

BRIDGNORTH TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Meeting of Bridgnorth Town Council held in the Mayor's Parlour,
College House on Tuesday 5th November 2019 at 7.15pm**

Present:

Councillors:

R Whittle OBE (in the Chair)
C Baines MBE
S Barlow
D Cooper
G Davies
C Dyson
R Fox
H Howell
K Hurst-Knight
E Marshall
S Stevens
K Sawbridge
C Walden
C Whittle

In Attendance:

L Jakeman, Town Clerk

0288/1920 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Members noted the apologies as listed below:

Councillor E Lynch – Personal Commitment
Councillor J Buckley – Personal Commitment

0289/1920 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Nil

0290/1920 **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

i) Remembrance Sunday

Members noted the following arrangements for Remembrance Sunday,
10th November 2019.

10.40 am	Meet at War Memorial, Castle Grounds
10.50 am	Service at War Memorial, Castle Grounds, in which crosses will be planted by representatives of the Scouts and Girlguiding
10.55 am	Prayers
11.00 am	Two minutes silence will be observed
11.05 am	Wreaths to be laid
11.15 am	Parade to assemble
11.20 am	Parade to St Leonard's Church – past saluting base in High St
11.30 am approx.	Service at St Leonard's Church including sermon

Refreshments will be served at the rear of the Church following the Service.

0291/1920 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Question from Mr R Richards of St. Leonard's Close

Since, as the Town Mayor has admitted, the land owned by the Council at Bandon Lane has not been formally advertised for sale, and as an article in the local newspaper does not constitute such an advertisement since in merely reports the interest of the Rugby Club in buying the land, can the Town Mayor assure the public that the land will be properly advertised for sale, calling for bids, if the decision is made to sell it at all?

Town Council response:

Should the Town Council agree to dispose of the land then it will comply with all the relevant legislation, which includes obtaining best value and notifying the public, notably in line with the Local Government Act 1972 S127 and S131.

0292/1920 **MINUTES**

- i) Members noted receipt of the draft minutes of the Meeting of Bridgnorth Town Council held on Tuesday 22nd October 2019.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the Meeting of Bridgnorth Town Council held on Tuesday 22nd October 2019 be signed by the Chairman as a true record.

0293/1920 **MEMBERS QUESTION TIME**

Nil

0294/1920 **EVENTS & CHRISTMAS COMMITTEE**

i) Minutes

RESOLVED: to receive the minutes of the Events & Christmas Committee meeting held on 21st October 2019 and agreed the recommendations contained therein:

- i) **RESOLVED:** that Mr P Randell be co-opted to the Events & Christmas Committee.
- ii) **RESOLVED:** that a request be made to full Council to change the date of Bridgnorth Town Carnival 2020 to Sunday 28th June 2020.
- iii) **RESOLVED:** that £200 be vired from the Carnival (Cost Centre 302, Nominal Ledger 4650) budget underspend to the Christmas Event budget (Cost Centre 302, Nominal Ledger 4646).

0295/1920 **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

i) Minutes

RESOLVED: to receive the minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting held on Thursday 31st October 2019.

0296/1920 **OUTDOORS AND PROPERTIES MANAGER'S REPORT**

Members noted receipt of a report that provided a general overview of recent and planned activity regarding grounds and property maintenance.

A brief discussion on the management of trees occurred, including priorities for maintenance and costs. It was noted that there are competing demands and significant costs. The allocation of funding for tree works should be considered as part of the budgeting process.

0297/1920 **TOWN HALL**

- i) Wedding/Civil Marriage (and other civil services) Fees

RESOLVED: to set (with immediate effect) the fee for wedding and other civil ceremonies at the Town Hall to:

£375 (+VAT) – for residents of the parish of Bridgnorth.

£450 (+VAT) – for all non-residents of the parish of Bridgnorth.

- ii) Rental of the Space “Under the Town Hall”

RESOLVED: to introduce a standard daily fee for the use of the whole of the area “under the Town Hall” and for that fee to be set at: £200 with a discounted rate of £75 being set for local Bridgnorth Charities and Community Groups.

0298/1920 **PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960**

RESOLVED in terms of Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972, the following items will be likely to disclose exempt information relating to establishment and contractual matters and it is, therefore, **RESOLVED** that pursuant to the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 the public and press be excluded.

(Note: elements of the discussion and any contractual details are confidential, however the nature of any decisions made are for public record.)

0299/1920 **STAFFING MATTERS**

Members considered a report from the Personnel Committee in relation to a wide range of staffing matters. They noted that some were standard contractual matters and others were intended to generally inform councillors.

However, there were a number of recommendations from the personnel committee.

RESOLVED: to approve the 4 recommendations within the personnel committee report.

RESOLVED: to adopt the resolutions and approve of the notes in the personnel committee report.

Members tasked the Town Clerk to provide a report on the topics that had been deferred and make any reasonable recommendations based on the discussion(s) that took place.