

LEOMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL



LEOMINSTER ANNUAL TOWN MEETING 2017

Minutes of the Leominster Annual Town Meeting held at The Council Offices, 11 Corn Square, Leominster HR6 8YP on Tuesday 30th May 2017 commencing at 7:00pm

IN THE CHAIR: Cllr Roger Pendleton

PRESENT: 24 members of the community.

OFFICER PRESENT: The Town Clerk.

1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

Cllr R Pendleton welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Rumsey & Taylor.

3. MINUTES

The meeting **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Meetings held on 13th April 2016 be adopted and signed as a correct record.

4. ANNUAL REPORT

Cllr Angela Pendleton presented the annual report for 2016/17. She outlined the work undertaken by the Town Council over the past year and thanked everyone for their support.

A copy of the Mayor's Annual Report is attached.

5. TOWN COUNCIL CORPORATE PLAN

The Town Council formally launched its Corporate Plan which would run to 2020. A presentation was given outlining the key aims, objectives and priorities within the Corporate Plan along with some of the projects the Town Council had agreed to progress. Residents were urged to submit feedback to the Corporate Plan so that it properly reflected the needs and requirements of the local community. A copy of the Plan was available on the website.

6. Questions

Questions were invited from the electors present.

Leominster in Bloom

Thanks were extended to the Town Council by the Chair of Leominster in Bloom for the level of support being provided this year. They were going for Gold.

Benches in the Town Centre

Concern was expressed that a number of benches in the town centre had been removed and not replaced including one in Corn Square and at the bottom of Broad Street. There were plenty of benches in West Street and on The Grange and a request was made as to whether additional benches could be provided in Corn Square and Broad Street.

The Town Council agreed to investigate options and to clarify the process to obtain relevant permissions. If it was possible, subject to agreement by the Town Council, efforts would be made to provide additional seating in the town centre.

Air Quality, Bargates

Concern was expressed regarding the air quality at Bargates which fell below the European Standards. Information on whether an update to the original report published had been undertaken and what measures were being taken to address the issue. A request to put pressure on Herefordshire Council to address this matter was made.

It was noted that the new traffic light sequencing had helped reduce the issue marginally. The Neighbourhood Plan had made a case for the construction of the southern bypass prior to any development taking place but this had not been supported by Herefordshire Council as it did not meet conformity issues with the Core Strategy adopted. Ward members were aware of the issue and would continue to lobby.

Bargates Junction Traffic Lights

It was suggested that consideration be given to reviewing the phasing of the lights further to enable traffic to turn left from Dishley Street into Bargates to help further alleviate congestion. This would be submitted to Herefordshire Council for consideration.

Bus Station

A request to erect a sign asking drivers to turn off their engines whilst waiting, similar to the signage in Hereford, was made. It was agreed to pursue this.

Millennium Clock

Council was asked whether it could do anything about the synchronicity between the time and the chimes. A quote had been obtained but the clock mechanism would need replacing which would cost approximately £8,000. It was suggested that the chimes be switched off. This would be pursued.

7. Summary and Closure

Cllr R Pendleton, Mayor of Leominster, indicated his delight that so many residents had attended the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. He gave an assurance that the issues raised would be addressed.

During his Mayoral year Cllr R Pendleton would focus on young people and attempt to engage with them.

The International Youth Orchestra would be returning to Leominster on Sunday 13th August 2017 and support for this event was encouraged.

There would be a service to mark the commencement of the Leominster Festival in the Priory on Sunday 4th June 2017 and Members were encouraged to attend.

There being no other business, the Mayor thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 8:00pm.

MAYOR OF LEOMINSTER

DATE: