

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF ROYAL LEAMINGTON SPA
HELD ON 21st JULY 2022, TOWN HALL, LEAMINGTON SPA.**

PRESENT: Councillors Nick Wilkins (Chair), Janet Alty, Alan Boad, Sarah Boad, Mubarik Chowdry, Judith Clarke, Bill Gifford, Jennifer McAllister, Louisa Radice, Susan Rasmussen, Ruggy Singh and Amanda Stevens.

Officers: Town Clerk

26. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllrs Julija Boulton, David Brunson, Will Bryce, Jade Mcghee.

Cllr Rasmussen apologised for not being as active recently and thanked the Council and the wider community for their support in recent months.

27. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr S Boad declared a non pecuniary interests in relation to items 5, 7 and 8 as a County Councillor.

Cllr B Gifford declared a non pecuniary interest as WCC Councillor

Cllr A Boad declared non-pecuniary interest in item 4 as a district councillor.

28. **PUBLIC FORUM**

No members of the public wished to speak.

29. **123+ WASTE COLLECTION SERVICE**

The Town Council received a short presentation from WDC officers in relation to the new 123+ waste collection service which will begin in August, including addressing issues raised previously by the Town Council's Policy & Resources committee.

There followed a series of questions and answers about the new service.

Information about the service can be found at www.warwickdc.gov.uk/123 and queries can be sent to 123collections@warwickdc.gov.uk

The chair thanked WDC officers for their attendance and presentation.

30. **LEAMINGTON SPA BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT**

The Town Council received a presentation from Steph Kerr, Executive Director of BID Leamington, supplementing the information provided in report number 5.

A series of questions and answers then followed. It was noted that:

The BIDs four areas of focus are:

- Marketing, promotion, events.
- Enhancing the experience
- Supporting Business
- Influencing & Inspiring

The BID receives approx. £300k from 350 businesses through the BID levy.

The continuation of the BID is subject to a vote amongst relevant businesses every 5 years, the next of which is due in March 2023.

The BID is engaging with businesses and other stakeholders regarding its future approach.

The Town Centre and its businesses face significant challenges at the current time. The involvement of offices in the BID will be explored in addition to leisure and retail. The large amount of activity and events delivered by the BID and the associated benefits were noted.

The Chair thanked Steph Kerr for her attendance and presentation.

31. COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR FORUM

Cllr S Boad noted that Warwickshire County Council had agreed their Minerals plan after several years of development.

Cllr B Gifford noted that WCC were looking at increasing the number of electric vehicle charging points across the county. There was some discussion about electric charging points and associated car parking.

Cllr A Boad noted that the Commonwealth Games would start shortly and WDC were managing a festival site in the Pump Room Gardens where people could congregate and watch the games on big screens. WDC had requested support for assistance with the information tent.

32. CONSULTATION – LOCAL CYCLING AND WALKING

The Council considered the content of report number 7 regarding WCC's current Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan consultation, including the comments made by the Council's Policy & Resources committee.

It was noted that the importance of the Kenilworth to Leamington Cycle Route (K2L) should be stressed, along with the importance of links to the K2L route from other parts of North Leamington.

Resolved that the following comments are submitted to the WCC consultation

- The Town Council wishes to stress the importance of the delivery of the Kenilworth 2 Leamington cycle route.
- It was noted that there is not much cycling infrastructure identified for the area north of the Town Centre. Specifically it is queried whether more could be done to link Lillington to the proposed K2L (Kenilworth to Leamington) cycle route.
- The inclusion of proposed cycle routes L15, L27 and L28 was welcomed.
- In relation to question 5 in the survey – Are there further challenges or opportunities which should be added to the list? – the issues of security was raised, notably in relation to security of cycles when parked / locked up and the suitable use of lighting at cycle parking locations.
- In relation to question 5 – the issue of education / promotion should be considered to avoid conflict between pedestrians and cyclists.
- It was noted that in London some secure cycle parking infrastructure is provided on the street for residents with limited private storage.
- The issue of whether future cycle routes would include physical segregation from vehicles / pedestrians was raised. Town Clerk to ask WCC Senior Transport Planner

and whether new infrastructure would meet design guidelines in Local Transport Note 1/20 – Cycle Infrastructure Design.

- It was noted that new cycle routes should avoid being too detrimental to existing walking routes.
- It was suggested that 2 way cycle routes could be created on one side of a road, rather than both sides.

33. CONSULTATION – FIRE AND RESCUE

The Town Council considered report number 8 regarding Warwickshire Fire & Rescue Service's current consultation.

Cllr S Boad noted that details of a Warwick District meeting of WALC on 25th July had been circulated. Meeting would include an update from WALC's chief officer and a presentation on the Fire and Rescue Service consultation.

Resolved that the Town Council indicates its general support for the draft Prevention, Protection and Response Strategy 2022-2027.

Cllr S Rasmussen left at approximately 19:35.

34. UPDATES FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON EXTERNAL BODIES

The Town Council considered the updates provided in report number 9.

Cllr Clarke noted she had been unable to attend the meeting of the Leamington Chamber earlier in the week due to travel disruption.

Cllr Stevens noted that Leamington International Twinning Society were organising social events on 20th August, in September and in December. They continued to seek hosts for the visit from Bruhl in October.

Ref the Leamington Transformation Board, Cllr A Boad noted that a convenor had been appointed for the advisory group and a recruitment exercise for an independent chair of the Leamington Transformation Board was underway.

Resolved that the updates from representatives on external bodies are noted.

35. MAYORAL CAR UPDATE

The Council considered report number 10 in relation to the replacement of the Mayoral Car.

Resolved that the update is noted.

36. RED PHONE BOXES

The Council considered report number 11 in relation to the red phone boxes

Resolved

- i) That the Town Council approves the repair of the glass / door mechanism as

described in the report, noting the cost will slightly exceed the asset maintenance budget for 2022/23.

ii) That an additional asset maintenance reserve of £1000 is identified in case of any further asset maintenance issues in 2022/23.

37. MINUTES OF COUNCIL AND COUNCIL COMMITTEES / MEETINGS

Resolved:

that the minutes of the meeting of the Town Council on 09June 22 are approved as a correct record. Cllr A Boad asked that his abstention is recorded.

that the minutes of the following meetings are received and noted:
 Cultural & Community Committee 04Apr22
 Planning 11May22, 08Jun22
 Policy & Resources Committee 28Apr22, 16Jun22

38. FINANCE / PAYMENTS

Resolved that the following payments are approved:

Cheque / Electronic payment	Payee	Details	Amount	VAT	Total
Electronic	Warwick District Mobility Ltd	Grant payment - first quarter 2022/23	£6,500.00	£0.00	£6,500.00
Electronic	Tom's Office Technology Ltd	Office equipment and supplies (IN00133374)	£220.38	£44.09	£264.47
Electronic	Peter Rowe Photography	Official Mayoral photograph and print 1155)	£240.00	£0.00	£240.00
Electronic	WALC	Staff training 20Jul22 (invoice 22324)	£30.00	£6.00	£36.00
Electronic	Warwick District Council	Meeting room bookings Apr - July (invoice 83271281)	£730.00	£18.00	£748.00
					£0.00
					£0.00
					£0.00
					£0.00
					£0.00
					£0.00
					£0.00
			£7,720.38	£68.09	£7,788.47

It was noted that the use of meeting rooms for future meetings should be considered.

39. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The Town Council considered report number 14.

Resolved: that the items identified in the report be included as future agenda items.