



## LEOMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL

### FULL COUNCIL

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2021

To: All Members:

Councillors Rumsey (Mayor), Marsh (Deputy Mayor), Bartlett, Davies, Herschy, Marshall, Murdoch, Norman, Preece, Rosser, Smith-Winnard, Sutcliffe, Thomas, Williams and Williamson (1 Vacancy).

### NOTICE OF MEETING

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Leominster Town Council to be held on **Monday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2021** commencing at **19:00 hours** in the Council Chamber, 11 Corn Square, Leominster HR6 8YP.

***Julie Debbage***

Julie Debbage  
TOWN CLERK

### AGENDA

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Schedule 12 of the Local Government Act 1972 requires a record be kept of the members present and that this record form part of the minutes of the meeting. Members who cannot attend a meeting should tender apologies to the Town Clerk as it is usual for the grounds upon which apologies are tendered also to be recorded. Under Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972, members present must decide whether the reason(s) for a member's absence are acceptable.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Under the Localism Act 2011 (sections 26-37 and Schedule 4) and in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct, members are required to declare any interests which are not currently entered in the member's register of interests or if he/she has not notified the Monitoring Officer of it.

**3. REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS**

To consider requests for dispensations (must be notified in writing).

**4. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC (maximum 15 minutes)**

To receive questions and statements from members of the public.

**5. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

To receive and approve as a correct record the minutes of the Leominster Town Council meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

**6. CLERKS REPORT**

To receive the Clerk's Report on matters outstanding that may not appear on the agenda.

**7. FINANCES**

**(a) Accounts paid and invoices for payment** – To receive an accounts paid and invoices for payment statement.

**(b) Income and Expenditure Report Month 3**– To consider the Income and Expenditure Report for Month 3 and accompanying notes.

**8. REPORTS**

To receive update reports from:

- Representatives on outside bodies (verbal)
- Herefordshire Council Ward Members (text and verbal)

**9. MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS**

To receive an update on Mayoral appointments attended by the Mayor.

**10. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**

Certain items are expected to include the consideration of exempt information and the Finance Committee is, therefore, recommended to resolve "That, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded during the discussion of the matters referred to in the items listed below, on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information, as defined in the respective paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, and the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information".

**(a) An update on the Armed Forces Covenant Award**

**(b) An update on the Potential Devolved Asset**

**11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Town Council meeting will be held on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2021 commencing at 19:00 hours in the Council Chamber, 11 Corn Square, Leominster HR6 8YP.

# LEOMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Leominster Town Council Meeting held on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2021 commencing at 19:00 hours in the John Abel Room at Grange Court, Pinsley Road, Leominster HR6 8NL.

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Councillors Rumsey (Mayor), Marsh (Deputy Mayor), Bartlett, Davies, Herschy, Marshall, Murdoch, Norman, Preece, Smith-Winnard, Sutcliffe, Williams and Williamson (19.10).

**OFFICERS PRESENT:** Town Clerk, Democratic Services Officer.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Ward Cllr Stone and a member of the public.

## 27/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Rosser (Illness) and Cllr Thomas (Holiday).

## 28/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

## 29/21 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

No requests for dispensation had been received.

## 30/21 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

One member of the public was present. The following matter was raised:

- **Full Fibre Telegraph Poles** – Concern was expressed regarding the installation of telegraph poles on the Ridgemoor Estate by Full Fibre. A petition has been raised and there are over 100 letters of objection. It was requested that the Council raise a formal complaint to Full Fibre regarding the installation and establish who authorised the work from Herefordshire Council.

## 31/21 END OF YEAR ACCOUNTS 2020/21

(a) **Annual Internal Audit Report** – Council noted the report.

(b) **Annual Governance Statement** – Council considered the Annual Governance Statement presented and **RESOLVED** to formally adopt the Annual Governance Statement for 2020/21.

The Statement was duly signed by the Mayor and Clerk/RFO.

(c) **Annual End of Year Accounts** – Council considered the 2020/21 End of Year accounts presented.

Following a review of the accounts it was **RESOLVED** to formally approve the 2020/21 End of Year accounts.

The Accounts were duly signed by the Mayor and Clerk/RFO.

**32/21 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

Council **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Leominster Annual Town Council meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> May 2021 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

**33/21 CLERK'S REPORT**

(a) The clerk had nothing to report.

(b) **Personnel Sub-Committee to carry out the clerk's appraisal** – the Personnel Sub-Committee **RESOLVED** to carry out the clerk's appraisal during the first week in August.

**34/21 MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES**

Council **RESOLVED** to co-opt Cllr Preece to sit on the Planning & Highways Committee.

**35/21 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**

Council noted that there were no confidential items to be considered.

**36/21 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Council noted that the next Town Council Meeting would be held on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2021 commencing at 19:00 hours in the Council Chamber, 11 Corn Square, Leominster HR6 8YP.

There being no other business the Mayor thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 19.30 hours.

**MAYOR:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:**

**Ward Member report – July 2021 - Cllr Felicity Norman**

On Herefordshire Council, Leominster continues to be well represented. Cabinet changes taking place at the end of this month will include my move from Education to take on the Adults and Health portfolio, which I look forward to with enthusiasm. Cllr Jenny Bartlett will continue as cabinet support, which I welcome as her experience, especially through her links with our health partners, will be invaluable. Cllr Trish Marsh has taken on the role of vice chairperson of Adult Scrutiny committee.

At the beginning of July I attended the Priory Church service celebrating Westfield School's 50<sup>th</sup> year, a lovely combination of music, songs and poetry from some of the students, choral contributions from Earl Mortimer College and the Priory youth choir, and a heartfelt address from the head teacher, Nick Gilbert. At the end, good weather allowed us all to gather outside the church for several rousing hymns. There is huge support for and pride in Westfield in the community, and this was reflected in all the celebrations.

Parents and Carers continue to be concerned about the future of the sixth form at Westfield, as Herefordshire Council consults over major plans for the improvement of our special schools across the county, which includes a rebuild of Westfield, and possible closure of the sixth form. The new Beacon college for SEND students aged 16 – 19, based in Hereford, will open in September for students from across the county and will offer a wonderful range of facilities and opportunities for many students. The consultation will last until the middle of September, and all views are welcome. We have had two online meetings to hear from parents/carers, and officers have visited Westfield to talk with students and teachers. I had a very enjoyable meeting with students and staff, listening to their questions and comments. I appreciated their evident pride in the sixth form and all they are able to achieve, including through work experience, and volunteering in partnership with local businesses and organisations, and I hope we will be able to find a way forward that supports those students who want to stay at Westfield for their sixth form years.

Residents on Buckfield (and elsewhere in the town) have been upset and angered by plans from Full Fibre to erect poles on the estate, and in particular, at the lack of information and consultation. At a meeting a few weeks ago, regret was expressed, and we were assured that they would pause the work, inform all affected residents, meet further with local councillors and hold a public meeting. Unfortunately, some residents were not informed of this meeting. Much of the work in the rest of the town has already been done, using underground ducts already in place, and it is still unclear why this is not possible for the work on Buckfield and Osbourne. It seems that as with other services, this is 'permitted development', and that planning permission is not required. Although neither Herefordshire Council nor Leominster Town Council have any control over this, councillors will continue to support residents where we can.

Leominster Festival was a great success with a range of events and activities taking place, the Big Street Pub Quiz, the Green Family Fun day, two performances by the Birmingham Philharmonic Orchestra, an organ recital, the Alfred Watkins centenary walk and much more. This was appreciated even more than usual, having missed so many events last year, and the weather was mainly dry and warm, adding to the enjoyment and success of the outdoor events. Many thanks to the organisers and to all those volunteers who put so much effort into making sure these activities go well.