

TENBURY TOWN COUNCIL 2016/17 MEETING TC10

Minutes of the meeting of **TENBURY TOWN COUNCIL** held on
**MONDAY 9TH JANUARY 2017 at 7.00pm in the Pump Rooms, off Teme Street,
Tenbury Wells.**

PRESENT: Cllrs. S. Bowkett, M. Davies, M. Drummond, J. Fielder, A. Gould, E. Hudson, D. Ingram, J. Morgan, D. Patrick, S. Perry, C. Rogers, E. Weston and Mayor Cllr M. Willis [**Chair**],

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs L. Bruton (Town Clerk), Miss S. Blackhurst (Assistant to the Clerk), WCC – Cllr. K. Pollock, MHDC – Cllr. A. Penn, Mr A Kibbler (Press) and 6 Members of the public.

10.1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None.

10.2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr. Willis declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 10.9.1 as he is a personal friend of the applicant.

10.3 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

10.4 WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S REPORT – CLLR. K. POLLOCK

Cllr. Pollock began by wishing all the Town Councillors and residents of Tenbury a very happy and Prosperous New Year.

With reference to his report he discussed the need for Worcestershire County Council to approve their budget and receive endorsement to raise the Council Tax by 0.94% in addition to the 2% rise to provide funds for adult social care. Two thirds of the total increase seeks to cover the large demands of the ageing population in the County.

With reference to faster broadband speeds, Cllr Pollock stated that he would be attending a meeting with British Telecom on Tuesday 10th January with regards to this. Cllr Pollock also stated that, currently mobile phone masts, up

TENBURY TOWN COUNCIL 2016/17 MEETING TC10

to a height of 15m, can be erected without Planning Consent, however there is currently a Bill going before Parliament which could see this height limit increased to 20m which would greatly improve signal strength in remote areas.

Cllr. Pollock gave mention to the Tesco development and stated that the store would not be opening until all Public Realm works had been carried out. He also confirmed continuity of materials to be used on the section between Teme Bridge and the Regal Theatre in keeping with previous work. Worcestershire County Council will complete the section between the Regal Theatre and Crow Corner after Tesco's section is completed.

Cllr. Pollock mentioned the possibility of the section of road between the Teme Bridge and Cross Street could be changed to a 20mph speed limit zone.

With reference to his report, Cllr. Pollock said that construction of the Eastham Bridge was on course and should be completed in the Spring.

Cllr. Pollock gave reference to some of the larger projects which Worcestershire County Council are currently involved in. The second Carrington Bridge, improvements to the A38 through Bromsgrove and the new Worcestershire Parkway Station. Cllr Drummond asked where the new station is going to be situated. Cllr. Pollock stated the station will be located at the intersection of the Worcester to London line and the Bristol to Birmingham line, near Norton.

Cllr. Gould with reference to the Tesco and Worcestershire County Council Public Realm works, questioned how soon after Tesco complete their section, of the pavement, would Worcestershire County Council start the remaining section. Cllr. Pollock replied that they would liaise with Tesco as to their works expected finish date so that Worcestershire County Council could start straight away afterwards.

10.5 MALVERN HILLS DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – CLLR. A. PENN

Cllr. Penn wished to start by giving thanks for the feedback for the Malvern Hills District Council's 5 Year Plan. A report has been produced from this which will go before Council later this month.

Cllr. Penn referred to his report on the problem of dog fouling. A 12 week consultation on this matter began on 1st December 2016 and Cllr. Penn encourages people to give their views. A Public Space Protection Order would give officers powers to issue fixed penalty notices if dog owners cannot prove they have the means to clean up after their dog. If approved the order will run for three years and Malvern Hills District Council will be the first to introduce this in Worcestershire.

TENBURY TOWN COUNCIL 2016/17 MEETING TC10

Cllr. Penn mentioned the current questionnaire being sent out to help decide the future of the Tenbury Museum. He encourages participation and asks for views, particularly on where the museum should be housed.

Cllr. Hudson stated that a new village sign had been erected in St Michael's and Cllr. Penn replied he was pleased to hear this.

The Council re-addressed Cllr. Penn's earlier statement on dog fouling with Cllr. Willis and Cllr. Fielder both stating they had reported incidents of owners failing to clean up after their dogs, on two occasions with the dog owners names, however, no action had been undertaken by Malvern Hills District Council. Cllr. Penn said he would look into this.

10.6 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 5th DECEMBER 2016

To approve as a true and accurate record the minutes of the previous meeting held on the 5th December 2016.

Cllr. Weston proposed, Cllr. Perry seconded and unanimously.

RESOLVED:

The minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 5th December 2016 were confirmed as a true and accurate account of the meeting. The minutes were duly signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

10.7 TO RECEIVE THE DRAFT MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEES.

Members noted the minutes of the meetings detailed below:

Planning Committee – 19th December 2016

Finance and Staffing Committee – 19th December 2016

Cllr. Hudson proposed, Cllr. Weston seconded and unanimously.

RESOLVED:

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting, held on the 19th December 2016 and the minutes of the Finance and Staffing meeting, held on the 19th December 2016 were noted.

10.8 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE REGAL AND MANAGEMENT, BY THE REGAL TENBURY TRUST

No report had been received at the time of the meeting.

TENBURY TOWN COUNCIL 2016/17 MEETING TC10

10.9 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Cllr Willis left the room due to his declaration of interest in the following item.

10.9.1. 16/01521/HOU proposed two storey rear extension, first floor extension, single storey extension and double garage. Kyrewood Lodge, Kyrewood, Worcestershire, WR15 8SG.

Cllr. Hudson raised the point that the plans seemed to show the loss of the old style bargeboards on the gables, for more modern straight ones. He stated that it would be more appropriate to retain the traditional boards in the new design. No other objections were raised. Following discussion it was agreed to approve the application subject to retention of the bargeboards.

It was proposed by Cllr. Hudson and seconded by Cllr. Gould.

RESOLVED to recommend **APPROVAL SUBJECT TO RETENTION OF THE BARGEBOARDS (12 For, 1 Abstention)**

Cllr. Willis returned to the room.

**10.10 REVENUE BUDGET REQUIREMENT AND COUNCIL TAX 2017/18
(Appendix 4)**

To receive and consider the report of the Town Clerk and the recommendations of the Finance and Staffing Committee for the proposed revenue budget requirement, Precept and Council Tax for the financial year 2017/18.

Cllr. Willis wished to commend the Town Clerk on the standard of her work on the budget.

Cllr. Fielder questioned why there was such a large increase in the Precept.

The Town Clerk explained that the areas of growth were detailed in the report which include, a 50% reduction in the Council Tax Support Grant, the need to address the significantly low General Fund reserves and a large increase in the Non-Domestic Rates, notably the car park.

Cllr. Ingram asked why there had been such a large increase in the rates to the car park to which the Town Clerk replied that the Council had received notification from the Valuation Office following the revaluation of properties in the district. The Town Clerk stated she had contacted Malvern Hills District Council, who were in the same position with their car parks and the District Council had offered for the Town Council to 'piggy back' on their appeal.

Cllr. Drummond suggested that a press release be issued explaining the rise in the Precept which was agreed.

TENBURY TOWN COUNCIL 2016/17 MEETING TC10

No other questions were raised.

It was proposed by Cllr. Weston, Cllr. Fielder seconded.

RESOLVED: (12 For, 1 Abstention)

To review and agree the proposed allocation of the Revenue Estimates to service areas as set out in Appendix 'A' and section 7 of the report.

To approve the recommendations on the allocation of the Revenue Estimates.

To approve the level of Reserves and Balances and recommended transfer between reserves.

Council agrees:

A budget requirement of £170,792.00.

Council Tax Parish Support Grant of £4,510.70

A Precept requirement for 2017/18 of £166,281.30

The Band D Council Tax for Town Council purposes be £144.70, a 23.62% (£27.65) increase.

10.11 FEES AND CHARGES FOR 2017/18

The Council discussed the Town Clerk's proposed changes to the charges for Town Council Facilities.

Cllr. Ingram stated that he thought the increase to £900 for the May Fair charge may not be accepted. The May Fair paid £850 in 2016 and had access to the changing rooms for subsidiary power. It was decided that the charge for the May Fair 2017 should remain at £850 and the Town Clerk has agreed to speak with Mr Danter regarding any contract or agreements which are in place concerning access to the changing rooms.

With regards to charges for the hire of the Pump Rooms for weddings, it was felt that the proposed change to £75 was too low. After discussion it was agreed on £125.

It was decided to defer a decision on the Cemetery charges until further information on comparable charges could be gathered.

In addition a charging policy was discussed for the Pump Rooms and recreation areas.

It was agreed to give a 10% discount for group bookings of 4 or more sessions.

To give local community charities and non-profit organisations the first hour of their booking free followed, thereafter, at the full hourly rate.

TENBURY TOWN COUNCIL 2016/17 MEETING TC10

Also, to give free hire of Palmers Meadow and The Burgage to free community events.

It was proposed by Cllr. Willis, Cllr. Rogers seconded and unanimously.

RESOLVED:

The Council approved the revised scale of fees and charges for 2017/18 with the exception of the following:

The Council agreed to defer a decision on the Cemetery charges until further information was available.

The Council approved a discount rate of 10% for regular room hire on block bookings of four or more sessions.

The Council approved a reduced rate for local community charities and non-profit organisations, to include the first hour free, with full rate thereafter.

The charge for the Mayfair to remain at £850.00.

The Council approved the free hire of Palmers Meadow and The Burgage, to free community events.

The fee for weddings to be set at £125.00 for 2017/18, with the exception of any confirmed bookings for the next financial year.

10.12 CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION

- 10.12.1** A reminder from Caroline Palethorpe via the Town Clerk of The Skate Park Open Day Event on Saturday 14th January.
- 10.12.2** Cllr. Willis informed the Council that there would be a drop in session at Tenbury Community Hospital on Monday 16th January 2017, from 3-5pm for people to have a say on the Draft 5 Year Plan for the N.H.S. in Herefordshire and Worcestershire.

10.13 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

Cllr. Hudson requested the local Transport Plan be added to the next agenda for discussion.

TENBURY TOWN COUNCIL 2016/17 MEETING TC10

Meeting closed at 8:27 pm

Signed.....

Date.....