

**BEWDLEY TOWN COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**  
**HELD ON MONDAY 1 SEPTEMBER 2008 IN THE GUILDHALL, BEWDLEY**

**PRESENT**

Councillor Mr D Killingworth  
Councillor Mrs J Adams  
Councillor Mr G Bulmer  
Councillor Mrs E Davies  
Councillor Mrs L Edginton  
Councillor Mr J Foulkes  
Councillor Mr P Gittins  
Councillor Miss A Mace  
Councillor Mr G Yarranton

In attendance: P. Mann- Town Clerk, D Moore, Treasurer + 2 members of the public

**6516. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillors Clee, Stallwood, Yarranton and Williams.

**6517. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None was declared

**6518. DEPUTY MAYOR'S OPENING REMARKS**

The Deputy Mayor gave an update of the Mayor's and his engagements over the past month

**6519. MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 4 AUGUST 2008**

The minutes of the meeting were agreed and signed by the Deputy Mayor.

**6520. ACCOUNTS FOR AUGUST 2008**

These were unanimously approved.

**6521. CIVIC AWARDS ELIGIBILITY**

Further amendments were made to the Terms of Reference which will be submitted to the Council Meeting on 6 October for final approval.

**6522. BEWDLEY CHRISTMAS LIGHTS FESTIVAL**

The Town Clerk's report was considered and it was agreed that funding of up to £940.00 would be made available to the Christmas Lights Committee for this year's Traffic Management arrangements. It was also agreed that from 2009 onwards the Christmas Lights Committee will have to apply for funding for this or any other expenditure associated with the Christmas Lights.

**6523. STREET POLES – LOAD STREET**

The Town Clerk's report was considered and it was agreed that it would probably be cheaper to leave the poles in position throughout the year and bear the cost of any replacements rather than erect them annually and solely for the Christmas Lights.

**6524. LIFE BELTS**

The Town Clerk's report was considered and it was agreed that, although the Town Council (and Council Tax Payers) were paying the cost of replacing vandalised lifebelts, the Council owed a Duty of Care to residents and visitors and so we should continue to provide life belts. It was also agreed that the Town Clerk publicise the problems caused by vandalism to lifebelts.

**6525. MAYOR'S CHAIN**

The Town Clerk's report was considered and it was agreed that he should progress the repairs to the chain as soon as possible.

**6526. THE MILLENNIUM GREEN AT SHAW HEDGE ROAD**

Information provided by John Iles was considered and the meeting was adjourned to enable Mr Iles to update Councillors on the history of the Millennium Green.

It was agreed that a Working Party of Councillors meet with Mr Iles to consider the implications of the Town Council taking over the ownership of the land from the Trustees and the councillors will be Bulmer, Davies, Foulkes, Gittins and Mace.

**6527. SATURDAY MARKETS ON THE RIVERSIDE**

The Town Clerk stated that he had been unable to obtain any update on the situation regarding this and he was asked to request a copy of the Consultation Document which was understood to be in circulation.

**6528. DRAFT DISCIPLINARY PRECEDURE**

Councillors agreed to the procedure.

**6529. HERITAGE OPEN DAY- SUNDAY 14 SEPTEMBER**

Cllr Adams was continuing to organise councillors to assist in this.

**6530. WYRE FOREST CITIZENS' ADVICE BUREAU**

Councillors noted the concerns expressed by Cllr Killingworth over the shortfalls in funding for the service and in particular, the possible loss of the service to Bewdley.

**6531. PUBWATCH**

Councillors confirmed their agreement to the Town Council Office being used as an accommodation address for this organisation.

**The following items were noted**

**6532. AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL- SILENT VIGIL- 4 OCTOBER**

Information noted.

**6533. LICKHILL PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Information noted.

**6534. WYRE FOREST EMPTY SHOPS STRATEGY**

Information noted and the comment was made that there was a minimal reference to the problems of Bewdley's empty shops in Load Street.

**6535. POST OFFICE REVIEW**

Noted.

**6536. GRANT FOR MOUNTING THE BEWDLEY CHARTERS**

The letter of thanks from the Museum Development Officer was noted.

**6537. SOUTH SIDE RESTAURANT**

The letter from Mr Jackson was noted but Cllr Gittins raised his concerns regarding obstruction of footpaths and the location of wheelie bins. Councillors agreed that the Town Clerk write to WFDC Environmental Department expressing their health and safety concerns on these issues.

**6538. WYRE FOREST SPECIAL SCHOOLS' REVIEW**

Noted.

**6539. ILLUMINATION OF BEWDLEY BRIDGE- BAT SURVEY**

It was noted that this will take place on 4 & 9 September.

**6540. QUALITY OF LIFE UPDATE**

The Town Clerk's Report was noted

**6541. THE FUTURE OF THE GUILDHALL**

Councillors discussed the possible options available as to the future management of The Guildhall and agreed that although it was happy to work with Bewdley Development Trust, it was essential that if ownership of the building were to pass from WFDC, it should be to The Town Council.

The meeting closed at 9:15 p.m.

Signed.....

6 October 2008

**Public Period**

No comments were made.