burgage entrance improvement works.

Members noted the completion of the works on time and to specification and felt that this was a great improvement. The contractors were congratulated for their efforts. Cllr Price requested that minutes record thanks to the Clerk for all her efforts in supervising these works to satisfactory completion.

12.14 To be updated on the opening of the young children's play area in the Burgage

Members noted that the new play area had been opened on Easter Saturday and had been very well received. The good weather had seen it much used since, with praise from parents and children alike. Councillors were pleased at the success of the project and thanked all involved for their hard work.

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12.15 To be updated on progress with projects involving Town Council assets or requiring Town Council funding or funding application

The Mayor reported that he and Clerk had met with MHDC officers and were now awaiting feedback on the feasibility of proposed projects for s.106 funding. It was noted that the s.106 funding was unlikely to be forthcoming until at least the end of the year and it had therefore been decided to concentrate the s.106 funds toward the larger projects and look at other funding streams for the Skate Park. Funding applications were in hand with South Shropshire Housing and Severn Waste Fund.

12.16 To be updated on Public Realm improvements in the town

This had been covered by Cllr Pollock in his report. Members voiced some concern that the concrete conservation kerbs are already being damaged and were disappointed that WCC had advocated this material over the granite originally chosen by the steering group.

12.17 To be updated on works on the Cattle Market site

The Clerk reported that Tesco contractors had completed their planned works having taken down the single story extension at the front of the old fire station building and the former fire engine garage. A manhole had also been installed behind the hoardings.

12.18 To receive an update on the Regal and its management by the Regal Tenbury Trust Attached Appendix B

12.19 Correspondence for Information

Letters of thanks for donations from the Mayor's charity fundraising from Tenbury NILS and Tenbury Community Pool.

Information from BT re. possibility of adopting old red telephone kiosks

12.20 Councillors' reports and items for future agenda

None

12.21 Exclusion of the Press and Public.

RESOLVED that the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business because it is likely that in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, there would be disclosure of exempt information, as defined in Section 100(I) of the Local Government Act 1972:-

It was agreed that Mr Ian Little should be asked to remain for the following discussion as he was already aware of the details of the quotations received and would be able to answer any specific questions about the works required.

12.22 To consider quotations for essential draught proofing works and replacement stage curtain motor system at the Regal

Members looked in detail at the work required and agreed that the price quoted for the work involved was reasonable. It was noted that Kingspan had agreed to donate the insulation material free of charge.

RESOLVED that the draught proofing works should be carried out by A. H. Caldicott & Sons as per quotation

Members noted that the main cost involved in the stage curtain motor works was in purchase of the motor itself and the price quoted was very competitive. Members felt that it should be confirmed that the work would come with a warranty/guarantee before proceeding.

RESOLVED that the stage curtain motor works should be carried out by J. C. Joel Ltd as per their quotation - subject to guarantees being received.

Meeting closed at 8:32 pm

Signed

Date

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12.04.15

COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

1. Public Realm update

The first phase of the Public Realm work is now substantially complete. For various reasons the team left Tenbury on April 2nd and will resume this week finishing off the various snagging jobs that remain to be completed.

Some of the blockwork needs to be improved and the edges finished properly. There is work to be done around the Market, raising the setts on part of it and taking the tarmac back to expose the setts all round the Market. There are several bollards still to be fitted, obviously round the Market itself and also along Market Street.

Personally, I think the quality of the work has been to a high standard and it is worth noting that the timetable proved accurate, although earlier in the year, there were many who felt that the pace was too slow to meet the expected deadline.

I regret the confusion that arose about the opening of the road on the 20th March, to allow visitors to the High School for the Boxing Match organised by Cllr Brennan. While the county officers could not give the green light on the opening until seeing how the work had progressed over the previous night, it was clear that the message had not got through to the workmen on the ground. This gave rise to understandable confusion and annoyance for those who thought the boxing match was an inadequate reason for opening the road when so many others had been inconvenienced by the work.

To be clear, the opening was arranged because of the high volume of traffic expected from distant parts of England, giving rise the possibility of many strangers trying to find the school through the lanes, with inadequate diversion signage. It was not because a large number of important people were expected to attend.

There is no news on whether Tesco's will be coming to Tenbury, although they obviously have left it in their plans and have done enough work to secure their planning permission.

2. Bromyard Road closure

There has been some confusion about the work being planned to cure the flooding that occurs on the Bromyard Road in Sutton, just beyond the turning to the Fulhams. The road will be closed from the 20th April, and the notices saying the closure will be starting on the 14th are wrong. I apologise for any confusion and anxiety caused by this mistake. Some preparatory work will take place this week, but it will not require the road to be closed.

As previously publicised, diversions for heavy traffic will be via Tenbury or Bromyard. Light traffic can use Bank Street if heading north.

**Cllr Ken Pollock
Martley,
Worcester
12th April 2015**

Regal Trust Report March 2015

Attendance figures

March 2013 3074 patrons

March 2014 2058 patrons

March 2015 2164 patrons

A good month with audience figures up 5% on last year, but still down on 2013 where we saw 1650 attending for just two titles, Les Miserables and Quartet.

The Easter selection of films failed to produce audiences of the size we had hoped, the best being Shaun the Sheep which played to 460 people.

The new Regal Musical Theatre School launched in March, and the three sessions held to date have been a great success. The emphasis is on fun, and we have received great feedback from children and parents alike.

A session on stage makeup saw the first group of younger children making each other up as skeletons and the older children applying bruises and lacerations and emerging streaming with blood to shock the shoppers in Teme Street.

The first of the insulation jobs have now been completed and we have already seen some improvement in being able to maintain heat in the auditorium, although the West Wind problem remains and the work to help solve this is being discussed tonight.

Plumbing problems continue with both the cisterns in the Ladies toilets developing faults on the same night and Gents toilets in the function room randomly flooding.

The stage curtains also broke again this month, but luckily not at a critical moment and we were able to work around the problem.

We have installed an override system that enables us to operate the cinema screen if the remote control unit fails.

We have also installed baby change stations in both the function room toilets and the main toilets, as we are now getting quite a group of very young children attending the MiniCineMokeys playgroup.

And finally a story on the Regal's facebook page went viral, with the search for the owner of a little lost Bear called Biscuit. Over 9,000 people saw the original post and a further 2,500 followed the lost Bears adventures until he was reunited with his owner. All good publicity for the Regal.