

**BRIDGNORTH TOWN COUNCIL****Minutes of the Bridgnorth Extraordinary Town Council Meeting held in the Annexe, College House  
on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at 6.45pm.**

**Present:** R Connolly (Mayor)  
I Wellings (Deputy Mayor)  
C Aked  
C Baines MBE  
J Buckley  
A Chetter  
D Cooper  
N Cooper  
R Ireland  
E Marshall  
K Sawbridge BEM

**In Attendance:** Mrs C Turner, Town Clerk  
Mrs R Williams, Deputy Town Clerk

**Absent:** Councillor L Neal  
Councillor R Seabright

**0121/2324 WELCOME**

The Mayor issued a welcome to the meeting.

**0122/2324 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

It was proposed by Councillor K Sawbridge, seconded by Councillor E Marshall  
Unanimously agreed by all Councillors

**RESOLVED:** that to accept the apologies and reasons for absence for the following Councillors:

S Barlow - Other Commitment  
Tony Green - Other Commitment  
L Rochelle - Other Commitment

**0123/2324 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations made.

**0124/2324 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no members of the public present.

**0125/2324 MEMBERS QUESTION TIME**

There were no members questions raised.

**0126/2324 PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960**

It was proposed by Councillor C Baines, seconded by Councillor C Aked  
Abstained by Councillor E Marshall

**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.

0127/2324

## **RETAINING WALL PROJECT UPDATE**

Councillor J Buckley joined the meeting at this point.

Members had received comprehensive written reports prior to the meeting and were given a further verbal update from the Town Clerk with regards to the current position of the project. Members discussed and debated at length and were given an opportunity to ask questions of both the Town Clerk and the project working group.

Following these discussions, the following resolutions were made:

It was proposed by Councillor D Cooper, seconded by Councillor N Cooper

Unanimously agreed by all Councillors

**RESOLVED**: that the Council notes receipt of the Structural Engineer's report following inspections on 27/9/2023 and 4/10/2023 and the risk assessment of "unacceptable" for the possible collapse of the part of the retaining wall identified as phase 3a, based on a low to moderate likelihood of a collapse occurring in the short term but potentially severe impact if it does.

**RESOLVED**: that the council notes the structural engineer's recommendations to proceed to remedial works on phase 3a and temporary protection for phases 3b, 3c and 3d and the indication that it may then be safe for the Cliff Railway to resume operations (subject to further inspection and monitoring), and the quotation from Garvey Developments for remedial work to phases 3a and 3b, and temporary protection to phases 3c and 3d with a timescale for implementation of 1 week to 10th November 2023 if carried on in conjunction with the phase 2b work currently in progress.

**RESOLVED**: that the Council agrees to commission Garvey Developments to carry out the remedial works to the retaining wall phases 3a and 3b and the temporary protection works to phases 3c and 3d on the terms set out in their quotation of 5th October 2023.

It was proposed by Councillor I Wellings, seconded by Councillor C Baines

Unanimously agreed by all Councillors

**RESOLVED**: to continue with the closure of Castle Walk to the end of November 2023 and until the situation has been reviewed by the Structural Engineers for both Bridgnorth Town Council and Shropshire Council.

It was proposed by Councillor J Buckley, seconded by Councillor I Wellings

Unanimously agreed by all Councillors

**RESOLVED**: to instruct a Structural Engineer to carry out a full survey of the continuation of the areas in our demise.

It was proposed by Councillor D Cooper, seconded by Councillor N Cooper

Unanimously agreed by all Councillors

**RESOLVED**: to hold a borrowing consultation

It was proposed by Councillor A Chetter, seconded by Councillor K Sawbridge

Agreed by Councillors and against by Councillor R Ireland

**RESOLVED**: that the membership of the project working group, for phase 3, remains as Councillors C Aked, N Cooper, I Wellings and R Connolly as Mayor.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm.