

# HEREFORD CITY COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

TUESDAY 21 JUNE 2016

One minute's silence was held in memory of Jo Cox MP

**PRESENT:** The Right Worshipful The Mayor of Hereford, Cllr Kenyon and Cllrs Boulter, Chappell, Dykes, Hey, Michael, Nicholls, Stevens, Wilcox.

**NOT PRESENT:** Cllrs Bushkes, Edwards, Lloyd-Hayes and Rone

- C2016/2017.28      APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**  
Members received apologies for absence from Cllrs Baker, Griffiths, Hall, Mansell and Tawn.
- C2016/2017.29      DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**  
Members received no declarations of interest made by Members under the Herefordshire Code of Conduct pursuant to the Localism Act 2011 in respect of items on the agenda.
- C2016/2017.30      PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**  
Members received no questions from members of the public present
- C2016/2017.31      MINUTES**  
Members approved the minutes of the Meeting of the City Council held on the 24 May 2016.  
  
It was proposed by Cllr Stevens, seconded by Cllr Nicholls and unanimously  
  
**RESOLVED:**  
**To approve the minutes as a true and accurate account of the meeting and the Chairman duly sign, initial and date the minutes of the Meeting of the City Council held on the 24 May 2016.**
- C2016/2017.32      MAYOR'S COMMUNICATION**  
Members received communications from The Right Worshipful the Mayor as follows:
- Busy June.
  - Attended a number of Queens 90th birthday celebrations.
  - Concerns from the community over a bus shelter in Tupsley which was damaged by an Asda van and has still not been repaired. – The Mayor informed Members he has looked in to the current situation and has been assured it is being fixed.

**C2016/2017.33**      **SECTION 1 THE ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2015/2016**  
Members considered, approved and adopted the Annual Governance Statement 2015/2016 as laid before Members.

It was proposed by Cllr Chappell, seconded by Cllr Stevens and unanimously

**RESOLVED:**  
**The Council approves the annual governance statement for 2015/2016.**

**C2016/2017.34**      **SECTION 2 THE ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS 2015/2016**  
Members considered, approved and adopted the Accounting Statement 2015/2016 as laid before Members.

It was proposed by Cllr Stevens, seconded by Cllr Michael and unanimously

**RESOLVED:**  
**The Council approves the annual statement of accounts for 2015/2016.**

**C2016/2017.35**      **RESOLVED:**  
**The Mayor, Cllr Kenyon and the Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer signs the annual return and statement of accounts on behalf of the City Council and certifies that the accounting statements in the annual return present fairly the financial position of Hereford City Council.**

**C2016/2017.36**      **DRAFT MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEES**  
Members noted the draft minutes of the meetings as laid out below:

FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE

- 7 June 2016

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

- 14 June 2016

GOVERNANCE AND PROCEDURES COMMITTEE.

- 17 May 2016

PLANNING AND HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE

- 18 May 2016
- 15 June 2016

**C2016/2017.37**      **REPRESENTATIVES OF OUTSIDE BODIES**  
Members received reports from representatives of the City Council on the following bodies.

Current Members as laid out below:

- a) **Municipal Charities (x 4 Members)** Cllrs Boulter, Baker, Hey and Lloyd-Hayes  
Cllr Boulter reported that Members had attended an away day at Castle House.
- b) **Herefordshire Market Towns Forum (x 3 Members)** Cllrs Nicholls and Wilcox. (plus 1 outstanding vacancy)  
Nothing to report.
- c) **HALC Executive Committee (x 3 Members)** Cllrs Nicholls and Griffiths (plus 1 outstanding vacancy)  
Nothing to report.
- d) **SAM (x 2 Members)** Cllrs Nicholls and Griffiths  
Nothing to report.
- e) **The Enterprise Zone Stakeholder Group (X 1 Member)** Cllr Stevens  
Cllr Stevens reported that the meeting clashed with his work on a Wednesday evening but that he was in regular email contact with the group. Members were happy for Cllr Stevens to send a substitute to the meetings on his behalf.
- f) **Three Choirs Festival (x 2 Members)** Cllrs Lloyd-Hayes and Nicholls  
Cllr Nicholls reported that tickets were now on sale for the event which this year takes place in Gloucester.
- g) **Hereford Twinning Association** (x 1 Member who is always the Right Worshipful the Mayor of Hereford as President of the Twinning Association) - Cllr Michael as Deputy Mayor  
Cllr Michael will be attending a BBQ event on behalf of the Mayor.
- h) **Hereford City Tourism Group (x 1 Member)** Cllr Baker with Cllr Lloyd-Hayes as reserve  
Nothing to report.
- i) **Hereford in Bloom (x 1 Member)** Cllr Michael  
Nothing to report.
- j) **New Hereford University Working Group (x 2 Members)** Cllrs Lloyd-Hayes and Stevens  
Cllr Stevens reported his disappointment that no matter how hard the City Council have tried to communicate with this group and the promises from them for communication with the City Council that they have still had no contact from the group.
- k) **Close House (x 1 Member)** Cllr Tawn  
Cllr Tawn was not present to give a report.
- l) **City of Culture Board (x 1 Member)** Cllr Hall  
Cllr Hall was not present to give a report.
- m) **The BID group (x 1 Member)** Cllr Len Tawn  
Cllr Tawn was not present to give a report.

**C2016/2017.38 TOWN CLERK'S COMMUNICATIONS**

Members received communications from the Town Clerk as follows:

- **HEREFORD CITY MAYFAIR:** Members received from the Town Clerk an evaluation report of a survey about the impact of the May Fair on local business in the City Centre from the BID group. Cllr Chappell informed Members that he was disappointed with the report and felt the general public should be asked for their view on the May Fair. How the City Council go about this consultation he is not sure but the people should be consulted. Cllr Stevens informed Members that he could see where the Hereford BID are coming from on this matter but the May Fair is only in the City for three days and he suggested a letter from the City Council is sent to the BID group explaining the history and tradition of the May fair. Cllr Nicholls also echoed his disappointment with the report, explaining that he has been in business in the City Centre all his life and the May fair is a pivotal point in the City's year. He expressed his view that businesses could make more of the May fair if they wish to do so. The negativity of this report reflects the negativity of the businesses within this City and their lack of enthusiasm in bringing people in to the City. Cllr Boulter suggested that as there were not many Members present at the meeting that this matter should be brought to the Community Development Committee for a more in depth decision and a recommendation brought back to Council.
- **COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP:** The Town Clerk informed Members that Cllr Stevens wished to resign as a Member of the Community Development Committee and wished to stand as a Member on the Governance and Procedures Committee. It was proposed by Cllr Boulter, seconded by Cllr Michael and unanimously

**Resolved:**

**That Cllr Stevens retires as a Member of the Community Development Committee reducing Committee Membership to 11.**

**That Cllr Stevens becomes a Member of the Governance and Procedures Committee increasing Committee Membership to 10.**

- **DISABLED WHEELCHAIR SWINGS:** The Town Clerk highlighted the matter of disabled wheelchair swings considered by the Community Development Committee and asked Members for their considerations as to suitable site for the installation of one of these swings as an initial pilot. The Mayor suggested and proposed to Members that an ideal site would be the King George's Playing Fields and suggested one is installed here as the initial pilot. Cllr Chappell informed Members that there is a designated playground for children with disabled needs. He highlighted the fact that this will need to be very carefully thought out and communication with Balfour Beatty and others should be paramount and seconded Cllr Kenyon's proposal. Cllr Boulter informed Members that she had researched the swings up on the Internet and her findings were that they are not that safe

when misused by others and suggested the roundabouts would be a safer option.

Cllr Nicholls suggested talking to the Blackmarsden School for advice and suggested the Town Clerk into this in more detail.

The proposal was put to the vote and it was unanimously

**RESOLVED:**

**The Council agrees to the purchase installation of a wheelchair swing on the King Georges Playing Fields in collaboration with Herefordshire Council and Balfour Beatty.**

- **MOWING:** The Town Clerk informed Members that he had been made aware that part of Old School Lane had been mowed and the rest had not. When members of the public had questioned why they had been told the Parish Council (Hereford City Council) has taken over the responsibility for the area Balfour Beatty had not mowed. The Town Clerk made it clear to Members that this is not true and if anyone knows of any other areas where this has happened to let him know.

There being no further communications from the Town Clerk the Mayor read out a letter from Rev Preb Towner which was accompanied by a book celebrating the Queen’s long service to this nation to honour Her Majesty’s 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday. The letter explained that on his retirement as Vicar of St Peter’s with St Owen and St James he wanted to mark the end of his long association with the City Council and so the book is a personal gift from him to each Member of the Council.

**C2016/2017.39**

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Members noted the date of the next meeting is **WEDNESDAY** 20 JULY 2016.

There being no further business the Mayor called the meeting to a close at 6.35 pm.

Signed.....

Date.....