HEREFORD CITY COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

## TUESDAY 28 JULY 2015

**PRESENT:** The Right Worshipful the Mayor of Hereford, Cllr Nicholls and Cllrs Baker, Boulter, Bushkes, Griffiths, Hall, Hey, Kenyon, Lloyd-Hayes, Michael, Rone, Stevens, Tawn and Wilcox.

**C2015/2016.47 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Members received apologies for absence from Cllrs Chappell, Edwards and Mansell

**C2015/2016.48 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.

**C2015/2016.49 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Members received questions from members of the public present in relation to

##### No. 1 Ledbury Road and whether Members were aware of the issues in regards to the closure of the house providing day care.

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Cllr Wilcox informed members that the centre was discussed at Herefordshire Council today; he was presently unable to say anything but there would be a press release shortly.

Cllr Lloyd-Hayes requested this item is put on the agenda for the next meeting of Council.

##### C2015/2016.50 MINUTES

##### Cllr Boulter asked that Cllr Rone’s name is removed from the list of Councillors present as he was not present at the meeting as stated under “Not Present”.

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The amendment having been agreed and the minutes adjusted to reflect the amendment; it was proposed by Cllr Tawn, seconded by Cllr Boulter 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 23 June 2015**.

**C2015/2016.51** **MAYOR’S COMMUNICATION**

The Right Worshipful the Mayor had nothing to report.

##### C2015/2016.52 PRESENTATION FROM CLOSE HOUSE

##### Members received a presentation from Ben Lea and Carl and Logan, two of the young people who attend Close House.

Mr Lea gave a brief over view of Close House, where they are located and what Close House means to the young people who go there.

A brief video was shown to members.

Mr Lea continued to explain how Close House provides extra support that these young people may not get from their home life and how it is a safe and inspiring place offering specialist support to those who need it.

Last year the organization saw 500 young people come through its doors.

This year they have made 24 referrals already; more than in previous years although it has been climbing; many of them very serious referrals.

Carl spoke about being a member of the EPIC’s and the volunteer work he has done, the people he has met via the volunteer support they give and how he has met and spoken to people he would never have normally interacted with and he is also a drummer in a band.

Mr Lea explained a little bit about Logan who was in a band called “Too Big Too Small” and how the band supported the Mary and Joseph Christmas production that Close House delivered. Mr Lea informed Members that Logan comes to Close House every Saturday. At school he has A4 pages full of disciplinaries he has received and yet at Close House they have never had an issue with him. Logan attended and performed at the Ledbury Poetry Festival. Mr Lea also explained how through working together with the School, the School are now working with Logan and his brother through music.

Mr Lea then covered some of the projects Close House are working on this year and how the money the City Council annually supports Close House with is spent enabling them to provide such a valuable service.

Cllr Kenyon asked about progress on the outside area at the rear of the building. It was explained that Close House now has permission to move forward with this from the land lord and other relevant bodies so they are now in a position to proceed.

Cllr Lloyd-Hayes congratulated Mr Lea on all the work he and his team deliver, how great the young people are and how impressed she was to see the young people performing at the poetry festival. Cllr Lloyd-Hayes asked how he managed to deliver such an excellent service for such value for money. It was explained that the young people re-invest in the organisation as youth leaders and that is how they are able to run at such good value for money. It is good to see young people giving back to an organisation that has been such a support to them.

Cllr Wilcox echoed Cllr Lloyd-Hayes’ words including the exceptional good value for money dedicated team.

There being no further questions the Mayor praised Mr Lea and echoed the words of Cllrs Lloyd-Hayes and Wilcox.

The Mayor welcomed the new Councillors and expressed how he looks forward to working together in a positive and productive manner for the good of the City.

**C2015/2016.53** **CAB**

Members received a report and covering letter of request for support from the CAB

The Town Clerk gave a brief over view of this item and the CAB’s request of support to encourage Herefordshire Council to continue their funding support.

Cllr Wilcox reminded Members of the presentation to Council in April, his reservations and his request to have laid before Members a copy of the income, expenditure and balance sheets and that those accounts have still not come forward. He suggested that no further funding should be discussed until they have produced those accounts.

The Town Clerk emphasised to Cllr Wilcox that this report was not requesting funding support it was merely to request that the City Council writes a letter of support and requests Herefordshire Council continue their funding support for the services CAB deliver.

Cllr Wilcox asked the Town Clerk to request the accounts again from the CAB.

Members noted the report and the letter from the CAB.

##### C2015/2016.54 REVIEW OF INTERNAL AUDIT

##### Members received a report and recommendations from the Finance Officer.

The Town Clerk presented the Finance Officer’s report asking that Members note the report and agree to use the internal auditors for the coming financial year.

Cllr Tawn proposed the recommendations in the report. This was seconded by Cllr Lloyd-Hayes and unanimously.

**RESOLVED:**

**The provision of the internal audits continues to be provided by Auditing Solutions Ltd.**

##### C2015/2016.55 MOTION FROM CLLR KENYON

##### The motion proposed by Cllr Kenyon and seconded by Cllr Stevens was read out by the Town Clerk.

The Town Clerk explained that Under Standing Order 71 (which is legal requirement and cannot itself be suspended) “A resolution permanently to add, vary or revoke a Standing Order shall when proposed and seconded stand adjourned without discussion to the next ordinary meeting of the Council.

Cllr Tawn proposed that Cllr shall continue to stand when speaking in a meeting of full council unless they have received dispensation from the Mayor due to a health issue preventing them from standing.

This was seconded by Cllr Michael.

The Town Clerk clarified to Members that both the motion and the amendment will appear on the agenda for the 8 September 2015.

##### C2015/2016.56 DRAFT MINUTES

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Members noted the draft minutes of the Meetings of the Community Development Committee held on the 21 JULY 2015

Members noted the draft minutes of Finance & Policy Committee held on the 14 JULY 2015.

Members noted the draft minutes of Planning and Highways Committee held on the 1 JULY and 22 JULY 2015.

Cllr Kenyon proposed the Council makes a resolution that it supports the idea of an eastern river crossing from Rotherwas to Hampton Park Road subject to a viability study for the benefit of the citizens of the City of Hereford. This was seconded by Cllr Stevens.

Cllr Wilcox asked about the Herefordshire Council car parking charges consultation - which committee is it going to and will there be time for a response from the City Council before the closing date for consultation.

Cllr Lloyd-Hayes emphasised that the Council should have a lot more information about the proposed crossing, feasibility studies and any collated data from public consultation with regard to the matter.

Cllr Kenyon repeated the wording of his proposal which was seconded by Cllr Stevens and it was

**RESOLVED:**

**The Council supports the idea of an eastern river crossing from Rotherwas to Hampton Park Road subject to a viability study for the benefit of the citizens of the City of Hereford.**

Cllr Lloyd-Hayes and Cllr Wilcox abstained from voting.

**C2015/2016.57** **REPRESENTATIVES OF OUTSIDE BODIES**

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

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

Cllr Kenyon informed Members that Cllr Baker had expressed an interest in becoming a representative of this Charity.

Cllr Lloyd-Hayes informed Members that Cllr Hey had expressed an interest in becoming a representative of this charity.

Cllr Kenyon informed Members he would be happy to stand down as a representative of this group to allow both Cllrs Baker and Hey to. This was seconded and unanimously **RESOLVED**: **Cllr Kenyon to stand down. Cllrs Baker and Hey to join Cllrs Boulter and Lloyd-Hayes as representatives of the City Council on the board of this charity.**

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

No meeting yet. Next meeting will be in September.

1. **HALC Executive Committee (x3) -** Three vacancies pending

Cllr Nicholls put his name forward as a representative of the City Council for this organization. This was seconded by Cllr Wilcox and unanimously agreed.

Cllr Wilcox proposed Cllr Griffiths as a representative of the City Council for this organisation. This was seconded by Cllr Michael and unanimously agreed.

**RESOLVED:**

**Cllrs Nicholls and Griffiths to sit as representatives of the City Council for this organisation.**

1. **SAM (x2) -** (Two vacancies pending)

Cllr Nicholls put his name forward as a representative of the City Council for this organization. This was seconded by Cllr Wilcox and unanimously agreed.

Cllr Wilcox proposed Cllr Griffiths as a representative of the City Council for this organisation. This was seconded by Cllr Michael and unanimously agreed.

**RESOLVED:**

**Cllrs Nicholls and Griffiths to sit as representatives of the City Council for this organisation.**

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

No meetings as of yet.

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

Cllr Bushkes informed Members he was unable to attend the last meeting.

Cllr Lloyd-Hayes informed Members they had very little notification to attend the meeting. She did attend and brought up an issue about the outside activities being moved to St. Peter's and take up was very poor as a result. This should be taken up with the Dean.

Cllr Kenyon commended Herefordshire Council on providing free parking for the duration of the Three Choirs Festival and hopes Herefordshire Council will ensure they offer this facility for late night shopping this year.

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

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

The Mayor informed Members he should have something to report to members at the next meeting of council.

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

Cllr Baker informed Members that he has not heard anything from the relevant body yet but is working with the Town Clerk in relation to tourism issues within the City.

Cllr Lloyd-Hayes informed Members that she feels the representatives for the City of Culture should also be included in any discussions in relation to tourism.

Mayor reported to Members that he is hopeful that by the next meeting of Council he should have something to report to Council in relation to tourism within the City.

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

Cllr Kenyon informed Members that the 17 July was judging day. It was a fantastic day and he is optimistic that the City will be on target for another gold award this year. The City’s community involvement this year is really going to help win that gold award.

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

Cllr Wilcox informed Members he didn't attend the last meeting which was held in Falmouth.

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

No communication from the group.

Cllr Kenyon asked the Town Clerk to chase these groups as it is very frustrating to be part of a group that you never seem to get communication from.

Cllr Stevens asked the Town Clerk gives the relevant Members the names and contact details for the groups they represent to enable Members to contact them directly.

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

Cllr Tawn informed Members reluctantly he was informed after the last meeting had taken place as Mr Ben Lea had not been informed he had been elected to represent the City Council on the board.

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

The Town Clerk informed Members he had attended the meetings to date and they are due to sign off on the preferred bidder in September.

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

Cllr Hall informed Members she was still waiting for some contact from the group.

**C2015/2016.58** **TOWN CLERK’S COMMUNICATIONS**

Members received communications from the Town Clerk as follows:

* Robing for meetings of full Council - The resolution is clearly not being applied and as a result this will to go on next agenda of Council for discussion.
* The City Council (and Hereford in Bloom whom organized the Veteran Poppy Man in High Town) have received many compliments about both the bench and poppy man. It is great to get such positive feedback. The BBC and other Councils have also been in touch in relation to the Veteran Poppy Man and the First World War Benches the City Council have installed, mainly due to the one positioned in High Town with the Poppy Man.
* BID Team - looking into a tourism information centre within the City. There is a meeting planned regarding information hubs. Other discussions are taking place with the BID Team and Herford in Bloom in relation to all year round supported floral displays within the City.

Cllr Kenyon requested the poppy man is moved to the area by the war memorial in St Peter’s Square. Cllr Kenyon was informed that there is a plan in place to move the poppy man nearer to the war memorial nearer the time of the Remembrance Day service and parade.

**C2015/2016.59** **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Members noted the date of the next meeting of Council as 8 SEPTEMBER 2015

There being no further business on the agenda the Chairman called the meeting to a close at 7.30 pm.

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

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