

MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 5 JANUARY 2009 IN THE GUILDHALL, BEWDLEY

PRESENT

Councillor Mrs B Stallwood
Councillor Mr G Bulmer
Councillor Mrs L Edginton
Councillor Mrs J Keen
Councillor Mr D Killingworth
Councillor Miss A Mace
Councillor Mr P Gittins
Councillor Mr A Williams
Councillor Mr G Yarranton

In attendance: P. Mann- Town Clerk, D Moore, Treasurer + 4 members of the public

6609. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillors Adams, Clee Davies and Foulkes.

6610. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Stallwood and Mace declared Personal Interests in Minute 6615 as they are members of the Christmas Lights Committee and Councillor Stallwood expressed a Personal Interest in Minute 6617 as she has a Studio on Severn Side North.

6611. MAYOR'S OPENING REMARKS

The Mayor gave an update of her engagements highlighting the New Year's Day Duck Race which was attended by over 4,000 people.

6612. MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 1 DECEMBER 2008

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

6613. ACCOUNTS FOR DECEMBER 2008

These were approved.

6614. WRIBBENHALL MILLENIUM GREEN

Councillor Killingworth stated that a meeting was to be held to progress the change of Trustees with the Charities Commission.

6615. 2008 CHRISTMAS LIGHT FESTIVAL

Councillors considered the correspondence on this and it was agreed that a meeting was necessary between the Christmas Lights Committee and other interested parties to resolve the issues raised for the mutual benefit of all concerned.

- 6616. BUDGET FOR 2009-2010**
Councillors agreed a budget of £80,548.00 which will require a Precept of £80,048.00. The effect of this for a Band D Council Tax Payer will be for the Town Council element of the tax to increase from £21.05 p.a. in 2008/09 to £21.52 p.a. an increase of 47 pence per annum and 2.23%
- 6617. DRAFT PUBLIC REALM & STREETSCENE (CONTROL OF STREET FURNITURE)**
Councillors considered the report of the Town Council's Working Group on the District Council's proposals, which will affect pubs and cafes on Severn Side North and South and with one amendment, agreed that these should be submitted to WFDC
Councillors' main criticism concerned the statement that "where the width of the pavement is 2 metres or less, no furniture will be permitted". Councillors considered that this would make the proposals inoperative in Bewdley.
- 6618. BUS SHELTER OPPOSITE 105 CLEOBURY ROAD**
Town Councillors requested the Town Clerk to take any appropriate action at minimal cost.
- 6619. WFDC LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK - CONSULTATION**
Councillors requested the Town Clerk to arrange for a presentation on the proposals.
- 6620. WEST MERCIA POLICE AUTHORITY – CONSULTATION**
No Councillors were available for the meeting on 13 January 2009.

The following items were noted:

- 6621. PROPOSED CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES**
Councillors agreed and noted the information prepared by the Working Party and emailed to the Department for Communities and Local Government.
- 6622. BEWDLEY TOWN CENTRE WATER MAINS REPLACEMENT**
Councillors noted that a Public Meeting will be held on 13 January 2009.
- 6623. BEWDLEY BRIDGE ABUTMENTS**
Councillors noted the letter sent by Bewdley Development Trust Environment & Town Centre Group about the poor state of the abutments.
The Town Clerk was asked to write to the County Council in support of the points made in the letter and in addition, request a full survey to be carried out on the bridge as a whole.

**6624. CODE OF CONDUCT TRAINING- 26 JANUARY – 6.00 PM
CIVIC CENTRE, STOURPORT**

Noted.

**6625. CALC AREA MEETING – MINUTES OF MEETING ON 4
DECEMBER 2008**

Noted.

6626. QUALITY OF LIFE UPDATE

The Town Clerk's Report was noted.

6627. GRANTS TO LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

A meeting will be arranged for the Finance Working Group plus any other interested Councillors to discuss these applications. The Town Council's S.136 application to WFDC will be discussed at the same meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.55 p.m.

Signed.....
2 February 2009

Public Period

A member of the public expressed her concern at some of the comments made in letters concerning the Christmas Lights Festival.