

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF ROSS-ON-WYE TOWN COUNCIL HELD
ON MONDAY, 12 DECEMBER 2011 AT 7.00PM IN
THE CORN EXCHANGE, HIGH STREET, ROSS-ON-WYE**

Present: Cllr D Ravenscroft — Chairman

Cllr A Atkinson, Cllr P Cutter, Cllr Mrs J Davis, Cllr J Edwards, Cllr C Gray, Cllr Mrs J Lane,
Cllr C M Bartrum, Cllr I Henderson, Cllr Dr J Roberts, Cllr Mrs C Utting

In attendance: Mrs D Mason, Town Clerk, Mrs R Lewis, Deputy Town Clerk
Four members of the public and the press

11/12 168 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr G Lucas, who was unwell.

11/12 169 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Cllr P Cutter declared a personal interest in Accounts for payment.

11/12 170 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Police report

CSO Paul Leighton and CSO Carol Marsh were in attendance. CSO Leighton reported that there had been a spate of burglaries and an operation to stop these was on-going, extra officers were being drafted in for operation Christmas Presence and he warned that extra care needed to be taken, particularly when travelling in severe weather. CSO Leighton announced that he would be retiring early next year and thanked the people of Ross, and in particular the Town Clerk, for their support over the years.

11/12 171 MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 22 NOVEMBER 2011

*IT WAS RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 22 November 2011
be signed as a true record of the meeting*

**11/12 172 MINUTES OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 22 NOVEMBER 2011**

Cllr Roberts presented the minutes and agreed to answer any questions.

**11/12 173 MINUTES OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 5
DECEMBER 2011**

The Chairman of the meeting presented the minutes and agreed to answer any questions.

Cllr Utting drew the following to the Council's attention:

- The Christmas Lights will need extra funding next year for the outside boxes to eliminate the problems of having the lights not switched on at the correct times.
- A picnic site has now been agreed by Herefordshire, further permissions are now being sought.
- A letter had been sent to businesses regarding next year's hanging baskets – the response had been disappointing and a further letter would be sent out in the new year.

**11/12 174 MINUTES OF THE POLICY & MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON
MONDAY, 28 NOVEMBER 2011**

The Chairman of the meeting presented the minutes and agreed to answer any questions.

In response to a query regarding sub committees and working parties, he clarified that:

Chairman 

- A sub-committee is a committee which has an agenda, minutes and a clerk
- And a Working Party meets on an ad hoc basis and reports back to its parent committee (or sub-committee)

11/12 175 MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor had attended 13 civic functions and events in the town since the last meeting.

He had also met with a photography student who was doing his portfolio on Ross. He thanked the Christmas Lights Sub-committee for their work on the Christmas lights event and Cllr Cutter for stepping in at the last minute to rectify some of the electrical problems.

The Mayor has also attended HALC executive and core committee meetings as well as being a member of the working party which is looking at the Charter.

Following the invitation last month to visit the CCTV control centre, the Mayor and other councillors had taken up the offer and found it most informative.

He had also attended a briefing about the Olympic Torch which will be coming through Ross next May.

11/12 176 TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

The Town Clerk's report was accepted.

11/12 177 DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

Cllr Cutter reported that tendering for contracts at the Old Cattle Market in Hereford was soon going to take place and that any local contractor would be able to apply.

11/12 178 REPORTS FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEES

- (i) Jubilee Advisory Committee
The committee had not met since the last meeting.
- (ii) Police Liaison Advisory Committee
The Committee had not met since the last meeting.

11/12 179 INVOICES PAID/TO BE PAID

IT WAS RESOLVED that the invoices to the value of £39,985.03 as detailed on Enclosure 6, would be paid in accordance with Sections 137 and 139 of the Local Government Act 1972.

11/12 180 BUDGET REPORT AND BALANCE SHEET

The budget report and balance sheet was accepted.

11/12 181 REPORTS FROM OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL ON OUTSIDE BODIES

- (i) Association of Ross Traders: Cllr Atkinson reported the next meeting in is January but the Christmas Market had been a great success and offered congratulations to ART for organising it.
- (ii) Basement Youth Trust: Cllr Lane had nothing to report.
- (iii) Betzdorf Twinning Association: Cllr Edwards had nothing to report.
- (iv) Board of the Community Association: Cllr Gray had nothing to report.
- (v) Condé Twinning Association: Cllr Edwards confirmed that French visitors were coming to Ross from 13-15 April 2012.
- (vi) Educational Foundation: Cllr Gray had nothing to report.
- (vii) Friends of St Mary's: Cllr Lucas was absent.
- (viii) HALC Exec Committee and
- (ix) HALC Southern Area Committee: Cllr Ravenscroft had reported in his Mayor's report.

Chairman 

- (x) Market Towns Forum and
- (xi) MTF Core Committee: Cllr Utting had attended a meeting where there had been presentations by the Chief executive Officer of HALO Leisure, Claire Keetch of the CAB (looking for parish funding) and a presentation on the devolution of markets to the market towns. A feasibility study is to be carried out and the council is asked to put it to the Full Council at its next meeting.
- (xii) Parochial Church Council: Cllr Lucas was absent.
- (xiii) Ross Charity Trustees: Cllr Gray had nothing to report.
- (xiv) Ross Fairtrade Group: Cllr Roberts had nothing to report.
- (xv) RoWToP Progress Group: Cllr Roberts had nothing to report.
- (xvi) Sports Federation: Cllr Edwards reported that HALO was considering a Festival of Sport in 2012 and are now installing concrete table tennis tables.
- (xvii) St Joseph's School Governors: Cllr Cutter had nothing to report.
- (xviii) Walkers are Welcome: Cllr Henderson had nothing to report.

A letter from Ross-in-Bloom had been received asking for a representative from the Town Council to join the committee. The Mayor suggested that it would be appropriate for the Chairman of the Amenities committee to take this on and it was agreed that Cllr Mrs Utting would become the Council's representative.

11/12 182 CORRESPONDENCE

- (i) Hereford Macular Group – Thank you
The Mayor offered congratulations to Cllr Mrs Lane
- (ii) Herefordshire Council – Parking Charges
Noted
- (iii) Mrs M Bickerton – Sunday Parking Charges
Cllr Bartum had contacted Mrs Bickerton and forwarded her letter to Cllr Blackshaw. He did not know whether Cllr Blackshaw had responded.
- (iv) Chris Chapman, Herefordshire Council – Community Governance Review
A meeting is to be arranged on Tuesday 20 December at 12.30pm
- (v) Ms C Dallow, Herefordshire Council – Walford Road repairs
Cllr Cutter was concerned that councillors no longer have direct access to AMEY – going through the office takes 10 days even though there is a depot in Ross. Cllr Henderson asked for another letter to be sent asking for the problem to be rectified now, not waiting for further deterioration.
- (vi) BBC – Things to Do
Noted
- (vii) Herefordshire Sport – Market Town Games 2012
Cllr Edwards was disappointed that the suggested games were for adults aged 19 and over only. He felt that the proposals had not been thought through but would take them to the Sports Federation for their thoughts.
- (viii) Herefordshire Wildlife Trust – Environmental Play for Children
The Finance Committee was asked to look at this proposal and make a recommendation to Full Council.

11/12 183 PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

The following publications were noted and were available for councillors to read.

The Clerk Magazine – November 2011
Newslines – Autumn 2011


 Chairman.....

11/12 184 STANDING ORDERS

It was proposed and seconded in accordance with Standing Order 32 that the following amendments to Standing Orders stand adjourned to the next ordinary meeting of the Town Council (proposed changes in italics)

Standing Order 16 Sub Committees and Working Parties

Unless there is a Council resolution to the contrary, every committee may appoint a sub-committee or *working party* whose terms of reference and members shall be determined by resolution of the *parent* committee. *Sub-committees will be open to members of the public, will have an agenda and minutes and will be clerked. The minutes of the sub-committee will be presented to the next ordinary meeting of the parent committee. Committees and sub-committees shall appoint and determine the remit of working parties.*

Working parties are not expected to have a formal agenda or minutes but will be expected to report to the parent committee.

Standing Order 34 Scheme of Delegation

To remove from Amenities Committee:

The power to appoint sub-committees or working parties to undertake specific tasks

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.55pm.


Chairman.....