

MINUTES
of a meeting of the Full Council
held at the Tewkesbury Town Hall on 10th July 2023 at 6.00pm

Present: Cllrs C Danter (Chair), E Ash, J Baddams, H Bowman, P Brookes, M Dimond-Brown, A Hayes, R Langdon, K Moran, J Raywood, S Raywood, C Robertson, M Sztymiak.

In attendance: D Hill (Town Clerk), J King (Assistant Town Clerk) and five members of the public.

23/24 - 62 To receive apologies for absence
Apologies received from Cllr Jones (personal), Cllr Smith (work), Cllr Langdon (personal), Cllr Cody (work).

23/24 - 63 To receive declarations of interest
Cllrs Sztymiak, Dimond-Brown & Bowman – Tewkesbury Borough Councillors
Cllr S Raywood – employed with the Planning Inspectorate – items 23/24-74 & 75
Cllrs Bowman & Dimond-Brown – Tewkesbury Borough Council Planning Committee – item 23/24-75

23/24 - 64 To consider requests for dispensation
None required.

23/24 - 65 To receive written questions from members of the public
There was one written question. This raised numerous questions about the moorings and covered areas such as pricing, insurance, commercial moorings, mooring agreements, damages and conflicts of interest. Questions have been circulated to all Councillors. They will be answered in written form and treated as a Freedom of Information request. The individual also spoke in public participation and expressed their concern about the minutes for the moorings not being open and transparent.

23/24 - 66 Public Participation
A member of the public asked about how the Town Council will be engaging with the Civic Pride campaign that Tewkesbury Borough Council will be running. The Town Council has not yet received any information from Tewkesbury Borough Council as to what the campaign will look like. This will be chased by Borough Councillors, it was felt that a working group was required for local level actions.
Action: Cllrs Dimond-Brown, Bowman, Baddams & Sztymiak to propose terms of reference for a working group and return them to Full Council.

A member of the public spoke following the concerning incident of a teacher being stabbed at Tewkesbury School today. They raised the issue of the lack of youth mental health services in Tewkesbury and the stigma attached to those using what is available. They are frustrated by the lack of investment in mental health services for young people and that they see more discipline being enforced, but less education and more fear amongst students. Children deserve to have an education without a fear of teachers being stabbed. The Council thanked the individual for taking the time to come and speak to the Council.

The Mayor advised that this is a Town Council, so our reach is minimal but that we can raise the question to see if there is anything further that can be done to ensure that young people get all of the support that they need. At present it is still an open police investigation and there will be specialist support provided to the school. Two Councillors are meeting with the Hospital League of Friends who currently provide a chaplaincy service, to raise the question if there is anything further that can be done so that young people get all the support they need. Young Gloucestershire will be opening their hub on the High Street on 10th & 11th July to provide a space for young people who may wish to use it.

The provision of youth services overall is a County wide issue. The Town Council need to work on how we represent young people in our decision-making process. Tewkesbury is normally known for flooding and now it is knife crime. The Council needs to be seen to be responding visibly and positively to the situation.

Action: Statement to be issued on behalf of the Town Council and further discussions to be held about the Town Council's response.

23/24 - 67

Correspondence

This item was moved up the agenda. There was correspondence from one resident in Mitton, requesting that the Council appoint a hydrology expert.

23/24 - 68

To note the Mayor's Announcements

Councillors have been invited to attend the Great Western Air Ambulance Open Day on Tuesday 25th July.

Tewkesbury Live is taking place 28th – 30th July. If any Councillor would like to volunteer to help, please contact the office.

23/24 - 69

To approve the minutes of the meetings held on 12th June 2023

It was RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 12th June 2023. Proposed by Cllr Dimond-Brown, seconded by Cllr Brookes.

23/24 - 70

**To note the following Committee Minutes – Buildings & Moorings – 30th May 2023
Planning – 3rd, 17th & 31st May 2023**

The above minutes were noted.

23/24 - 71

Matters arising from the minutes

21/22-147 **Cycle storage and Riverside Walk signs** – ongoing as part of the High Street Action Zone work.

22/23-95 **Accessibility of Town Hall** - Investigating streaming options and councillors have met to discuss the physical access restrictions – ongoing.

23/24-21 **Vehicle Activated Signs** – add to insurance and asset register. Ongoing as costs still needed.

23/24-46 **Rialtas error** – reported and will be fixed in next software release – complete.

23/24-51 **Grant application form review** – ongoing.

23/24-56 **Asset register lists for checking** – ongoing.

23/24 - 72

To receive the budget reports for May 2023 and earmarked reserves report

The reports were received.

The Town Clerk drew attention to the moorings income, this is not all for mooring rental, it includes the High Street Heritage Action Zone grant which was used for work on the moorings, the same is true for the Town Hall income.

The Severn Ham income of £34,175 relates to reinstatement compensation, £9,282 was paid to Carver Knowles for their work as the land agent.

A question was raised at Finance Committee regarding the Watson Hall income, in that the hiring income was £2,391 and the bar income was over £8,000. The Town Clerk confirmed that this was correct, and that half of the bar income on the May report came from two events, a private party and a wedding.

23/24 - 73 To receive the payments report for May 2023

The report was received.

Cllr S Raywood left the meeting.

23/24 - 74 To consider the options for a hydrology study for land off Bredon Road and to agree the next steps

Two quotations have been received. One quotation states that it cannot be used as evidence, the second was felt to be more thorough.

It was RESOLVED to accept the quotation from H Fraser at a cost of £2,691. Subject to confirmation that the Town Council will own the copyright to share the document and that Cllrs would like to be involved in the process. Proposed by Cllr J Raywood, seconded by Cllr Sztymiak.

Cllrs asked about the timings of the report. The company states that a report can take up to four months.

Action: Check timings for the production of the report. Advise Wychavon District Council that we are commissioning this report and wish it to be considered, but it may take up to four months.

23/24 - 75 To receive and approve the proposed response to planning application Ref 22/00610/OUT Land East of Mythe Road, Tewkesbury Residential Development (Up to 165 dwellings), and associated workings, including infrastructure, open space, landscaping and pumping station. Construction of a new vehicular access from Mythe Road and demolition of existing structures.

Cllr J Raywood talked through the proposed response which was included in the meeting pack. Transport and drainage are ongoing concerns.

It was RESOLVED to approve the proposed response to the planning application. Proposed by Cllr J Raywood, seconded by Cllr Brookes.

Cllr Bowman left the meeting. Cllr S Raywood returned to the meeting.

23/24 - 76 To note the findings of the internal audit report

The report was initially reviewed at the finance meeting last week.

There were five actions from the report:

1.1 To recommend that the council reviews Standing Orders to include the revised section 18. **Action:** Will return to Full Council as a future agenda item.

1.3 Amended date on grants policy – complete.

3.2 Finance risk register to be reviewed – action with Finance Committee

6.7 Publishing dates for exercise of public rights - provided to Finance due to timings.

7.1 Council consider a data protection policy for staff and Councillors – data protection policy for staff is within the employee handbook.

Action: To consider a data protection policy for councillors.

23/24 - 77 **Review of the Council's and / or staff subscriptions to other bodies**
The subscriptions were reviewed and noted.

23/24 - 78 **To note the reports from Tewkesbury Borough Council and Gloucestershire County Council**

The reports were noted.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7pm.

Signature of Chairman upon approval of the minutes 11th Sept 2023.