

TENBURY TOWN COUNCIL 2024/25 MEETING TC04

**Minutes of the meeting of TENBURY TOWN COUNCIL held on
Monday 1st July 2024 at 7.00 pm
in The Pump Rooms, off Teme Street, Tenbury Wells, WR15 8BA**

PRESENT: Cllrs S. Bowkett, M. Davies, A. Gould, D. Ingram, F. Knight, D. Patrick, R. Perrin [Chair], S. Russell and R. Young.

IN ATTENDANCE: The Town Clerk, the Assistant to the Town Clerk and one member of the public

C24.84 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Members received apologies for absence from Cllr. E. Bunting and Cllr. L. Davies due to planned holidays, Cllr. R. Connolly due to illness and Cllr. N. Ferguson due to a prior commitment.

C24.85 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

A declaration of interest was made by Cllr. F. Knight under the Code of Conduct pursuant to the Localism Act 2011 in respect of item **C24.92 THE REGAL** on the agenda due to being a volunteer.

C24.86 DISPENSATIONS

The Town Clerk stated that there had been no requests for dispensation.

C24.87 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

(i) Public Question Time – General

None.

(ii) Report from the Safer Neighbourhood Police Team

No report received.

(iii) Worcestershire County Council **Appendix A**

Report circulated.

(iv) Malvern Hills District Council **Appendix B and C**

Reports circulated.

C24.88 MINUTES

To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting of Tenbury Town Council held on 10th June 2024.

It was proposed by Cllr. S. Russell seconded by Cllr. S. Bowkett and

RESOLVED: (8 For, 1 Abstentions)

The minutes of the meeting of Tenbury Town Council held on 10th June 2024 were confirmed as a true and accurate account of the meeting. The minutes were duly signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

C24.89 DRAFT MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Members received and noted the draft minutes of the following Committee meetings:

- (i) Planning Committee – 24th June 2024



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- (ii) Finance & Staffing Committee – 24th June 2024

It was proposed by Cllr. S. Russell seconded by Cllr. D. Patrick and

RESOLVED: (8 For, 1 Abstention)

To note the draft minutes of the following Committee meetings:

- (i) Planning committee – 24th June 2024
- (ii) Finance & Staffing Committee – 24th June 2024

C24.90 TENBURY AREA PARTNERSHIP

Members discussed the letter sent by Tenbury Area Partnership, which reads as though the group is representing the Town Council.

A Member stated that this seemed unprofessional and inconsiderate with a lack of understanding of local government.

It was proposed by Cllr. R. Young seconded by Cllr. A. Gould and unanimously

RESOLVED:

The Town Clerk was requested to contact TAP and raise concerns.

C24.91 TENBURY COMMUNITY POOL

- (i) Members received an update from a representative of Tenbury Community Pool Ltd, who has been a trustee for 12 years. The representative stated that due to the energy saving initiatives that TCP have undertaken on the building, they have maintained a reduction in spend on fuel and combined with an increase in the swim school numbers, the pool's financial situation is now stable.

The trust was granted £5,000 from the Town Council to help with the fuel initiatives, however they have not yet spent this money. The representative stated that the pool are happy to return the money to the Town Council, however request that they now use it on the last phase to upgrade, to provide a spectators toilet and make the ladies facilities more accessible.

- (ii) Members considered the reallocation of the £5,000 grant funding.

Cllr. Ingram asked that it be minuted that he thanks Tenbury Community Pool for their honesty.

Following discussion it was proposed by Cllr. M. Davies seconded by Cllr. S. Russell and unanimously

RESOLVED:

To support the reallocation of the grant funding.

C24.92 THE REGAL

- (i) Unfortunately the representative from Ionic Surveying Consultants Ltd was unable to attend the meeting to give a presentation regarding The Regal roof.
- (ii) Members considered the schedule of works for The Regal roof.

Following discussion it was proposed by Cllr. D. Patrick seconded by Cllr. A. Gould and unanimously

RESOLVED:



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To obtain 3 quotations for the schedule of works. Ionic Surveying Consultants Ltd to manage the works with fee being 14% of the contract sum.

C24.93 MEETING START TIMES

Members considered the start times of meetings.

It was proposed by Cllr. S. Russell seconded by Cllr. S. Bowkett and unanimously

RESOLVED:

To agree the start time of meetings to remain at 7pm.

C24.94 PLANNING APPLICATION – MALVERN HILLS DISTRICT COUNCIL

Applications can be viewed online by following the link and searching on the application number <https://plan.malvern hills.gov.uk/>

(i) Planning Ref: M/24/00805/FUL

Change of use to convert a building used for ad-hoc storage into an office space on the ground floor – G H Bowkett Ltd, Market Square, Tenbury Wells, WR15 8BL.

It was proposed by Cllr. S. Russell seconded by Cllr. M. Davies and unanimously

RESOLVED:

To SUPPORT the application Planning Ref: M/24/00805/FUL

The Town Council wish to emphasise that the space is to be used strictly for office space only and not residential

(ii) Planning Ref: M/24/00808/FUL

Retrospective application for the retention of the riding arena, permeable gravel pathway and related change of use of land from agricultural to equine – West View Farm, St. Micheals, Tenbury Wells, WR15 8TL.

It was proposed by Cllr. D. Ingram seconded by Cllr. S. Russell and unanimously

RESOLVED:

To SUPPORT the application Planning Ref: M/24/00808/FUL

Tenbury Town Council made the following comments;

This is the second retrospective application from the same property.

They state the area should be restricted to personal use only and not for commercial use.

There is no information on the soakaways or infiltration testing being carried out.



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C24.95 SHROPSHIRE HR

Members considered the proposals for HR Advice Service from Shropshire Council.

It was proposed by Cllr. S. Russell seconded by Cllr. A. Gould an unanimously

RESOLVED:

To agree the use of Shropshire Council HR Advice Service on an ad hoc basis.

C24.96 REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Members received reports from representatives on outside bodies:

Organisations

- (i) **CALC Area Meetings – Mayor, Deputy Mayor & Clerk – No report**
- (ii) **Chamber of Trade/Traders Group – Mayor & Cllr M Davies – Meeting 2nd July.**
- (iii) **Regal Tenbury Trust – Mayor & Clerk – No report**
- (iv) **Malvern Hills District Children & Young People’s Partnership – Cllr Knight – No report**
- (v) **Philip Baylies Trust – Cllr M Davies – No meeting**
- (vi) **Tenbury Area Partnership – Mayor & Deputy – No report**
- (vii) **Tenbury Blooms – Cllr L Davies – No report**
- (viii) **Tenbury French Twinning Committee – Cllr L Davies – No report**
- (ix) **Tenbury Museum – Cllr D Patrick – There has been no progress with the museum’s aspiration to purchase the Methodist Church building.**
- (x) **Wheeler Charity – Mayor – No meeting**

C24.97 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Members agreed the exclusion of Press and Public on the grounds that the consideration of the following items may involve the likely disclosure of confidential information Section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960.

C24.98 DAVID & CHRISTINE LLOYD-JONES FOUNDATION

Members received an update on the David & Christine Lloyd-Jones Foundation

C24.99 RE-ADMISSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

There being no further confidential business, Members agreed a motion to readmit the press and public for the remainder of the meeting.

C24.100 COUNCILLORS’ REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

None

C24.101 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING



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Monday 9th September 2024

Meeting closed at 8.16 pm

Signed

Date



County Councillor's Report: July 2024

1. County Hall has been closed due to the detection of legionella in parts of the water system. The only part of the building which is open is the Registry Office for weddings, as this has a separate entrance and is self contained.

Council services remain unaffected. Temporary accommodation is being secured for staff and in the interim they will be working remotely. Hopefully the situation will be resolved within a few weeks.

2. There has been a number of staff changes at County Hall due to the implementation of a new Management Structure, which will come into place early in July.
3. The Boundary Commission is due to publish changes to the County Council Divisional boundaries after the General Election.
4. The Council are holding a number of "Roadshows" around the county during July and August. Details of their location are below:

Saturday 6 th July	9am to 6pm	Hanbury Show
Sunday 7 th July	1pm to 5.30pm	Outside Great Malvern Priory during Malvern Food Festival
Saturday 11 th July	10am to 6pm	Astwood Bank Carnival
Saturday 13 th July	11am to 6pm	Bromsgrove Carnival
Saturday 3 rd August	9am to 6pm	Tenbury Show
Sunday 4 th August	10am to 5pm	Battle of Evesham
Sunday 11 th August	10am to 5pm	Worcester Show
Saturday 10 th August	10am to 5pm	Far Forest Countryside Show
Saturday 31 st August	10am to 6pm	Droitwich Saltfest

5. Whilst there are still financial challenges within the County Council, the anticipated overspend of £19million has been reduced to £4.6million which is lower than the previous year. The Council's reserves remain sound and are in excess of £100million. Local Authorities throughout the country are facing similar challenging times.
6. Due to conflicting dates with Applefest, the resurfacing of Teme Street will now be undertaken between the 2nd and 16th September depending on weather conditions. There will be road closures between 20.00 hours and 06.00 hours on the days works are taking place.

David Chambers

County Councillor for the Tenbury Division

County Councillor's Report – June 2024

1. The Leader of Worcestershire County Council made changes to his Cabinet and Chairmanships of the various Overview and Scrutiny Panels last month and I was pleased to be appointed to the Cabinet with responsibility for Education.

The portfolio includes responsibility for all schools and nurseries within the County as well as specific responsibility for children with special educational needs and Home to School Transport.

2. This year marks the 40th anniversary of Volunteers Week with the annual celebration having taken place week beginning 3rd June. There are over 6,000 volunteers across all types of volunteering roles within the council, supporting a range of different services. This includes roles in: libraries, museums, archaeology, countryside, health champions and the coroners service.

In addition, thousands of men, women and children volunteer in our towns, villages and hamlets across Worcestershire and form an integral part of our daily lives. We are so fortunate to have such a caring community within our County.

3. Recent data has shown that hospital admissions due to falls among those 65 and over have reduced in Worcestershire. The rate in the County is now 20% lower than the national rate and continues to decrease every year according to the Office of Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID).

The Council's Public Health Team has been running a specialised programme since 2020 which encourages older residents to look after their strength, balance and mobility.

4. Worcestershire's grass cutting programme has now started with around 5,000km of grass up for a trim. The County has over 6 million metres squared of rural verges and over 320,000 metres squared of central reservations along its roads. The cutting regime helps to keep roads visible for motorists but also provides a safe place for wildlife too.

Worcestershire County Council cuts less grass to make areas more friendly and protected for pollinators. When road junctions are mowed, only one or two metres of grass is now cutback from the carriageway, leaving significant uncut areas available for wildlife.

5. Foster Care Fortnight was successful last month as it raised the awareness of the importance of fostering and it celebrated the incredible work which foster carers do.

There remains a very real shortage of foster carers in the County and if you or anyone you know would like further information as to how you can transform a child's life then you can visit [Worcestershire Children First Fostering website](#) or call 0800 028 2158.

David Chambers

County Councillor for the Tenbury Division

Malvern Hills District Council Report (July 2024)

Cllr Lesley Bruton (Tenbury Ward)

Ward Budget 2024/25

This financial year, the District Councillor's ward budget has been increased to £1,000.00. If you know of a group or organisation seeking funding, please contact me for further information.

Food Waste Collection

There is a legal requirement for the District Council to introduce a weekly, household kerbside food waste collection service from April 2026 and non-household municipal premises food waste service from March 2025.

The District Council will be carrying out an exercise to identify the options and costs for the delivery of the service.

£75,000 has been allocated from the Priorities Reserve to support a 3-year campaign to include food waste reduction and the introduction of the weekly kerbside collection.

The Home Improvement Agency

The Home Improvement Agency service, known as the Promoting Independent Living (PIL) service in Worcestershire, is jointly commissioned by the six District Councils and the County Council to provide a range of services including Disabled Facilities Grants (DFG), Home Repairs Assistance, Dementia Dwelling Grants, minor adaptations and Hospital Discharge Grants, to help people to remain living independently in their homes.

The District Council has a mandatory duty to provide Disabled Facility Grants to eligible residents and may provide other discretionary assistance through its Housing Assistance Policy

At its meeting held on 25 June 2024, the Council recommissioned the Home Improvement Agency Service.

District Collaborative Wellbeing Plan 2024-2034

At its meeting on 18 June 2024, the Executive Committee endorsed the Malvern Hills District Collaborative Wellbeing Plan 2024-2034.

The District Council has come to an end with its 10-year Sport and Leisure Strategy, having made some significant achievements supporting health and wellbeing.

Moving forward the Council intend to work with health and strategic partners to transform our community and leisure facilities into community hubs for wellbeing.

The Malvern Hills District Collaborative Wellbeing Plan has for key priorities:

1. Work with health and strategic partners to transform the district council's community and leisure facilities into community hubs for wellbeing.
2. Support the expansion and growth of community hubs for wellbeing across the district.
3. Support health and wellbeing service to connect to each other and the local communities they serve.
4. Support local communities to enhance their own physical, mental health and financial wellbeing.

We have significant community assets within the district, including communities themselves. Within the district there are 48 village halls and community facilities, supported by 54 town and parish councils, over 100 sport clubs and 347 charities supporting physical, mental health and financial wellbeing of our residents. Communities can often do what large organisations cannot.

**Andrew Willmott
District Councillor
Tenbury Ward**

Appendix C

**Report on Items of Interest
1 July 2024**

Flood Defences, Tenbury Wells

The latest Environment Agency projections are for scheme completion in 2029/30 with a spend of £25 to £30 million and with a design build height 0.23 metres (9 inches) above the 2007 flood level. The need to pump flooding groundwater from within the barrier will be assessed by Highways afterwards.

Planning. MHDC

We await the results of the improvements introduced on 1 April. To date, planning officers are still advising of delays in responding.

Speeding

West Mercia Police have agreed to Operation Snap and the signs are up in the Rochford area and more recently we have added Hanley. Other communities are showing interest. An application to include Berrington Green is in process.

parkrun

A tentative course has been mapped out on Palmers Meadow in discussion with the Football Club. Volunteers are still being sought to run the regular events.

Teme Bridge

The recent evaluations by the Environment Agency on the Flood Relief Scheme include their moving the services currently buried in the Bridge pavements. This has lead to Highways' re-evaluation of whether the pavement areas actually can take vehicle weight, to date they have maintained not. This will have a knock-on effect on the viability of a footbridge.

Road Works

Roadworks methodology, how and when works are undertaken, is a local and national problem with roads closed and interrupted for long periods with no work being undertaken - for the convenience of those doing the work - to the inconvenience of those reliant on the road network. I have asked Government to bring forward legislation to redress the balance with adequate weight given to the disruptive costs of delays and trade disruption suffered by those that rely on the network.

Tenbury Pharmacy

Rowlands HQ has admitted to problems at the Tenbury Pharmacy. There has been patchy improvement. I will continue to press.

Neighbourhood Plan

New developments attract Section 106 and Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) contributions from developers. Under a suitably framed Tenbury / Burford Neighbourhood Plan (TBNP) and concomitant levy agreements, developments on the Shropshire side of the Teme, impacting on Tenbury, could have those development levies directed to Tenbury Town projects. A TBNP would also increase the CIL contribution retained for the locality.

(Source: MHDC Planning Policy)

We look forward to the next Tenbury Town Council vote on this matter.

Brown and White Road Signs

These signs make drivers aware of venues. The rules on siting these signs seem unduly restrictive in Worcestershire - to the relative detriment of our venues. I have written to all County Councillors who also sit as District Councillors in our area to lobby for change at the County Council. Only one response received.

TSB Closing

The Town's last bank is closing next May. I have pressed Government for a banking hub to replace it, similar to the one in Pershore. MHDC has also joined the push for a replacement banking facility in Tenbury.