

BRIDGNORTH TOWN COUNCIL

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

Present: The Town Mayor, Councillor R Whittle OBE in the Chair,
Councillors Mrs C Baines MBE, Ms S Barlow, Dr J Buckley,
Mr D Cooper, Mr G Davies, Dr C Dyson,
Mr R Fox, Mr A Hinton, Mrs K Hurst-Knight,
Mr E Marshall, Mrs J Onions, Mrs C Walden
and Mrs C Whittle

In Attendance: Town Clerk, Mr L Jakeman
PA to the Town Clerk, Mrs A Kendrick

0496/1819 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Members **RESOLVED** to note the apologies as listed below:

**Councillor Mrs S Stevens – Personal Commitment
Councillor Mrs H Howell - Personal Commitment**

0497/1819 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Nil

0498/1819 **SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS**

Members **RESOLVED** to suspend standing orders in order that they could be shown the 5-minute video produced by the working group that highlighted the achievements and benefits of the Arts Trail.

Members were impressed with the video; they thanked the working group under the stewardship of Cllr Buckley for their efforts and were keen to see the wider distribution of the video.

Members **RESOLVED** to continue with the meeting (reinstating standing orders).

0499/1819 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Nil

0500/1819 **MINUTES**

Members noted receipt of the minutes of the Meeting of Bridgnorth Town Council Meeting held on Tuesday 22nd January 2019.

RESOLVED:

The minutes of the Bridgnorth Town Council Meeting held on Tuesday 22nd January 2019 are signed by the Chairman as a true record.

0501/1819 **MEMBERS QUESTION TIME**

There were no Members' Questions.

0502/1819 **EVENTS & CHRISTMAS COMMITTEE - MINUTES**

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the Events and Christmas Committee meeting held on Tuesday 29th January 2019 (and the recommendations therein) be received and adopted.

0503/1819 **BRIDGNORTH CEMETERY**

Funding for Additional Cemetery Land

RESOLVED: to give approval for the submission (by the Town Clerk) of an expression of interest application to Shropshire Council to allocate significant CIL Local Funding for development of additional burial space by Bridgnorth Town Council and other suitable infrastructure projects raised by Councillors.

0504/1819 **OUTDOORS & PROPERTIES MANAGER'S REPORT**

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

0505/1819 **USE OF THE TOWN HALL – BRIDGNORTH LIONS WALK AND MARATHON**

Members considered a request from the Bridgnorth Lions for free use of the Town Hall (upstairs) on Bank Holiday Monday 27th May 2019 for Marathon runners' registration and storage of their personal items, and the area underneath the Town Hall for Walkers' registration.

A number of members expressed concerns about the suitability of the Town Hall including; the potential for costs associated with additional cleaning requirements.

RESOLVED: that Council is supportive of the Lions event and use of the area under the Town Hall. Council wish to assist while having regard to potential cleaning, security and other considerations and possible use of other Council premises. The Town Clerk is to discuss and seek greater clarity from the Lions and bring the matter back to Council at a subsequent meeting.

0506/1819 **FUEL CARDS**

Members considered a report and recommendations from the RFO.

RESOLVED: to accept the quote of UK Fuels, based on a card fee of £15 per card per year (£60) and a saving of £1.25 pence per litre, and delegate to the RFO the task of setting up the account and direct debit with effect from 1 April 2019.

0507/1819 **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.

Cllr Marshall asked for a recorded vote:

For: Cllrs Baines, Barlow, Cooper, Davies, Dyson, Fox, Hinton, Hurst-Knight, Marshall, Onions, Walden, C Whittle and R Whittle.

Against: Nil

Abstentions: Cllr Buckley

0508/1819 **LEGAL PROCEEDINGS**

Members considered a report from the Town Clerk and its recommendations.

RESOLVED: To accept the advice given by Shropshire HR and subsequent legal advice and as a consequence to send the letter drafted by the legal advisor.

0509/1819 **STAFFING MATTERS**

Members considered a report from the Town Clerk and its recommendations.

RESOLVED: To delegate to the Town Clerk the recruitment of a temporary caretaker (to cover maternity leave) with primary responsibility for Low Town Community Hall.

0510/1819 **BRIDGNORTH CASTLE HILL RAILWAY - CHANGE TO UNDER LETTING**

Members considered a report from the Town Clerk and its recommendations.

RESOLVED: to approve the request from the Cliff Railway Company for the proposed underlet of the tea rooms.

0511/1819 **CASTLE HALL HEATING**

Members considered a report from the Town Clerk and its recommendations. It was noted that only 2 quotes had been obtained despite best efforts. It was acknowledged that the work proposed was to be considered an emergency and that Financial Regulation 12 (b)(ii) should apply.

RESOLVED to:

- a. **To delegate to the Town Clerk and/ or the RFO (in the absence of 3 quotes) the task of obtaining best value (*up to a cost of £20k*) for the Council (and in a timely fashion) to ensure that Castle Hall is operating fully at the earliest opportunity and; that 3 councillors from the Castle Hall working group councillors (namely Councillors Fox, C Whittle and Barlow) be appointed to confirm the decision out of and prior to the next scheduled meeting.**

AND

- b. **That the entire Property Repairs Earmarked Fund be made available to fund the Heating and associated repairs to Castle Hall.**

AND

- c. **That the nominal ledger 4170 (Cost Centre 299) 'Castle Hall Repairs' be increased from its current level £4,000 to £10,000 to provide funding towards the Heating and associated repairs to Castle Hall.**