

MINUTES
of a meeting of the Full Council
held at the Tewkesbury Town Hall on 8th July 2024 at 6.08pm

Present: Cllrs P Jones (Chair), J Baddams, H Bowman, P Brookes, C Cody, C Danter, M Dimond-Brown, R Langdon, K Moran, C Robertson, M Sztymiak.

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

- 24/25 - 54 To receive apologies for absence**
Apologies received from Cllrs J Raywood (personal), S Raywood (work), A Hayes (personal), V Smith (personal), E Ash (health).
- 24/25 - 55 To receive declarations of interest**
Cllrs Bowman, Cody & Sztymiak – Tewkesbury Borough Councillors
Cllr Cody – Gloucestershire County Councillor
- 24/25 - 56 To consider requests for dispensation**
None received.
- 24/25 - 57 To receive written questions from members of the public**
There were no written questions.
- 24/25 - 58 Public Participation**
There was no public participation.
- 24/25 - 59 To note the Mayor's Announcements**
The Mayor noted that today is 'International Town Criers Day'.
- 24/25 - 60 To approve the minutes of the meetings held on 10th June 2024**
It was RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 10th June 2024.
Proposed by Cllr Cody, seconded by Cllr Dimond-Brown.
- 24/25 - 61 To note the following Committee Minutes – Planning – 8th & 22nd May 2024, Buildings – 28th May 2024**
The above minutes were noted.
- 24/25 - 62 Matters arising from the minutes**
21/22-147 Cycle storage – Money has been allocated and it is now with legal and property departments.
23/24-66 Civic Pride / Our Town working group – terms of reference to return to Full Council in September / October.
23/24-117 Civility & Respect Training – Cllr Robertson & Town Clerk are trialling the online training.
24/25-14 Action plan for bad debt – The Town Clerk gave an update and advised that the individual is being supported by a debt counselling organisation and wishes to enter into a payment plan, details of which are yet to be agreed.
24/25-29 Sustainability Policy – Climate Change Working Group to examine at next meeting in September.
24/25-32 Nationwide Award nomination – to be submitted.

24/25-41 Additional storage at the Museum – ongoing – to return as future agenda item. Museum is still moving back into the building, so exact requirements are not yet known.

The Town Clerk provided an update on her meeting with the Chief Executive and Borough Solicitor at Tewkesbury Borough Council, concerning the issues that may occur, particularly regarding the maces, civic inheritance and charter rights, if the name change is approved. It was acknowledged by all parties that these are issues that would need to be dealt with. As no decisions have yet been made regarding the name change, it is not appropriate to investigate the cost implications at this time, but it is noted that this may be an issue moving forward. The consultation has been extended until the end of July 2024.

- 24/25 - 63 To receive the finance reports for May 2024 and earmarked reserves report**
The finance reports were received.
- 24/25 - 64 To receive the payments report for May 2024**
The reports were received.
- 24/25 - 65 To consider and agree grant applications from outside bodies**
It was RESOLVED to award £400 to Pride in Gloucestershire for 'Pride in Tewkesbury'. Proposed by Cllr Dimond-Brown, seconded by Cllr Danter.
- 24/25 - 66 To approve an update from the Town Clerk on the Town Safe Scheme**
The Town Safe Scheme is a collaborative working scheme between the Police and the Community Safety Partnership at Tewkesbury Borough Council to reduce crime in the town centre.
The Town Council is supporting the scheme by having the equipment in the roof space. All radios are ready to be delivered to the participants in the scheme and provide training. It is hoped that it will be in place for Tewkesbury Live. The cost to the Town Council is the sign-up cost for two venues (the Town Hall and the Watson Hall) and the Town Council has also covered the cost of the electrical installation work at the Town Hall. The scheme includes the current Pub Safe scheme and the existing Pub Watch group will continue to meet as it currently does.
Councillors raised questions about issues for smaller businesses who cannot afford to join the scheme and whether it effectively addresses the wider issues in society. Questions were also asked about how the Town Council will get updates about the effectiveness of the system and asked if the Police would be able to come and brief them every six months.
- 24/25 - 67 To note the reports from Tewkesbury Borough Council and Gloucestershire County Council**
The reports were noted.
- 24/25 - 68 Correspondence**
Parish & Town Council seminar is being held on 11th and 12th September. The Town Mayor will be attending and there is space for one other attendee.
- 24/25 - 69 To resolve that the press and public are excluded due to the confidential nature of the business under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings Act) 1960 s.1 ss.2**
It was RESOLVED that the press and public be excluded.
Proposed by Cllr Danter, seconded by Cllr Bowman.

24/25 - 70

To appoint the new Town Crier

It was RESOLVED that the new Town Crier will be Richard Whincup.
Proposed by Cllr Brookes, seconded by Cllr Danter.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.00pm.

Signature of Chairman upon approval of the minutes 9th September 2024

DRAFT