



**MINUTES OF THE LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CLAREMOUNT HOUSE ON  
MEETING OF THE COUNCIL MONDAY 11<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2024**

**Start 7.00pm**

**Present:** Cllr T Saunders (Chair)  
Cllr C Harris  
Cllr H Ives  
Cllr M Jones  
Cllr P Johns  
Cllr R Kemsley  
Cllr P Macklin  
Cllr W Osborne  
Cllr E Taylor

**In attendance:** M Greenfield (Clerk)  
L Bendall (Assistant Clerk – Minute Taker)

**Members of the Public:** Cllr A McDermid (District Councillor)

Councillor Saunders welcomed all present and gave the usual 'housekeeping' announcements.

**Open Forum**

No items raised.

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received and noted, from Cllrs R Holmes and S Holmes.

2. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

There were none.

3. **MINUTES**

The minutes held on **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2024** were accepted as read and correct. Proposed by Cllr Osborne, seconded by Cllr Harris.

**Resolved: Majority Approved**

4. **REPORTS**

To receive urgent reports from Members of the Town, District and County Councils  
County Reports:

Summary of report received from Gloucestershire County Councillor A Preest:

- There is £889 remaining in the Youth 'Build Back Better Fund' that needs to be allocated by the end of March, Councillors were advised to liaise with Cllr Preest directly if they had any ideas for this funding.
- Cllr Preest has been involved in regular meetings with Lydney Town Council and different agencies including Gloucestershire Highways and Multi Agency

Flood Meeting and he thanked Cllr Harris and Clerk for their continued support.

- A grant of £3,000 has been awarded to the Bathurst Swimming Pool
- GCC will launch the recently installed Electric Vehicle Charging Points situated in the carpark at the bottom of Templeway.
- Congratulations to Lydney Town Band who achieved third place in West of England Brass Band Championships which qualifies them to perform at the National Championships later in the year.

#### District Reports:

Cllr Ives confirmed that the FoDDC budget has now been approved for 2024-2025.

- The FoDDC deferred considering the planning application for 80 houses on Allaston Road due to a list of queries that the applicant will need to respond to.
- If the development does go ahead £558,000 s106 funds will be made to Primrose Hill Primary School to allow an increase in pupil numbers.
- Cllr Ives gave an update on some of the Forest of Dean District Council policies.
- The FoDDC charity evening is scheduled for 5<sup>th</sup> April, the charity being supported this year is Great Oaks Hospice, details and tickets can be obtained by contacting FoDDC directly.

## 5. FINANCIAL MATTERS / RFO REPORT

### 5.1 **Payments**

To approve accounts for payment as detailed by the RFO  
Chair proposed that the Payments totalling £27,439.73 and transfers to Lydney Recreation Trust and Bathurst Park of £122.19 and £1,702.66 in relation to VAT be agreed.

**Resolved: Unanimously Approved**

### 5.2 **Financial Reports: Income and Expenditure Reports/ Earmarked Reserves/ Bank Reconciliations for 29.02.24 and Bank Statements for 29.02.24.**

To receive and approve the above financial reports.  
Chair proposed that the Income and Expenditure Repots, Earmarked Reserves and Bank Reconciliation for 29.02.24 together with Bank Statements for 29.02.24 be approved.

**Resolved: Unanimously Approved**

### 5.3 **Direct Debit Card Report**

To note the Direct Debit card report for 29.02.24.

Noted.

### 5.4 **Internal Auditor Report**

To note the Internal Auditor Report

Noted.

## 6. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

To receive and note the Town Clerk's report.

Noted.

7. **COMMITTEE BUSINESS REFERRED TO THE COUNCIL AND REPORTS FROM THE CHAIRS OF COMMITTEES, SUB COMMITTEES AND WORKING PARTIES AND FROM LEAD COUNCILLORS**

Cllr Saunders gave an update after attending Forest of Dean Health Forum.

2 presentations were delivered from Drybrook Surgery and Orchard Trust. An update was also given in relation to the proposed new GP Surgery.

The Business Case should be finalised in June 2024 and if approved building work starting in 2025 and opening in 2026. The pharmacy will remain in the building. It is anticipated the new building may cost in the region of £7 million pounds.

Cllr Saunders & Harris recently attended a meeting relating to Yorkley Court Solar Farm Community, the second window for grants is now open until 31<sup>st</sup> March, all community groups within Lydney can apply. Any queries to be directed to West Dean Parish Council.

Council have been approached to consider supporting 2 local families to help send their children onto a Year 6 residential trip; the families do not meet the usual support services financial criteria for assistance. The Clerk, Youth Lead and Mayor to consider this request under the Youth Grant Policy of the Council.

Cllr Harris updated the council on planning application received relating to new housing development by Bracken Close; the committee resolved to "Strongly Object" to the application.

Cllr Harris gave an update relating to the NDP, the recent drop-in consultation was well attended. The next public consultation is taking place on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March outside the old Co-op building between 11am and 3pm. A request for councillors to please attend if they are able.

8. **SERVICING OF TOOLS/EQUIPMENT**

To receive and decide on quotations for servicing equipment and replacing 2 strimmer's with funds being taken from General Amenities (4845)

It was proposed by the Chair that the servicing quote received from Revill Mowers and to replace 2 strimmer's with funds being taken from General Amenities (4845) be approved.

**Resolved: Majority Approved**

9. **NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

To note the development of the Neighbourhood Development Plan.

Noted.

10. **SEEDS ORDER**

To receive and decide on quotation received for seeds and ground maintenance products.

It was proposed by Cllr Ives that the quote from Aitkens totalling £1,774.00 for seeds and ground maintenance be approved. Seconded by Cllr Harris

**Resolved: Unanimously Approved**

Cllrs noted that the wild flowers should not be planted near or under hedges.

11. **INSTALLATION OF FENCE AND GATE AT MESNE**

To receive an update as to Gloucestershire County Council's Highways response to proposed installation of fencing and gates at the entrance to Kidnalls Wood from Primrose Hill.

Clerk advised Lydney North Councillors to notify the office on how they would like to proceed, what other information is needed to enable council to make a decision.

Clerk reminded councillors of reservations of installing a fence and gate on private property with council being responsible for future maintenance.

Quotes to be adjusted to reflect the changes to date.

12. **RESOLUTIONS FOR DEBATE AT GLOUCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF PARISH & TOWN COUNCILS (GAPTC) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

To decide if a Resolution for debate is to be submitted to the GAPTC Annual General Meeting to be held on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2024, and the resolution.

No resolutions were identified.

13. **POPPIES PROJECT**

To approve the Poppies Project with funds being taken from the following budgets: Arts/Event 4437/300 Budget or Events 4440/300 Budget or Youth Work Budget 4772/650

It was proposed by Cllr Harris that the Poppy Project be approved with funds being taken from budgets, Arts/Events, Events and Youth Work. Seconded by Cllr Macklin.

**Resolved: Unanimously Approved**

14. **CORRESPONDENCE**

To note correspondence received and answered and to agree responses, as appropriate

14.1 To note correspondence from Mayors for Peace February 2024.

Noted.

14.2 To correspondence regarding Lydney Highways.

Noted.

15. **DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING AND FUTURE BUSINESS**

Full Council – Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024, 7pm in the Council Chamber, Claremont House, High Street. Lydney

Meeting closed at 8.10pm