HEREFORD CITY COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

## TUESDAY 20 OCTOBER 2015

**PRESENT:** The Right Worshipful the Mayor, CllrNicholls and Cllrs Baker, Boulter, Bushkes, Chappell, Dykes, Edwards, Kenyon, Lloyd-Hayes, Mansell, Michael, Stevens and Tawn.

**C2015/2016.76 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Members received apologies for absence from Cllrs Griffiths, Hall, Hey, Rone and Wilcox.

**C2015/2016.77 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were made by Members under the Herefordshire Code of Conduct pursuant to the Localism Act 2011 in respect of items on the agenda were received.

**C2015/2016.78 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were no questions from members of the public present.

##### C2015/2016.79 MINUTES

Cllr Kenyon proposed, seconded by Cllr Tawn 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 8 September 2015**.

**C2015/2016.80 MAYOR’S COMMUNICATION**

The Right Worshipful the Mayor had no correspondence to lay before Members.

The Mayor’s Officer informed the Mayor that due to traffic congestion Mr Fairbank had only just arrived and asked if he wish to proceed with the next item on the agenda whilst Mr Fairbank gathered his equipment for the presentation.

Members agreed they were happy to take the next item whilst they wait for Mr Fairbank.

**C2015/2016.81 HEREFORD CITY TOURIST INFORMATION**

Members received and considered a report and recommendations from the Town Clerk.

The Town Clerk gave a brief over view of his report and explained that the point of the report was to approve Finance and Policy committee look at the budget and further considerations in to the delivery of a tourist information centre.

Cllr Kenyon viewed his concerns that this would mean that a very small committee would be looking at a substantially funded project and he proposed that any decision the committee makes comes back to council with a full business delivery plan for the Council as a whole to consider and approve.

Cllr Tawn informed Members he was fully supportive of this proposal as chair of the Finance and Policy Committee and he would definitely recommend that a recommendation from the committee comes back to Council for a final decision.

The Town Clerk informed Members that the Finance and Policy Committee would draw up a detailed delivery plan and that this plan would come to Council including any budgetary decisions as part of the budget.

Cllr Edwards informed Members that he would happily second points 3.1 and 3.3 of the Town Clerk’s report but does not feel £60,000 should be the considered amount and proposed £25,0000 instead.

Cllr Lloyd-Hayes informed Members that she was delighted this has come to Council that she considered start-up costs would always be much higher for the first year but would be very concerned if £60,000 was the ongoing costs after the initial set up. She highlighted to Members issues around Three Choirs week and considering raising the City Council’s precept to enable the City Council to deliver more in the city. Cllr Lloyd-Hayes also highlighted Hereford going for the City of Culture award and that she fully supports the City Council moving this forward and the three recommendations laid out in the repoint

Members continued the discussion echoing most of what had been said above.

Cllr Kenyon informed Members he agreed with what Cllr Edwards had said in relation to accessing more funding to support a tourist information centre from other bodies and he would be happy to second that 3.2 is changed to £25,000. Once a business plan has been drafted then the City Council can address the issue of costs.

Cllr Tawn proposed that 3.2 is amended to read “to support start-up costs” and that no figure is included.

Cllr Edwards was happy to remove his proposal of £25,000 and second Cllr Tawn’s proposal that the amount is removed from 3.2.

Cllr Chappell agreed with Cllrs Edwards and Kenyon and before any figure is finalised he wished to see some enthusiasm from those who will benefit from such a service such as the Cathedral, hoteliers and other tourist facilities and attractions. Cllr Chappell also seconded the proposal to remove the figure in 3.2.

This was put to the vote and it was unanimously

**RESOLVED:**

**That Council agrees that a TIC for Hereford is absolutely necessary to support the visitor and tourist economy.**

**That the Finance and Policy Committee be tasked with identifying appropriate funds to be used to support a start-up cost in 2016-2017, and to use reserves or underspent resources in the revenue budget in 2015-2016 if expenditure towards the project is necessary during the current year.**

**That the Finance and Policy Committee reviews projected revenues generated by the TIC when further data is available and incorporates these into forward planning for budgets in subsequent years, with the intention that the TIC will not be supported from reserves for more than one year.**

##### C2015/2016.82 BLOOD BIKES

##### By invitation of the Mayor; Members received a presentation from Mr Paul Fairbank in relation to the Blood Bikes, a charity providing an emergency out of hours critical care courier service to hospitals within the counties of Worcestershire, Gloucestershire and Herefordshire.

Mr Fairbanks introduced himself to members gave a brief overview of the service that Blood Bikes provides and how it supports Hereford and the NHS. If the hospital needs any notes, equipment, blood anything to support a person in hospital they call Blood Bikes which they are able to access totally free of charge.

Questions and information covered the following points:

* Blood Bikes is staffed by 104 volunteers.
* Cover about 10,000 sq km they have three bikes on call every day of the year.
* The volunteers all come from all walks of life but with two common interests, they love bikes and want to put something back in to the community.
* Even deliver breast milk for premature babies to give them the best chance in life.
* Anything that will fit on a bike Blood Bikes will transport.
* Free wheelers are part of a nationwide group.
* Often have requests from Europe about the model and how the scheme could be implemented in another country.
* Work every single day of the year.
* Wear out a set of tyres on each bike at least once every year.
* Riders are regularly assessed and highly trained and have to pass a yearly ride check by one of their qualified examiners.
* Have to raise approximately £65,000 every year to keep the bikes in top conditions, for insurance and other such costs.
* They attend events, shows and two bike festivals to raise awareness of the organization, what they do and help raise funds.
* Now in process of engaging the schools which has been very well received.

There being no further questions the Mayor thanked Mr Fairbanks for his presentation and he left the room.

##### C2015/2016.83 HEREFORD CITY YOUTH GROUP/COUNCIL

##### Members received and considered a report from the Civic and Community Development Officer following the meeting of Council on the 8 September 2015 laying out a delivery plan and timeframe for the commencement and ongoing management plan of the Hereford City Youth Council.

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The Civic and Community Development Officer presented her report to Members and asked for questions.

Members commended the CCD Officer on her report. There were no Questions.

Cllr Edwards proposed points 1 to 5 with point 2 of the report following the SLA agreement option. This was seconded by Cllr Tawn and it was unanimously

**RESOLVED:**

**Members approve the proposed timeline as laid out in the report.**

**Members approve the Town Clerk and the Civic and Community Development Officer agree an SLA agreement with a youth provision organisation allowing the Town Clerk delegated powers to agree up to £15 per hour.**

**Members approve the proposed Hereford City Council Officer time to support the facilitation of the Hereford City Youth Council.**

**Members agree to sign up to the Takeover Challenge which will incorporate the Launch of the Hereford City Youth Council.**

**Members approve associate membership for the City Council and full membership for the Hereford City Youth Council at a total cost of £108 per annum.**

##### C2015/2016.84 MOTION FROM CLLR WILCOX TO AMEND STANDING ORDERS

Members received and considered a report and recommendations from the Town Clerk following the meeting of Governance and Procedures Committee on the 15 September 2015.

The Town Clerk asked for a Member to propose the motion in Cllr Wilcox’s absence. As there was no proposer the item was not considered.

##### C2015/2016.85 DRAFT MINUTES

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Members noted the draft minutes of the Finance and Policy Committee held on the 22 September 2015.

##### Members noted the draft minutes of Community Development Committee held on the 29 September 2015.

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Members noted the draft minutes of Planning and Highways Committee held on the 2 September, 23 September and 14 October 2015.

**C2015/2016.86** **REPRESENTATIVES OF OUTSIDE BODIES**

Members received reports from Councillors who have attended meetings of Outside Bodies as laid out below:

**Members approved Cllr Lloyd-Hayes becomes the outside representative for the Hereford City Tourism Group and Cllr Baker becomes the outside representative for Three Choirs Festival.**

**Members considered electing a new Member to be nominated as a member of the NALC Larger Council’s Committee.**

Cllr Tawn informed Members that he felt as Cllr Wilcox has done such a good job as the City Council’s representative he should carry on. This was seconded by Cllr Chappell and unanimously

**RESOLVED:**

**Cllr Wilcox** **is nominated as a member of the NALC Larger Council’s Committee.**

The Town Clerk informed Members he already has Cllr Wilcox’s signed nomination form on his desk.

1. **Municipal Charities (x4)** – Cllrs Baker, Boulter, Hey and Lloyd-Hayes

Meetings have provided some very useful information.

1. **Herefordshire Market Towns Forum (x3) -** Cllrs Nicholls, Tawn and Wilcox

No meetings since the last City council meeting.

1. **HALC Executive Committee (x3) –** Cllrs Griffiths and Nichollsone vacancy pending

No meetings since the last City council meeting.

1. **SAM (x2) -** Cllrs Griffiths and Nicholls

No meetings since the last City council meeting.

1. **The Enterprise Zone Stakeholder Group (x1) -** Cllr Paul Stevens.

No meetings since the last City council meeting.

1. **Three Choirs Festival (x 2) -** Cllrs Lloyd-Hayes and Bushkes

No meetings since the last City council meeting.

1. **Hereford Twinning Association (x1 normally the Mayor)**

(The Mayor automatically holds this post as President of the Association)

Nothing to report

1. **Hereford City Tourism Group (x 1) -** Cllr Baker

Nothing to report

1. **Hereford in Bloom (x1) -** Cllr Kenyon

Disappointment with the Chairman. All the community groups who took a part and a role in HIB have not been thanked for the part they played. Asked the Town Clerk writes to the HIB group to that effect.

1. **NALC Larger Councils Committee (x 1) -** Cllr Wilcox as elected to the committee until December 2015

Cllr Wilcox was not present to give a report.

1. **New Hereford University Working Group (x 2) –** Cllrs Lloyd-Hayes and Stevens

No Contact from the group. The Town Clerk was asked to contact them again.

1. **Close House (x 1) -** Cllr Tawn

Report as circulated

Cllr Tawn requested that all members send in a written report before the meeting to save time.

1. **Buttermarket Project Management Group (x 1) -** Cllr Michael as Chairman of the Planning Committee.

No meeting. This group has completed its role with awarding the contract to refurbish the Building and should now be removed from future agendas.

1. **City of Culture Strategic Board (x 1) –** Cllr Hall

Cllr Hall was not present to give a report.

**C2015/2016.87** **TOWN CLERK’S COMMUNICATIONS**

Members received communications from the Town Clerk as follows:

Correspondence as circulated

* Hereford in bloom
* Neighbourhood/local development plan
* Planning issues
* Servicing of the public toilets
* Governance review consideration by Herefordshire council.
* Takeover challenge day.
* BID he's been invited to join the board will check it out to make sure it is legal and report back to the next meeting of council.

Cllr Kenyon voiced his concerns as to whether the Town Clerk is stretching himself too far. The Town Clerk said it is part of his role to represent the Council and feels it is important that he sits on that board.

Cllr Edwards proposed that the Town Clerk only attends when he has the time to but each time he does he brings a full report back to Council but does not take up a position as a board member of the BID group.

Cllr Tawn informed Members that he is on board of the BID group as a non-voting member and would suggest that this is the case with the Town Clerk.

**C2015/2016.88** **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Cllr Tawn proposed, seconded by Cllr Kenyon and unanimously

**RESOLVED:**

**excluding the press and public under section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 on the grounds that the item includes disclosure of personal information.**

##### C2015/2016.89 DRAFT MINUTES

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Members noted the draft minutes of the Governance and Procedures Committee held on the 15 September 2015.

**C2015/2016.90** **FREEDOM OF THE CITY OF HEREFORD**

Members received a report and recommendations from the Town Clerk

Cllr Chappell presented the recommendation from the Governance and Procedures committee and proposed the Freedom of the City be bestowed upon the recommended recipient. This was seconded by Cllr Kenyon.

Cllr Edwards informed Members he would have been honoured to have seconded the proposal as the recommended recipient has put a huge amount in to this City not just through hi role but also upholding many years of history of this City.

Put to the vote 11 Members voted in favour

1 Member abstained as he was unaware or the said recipient and felt in this case it would be inappropriate for him to vote.

**RESOLVED:**

**That Council wishes to confer upon the said recipient the honour of Freedom of the City of Hereford.**

**Re-admission of the Press and Public**

**C2015/2016.91 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Members noted the date of the next meeting is1 December 2015

There being no further business the Mayor called the meeting to a close at 7.55 pm

Signed…………………………………………………………………………………………

Dated…………………………………………………………………………………………..