

**Minutes of a Meeting of Wem Town Council held in the Roden Suite, Edinburgh House, New Street, Wem on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> August 2016 at 7 p.m.**

Present:-Councillors, R Dodd (Mayor), E Towers (Deputy Mayor), P Moyse, P Dee, M Meakin, C Shingler, P Johnson, P Broomhall and P Glover. Mrs Penny O’Hagan (Town Clerk).

2 members of the public present.

**62/16 To receive apologies and reasons for absence.**

**RESOLVED**:- to accept the following apologies for absence;

J Murray, D Boddy, C Mellings, K Bailey, C Granger

**63/16 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests.**

a) To receive any disclosure of pecuniary interest - Members are reminded that they must not participate in the discussion or voting on any matter in which they have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest and should leave the room prior to the commencement of the debate.

<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Dispensation</b>
Shropshire Councillor Cllr Dee	Twin-hatted members declared a personal interest in any matters relating to the Town Council’s relationship with Shropshire Council	Dispensation previously granted to allow participation and voting on all matters relating to Shropshire Council
Cllr Towers	Item 69/16, 77/16 - Director of Wem Swimming and Lifestyle Centre	Councillor allowed to participate but not vote in all discussions regarding this organisation
Cllr Moyse	Item 69/16, 77/16 – Trustee of Wem Swimming and Lifestyle Centre	

b) To consider any applications for Dispensations under s33 of the Localism Act 2011 – none received.

**64/16 Public Participation Time** a period of 15 minutes will be set aside for residents of Wem Town to speak.

Mr Edwards reported the following items

- There had been a raised manhole cover in Drawwell Walk and thanked Cllr Mellings for his action to get this problem sorted.
- Despite press reports to the contrary he reported that at the time of GHA coaches ceasing to operate there was no link between the company and RJ’s of Wem.
- There is still a need for yellow line parking restriction in Roden Grove from the Doctors Surgery to the main road and the Council needs to look at this issue again.

Mr Edwards also commented that he was concerned about the number of newer residents to the town complaining about Mill Street traffic and traffic throughout the town. He stated that he recognised the considerable amount of work that has been undertaken by the Town Council and Wem Economic Forum over a number of years in order to address this issue and felt it was unfair the amount of negative publicity that the Town Council was receiving on this issue.

Mrs Burton reported that the streetlights on Butler Road are still day burning.

**65/16 Council Minutes.**

To approve as a correct record the minutes of an ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2016.

Cllr Broomhall requested that minute point 52/16 be amended to state  
Cllr Broomhall proposed that the Town Council supported the application and comments that the Town Council is concerned that parking provision may be insufficient for 3 dwellings.

**RESOLVED:- that following the aforementioned amendment the Council approve the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Town Council held on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2016 as a correct record and they were duly signed by the Mayor.**

**66/16 Progress report** - To consider the Clerks progress report on matters arising at previous meetings.

The Clerk reported that since the agenda had been published a streetlight had been irreparably damaged by a vehicle and the Town Council was in the process of establishing who was responsible for the damage.

**RESOLVED:- to note.**

**67/16 Planning Applications.**

Meeting adjourned at 19.15 for 5 minutes for councillors to view planning applications.

**a)Planning Applications for consideration**

16/02689/FUL Lowerdale, Mill Street, Wem, SY4 5EX. Proposal: Erection of first floor rear extension.

**RESOLVED:- not to object to the application.**

16/03402/TPO The Plantation, Soulton Road, Wem, Shropshire. Proposal: Crown reduce 1No Copper Beech by a maximum of 1.5m over the driveway and reshape canopy and minor pruning of secondary branches to alleviate branch failure protected by The North Shropshire District Council (The Plantation, Soulton Road, Wem) TPO 1997

**RESOLVED:- not to object to the application.**

16/0147/REM 2 Summerfield Road, Wem, SY4 5BW. Reserved Matters pursuant to Outline permission reference 14/00247/OUT dated 27 June 2015 for the erection of one dwelling to include access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale. Amendments for the proposal received.

**RESOLVED**:- not to object to the application.

16/03596/TCA 1 Whitchurch Road, Wem, SY4 5AQ. Proposal: Fell 1no Cherry Tree within Wem Conservation Area.

**RESOLVED**:- not to object to the application.

**b) To note the recent planning decisions.**

**RESOLVED**:- to note.

**68/16 Finance and Accounts for Payment**

a) To approve monthly financial statement.

**RESOLVED**:- to approve.

b) To approve accounts for payment and payments made prior to meeting

**RESOLVED**:- to approve the following payments.

**Accounts paid prior to the meeting on 25.8.16**

Supplier	Service	Net	Vat	Gross	Chq number
Shropshire Council	Payroll July	6548.87	12.72	6561.59	DD
Barclays	Charges	8.33		8.33	DD
Viking	Stationery / stamps	84.18	5.84	90.02	106625
Healthmatic	Cleaning & Maintenance Services Public Toilets	787.50	157.50	945.00	106627
Arrol & Snell Ltd	Works to Wem War Memorial	240.00	48.00	288.00	106628
PG Skips	Cemetery bin emptying	32.44	6.49	38.93	106629
PG Skips	Recreation ground bin emptying	51.24	10.25	61.49	106629
PG Skips	Skip hire	69.00	13.80	82.80	106629
Severn Trent Water	Water Supply to Public Toilets	221.02		221.02	106630
E.on	Lighting Repairs	148.29	29.66	177.95	106632

E.on	Light removal Bailey Close Column Replacement Total	881.20 992.38	176.24 198.48	1057.44 1190.85 2248.30	106633
Healthmatic	Door and lock repair	578.00	115.60	693.60	106634
SALC	Training chairmanship	22.00		22.00	106635
Springhill Tree Management	Treeworks	902.00	184.00	1086.00	106636
Wem Carnival Committee	Reissued grant cheque	500.00		500.00	106637
Mark Fitton	Bus shelter cleaning August	45.00		45.00	106638
Talk Talk	Broadband	16.00	3.20	19.20	DD
Shropshire RCC	Hire of China for Mayor's Civic Service (Mayors Hospitality Account)	125.00	25.00	150.00	100184

#### **Accounts for authorisation**

**RESOLVED:-** to authorise the following payments.

<b>Supplier</b>	<b>Service</b>	<b>Net</b>	<b>Vat</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>Chq number</b>
NS Print	Townsman Certificate	38.00	7.60	45.60	106639
Healthmatic	Cleaning & Maintenance Services Public Toilets	787.50	157.50	945.00	106640
SLCC	Election training	15.00		15.00	106641
Severn Trent Water	Allotment / Cemetery water	187.13		187.13	106642
West Mercia Energy	Toilet energy	30.46	1.52	31.98	No payment account in credit

#### **69/16 Swimming and Lifestyle Centre Liaison Group meeting 22.8.16.**

a) **Minutes** - To approve these minutes and recommendations contained therein. Cllr Dodd presented a report of the meeting.

**RESOLVED:-** to approve the minutes of the Swimming and Lifestyle Group meeting held on 22.8.16.

**70/16 Transfer of Services** – to receive a verbal report following a meeting of the working party.

The Clerk outlined the findings of the recent meeting. A discussion took place on the need to use the expertise of the existing staff of the library in order to establish a viable and cost effective future for the service in the town.

In addition to this Councillors were supportive of the group's suggestion that the Town Council undertakes a consultation with residents to establish that

- The service in its current form is wanted by residents.
- The residents are prepared to increase their precept to keep the facility.

**RESOLVED**:-that the working party be asked to meet with the branch manager of Wem Library to discuss future options for the library.

**71/16 Tree Works**

a) To approve quote received from Springhill Tree Management for cutting Cemetery Hedge.

**RESOLVED**:- to approve the quote submitted.

b) To receive update on works to trees identified in the tree survey and other works identified following the survey.

It was reported that all works had been completed with the exception of the removal of the silver birch tree on Wem Recreation Ground. The Town Clerk informed the council that upon further inspection of the silver birch by the Groundsman and the contractor it was felt that as the tree was a significant feature on the recreation ground and not currently showing signs of disease it would be a better course of action to reduce the tree and monitor the tree on a weekly basis for any signs of deterioration.

**RESOLVED**:- approve.

**72/16 Correspondence** – to consider the following items of correspondence (copies enclosed).

Susan Griffiths - To consider letter asking that the Town Council requests that the new flexible bollards adjacent to the Church Wall are replaced with traditional bollards. The Mayor reported that Shropshire Council's opinion on this request was that the council considers that the reboundable bollards are suitable for the location as they still provide some protection, but do not rip up the highway if they are hit, which is an expensive and difficult repair

**RESOLVED**:- not to support the request.

Sue Holliday – To consider letter alerting the Town Council to the problems associated with HGV's using Park Road and Shrubbery Gardens as a means of access.

**RESOLVED**:- to respond that the Town Council supports the concerns raised and that this issue will be raised as a road safety concern with Shropshire Council.

**73/16 Social Media** - to consider the adoption of a social media management policy.

**RESOLVED**:- to adopt the policy.

**74/16 Reports**

a) To receive reports from the Council's representatives to other bodies.

Cllr Meakin reported that carnival was fast approaching and volunteer marshals are needed to help on the day.

Cllr Broomhall reported that he had attended the Wem Christmas Lights meeting and that plans were progressing well for the event.

b) To receive a report from Shropshire Council Councillors Mellings and Dee.

Cllr Dee reported that she has received a complaint about disabled access into the toilets being difficult with the new charging system.

**75/16 Information/future agenda items –**

Cllr Towers requested that the condition of Drawwell Walk be discussed at a future meeting. It was reported that this issue may be better discussed at a Team Wem meeting.

**76/16 Dates of future meetings –** To note date of September meeting.

**RESOLVED**:- to note that the September meeting will be held on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2016.

**77/16 Exclusion of press and public**

To resolve: That in accordance with s1(2) Public Bodies (Admission of Meetings) Act 1960, members of the public and press be excluded from the remainder of the meeting on the grounds that the following items to be considered involves the likely disclosure of confidential information.

**RESOLVED**:-to exclude the press and public

**Swimming Pool Lease –** To consider schedule of dilapidations and comments received from Wem Swimming and Lifestyle Centre concerning the draft lease with the Town Council.

The solicitor's response to Wem Swimming and Lifestyles Centres comments were considered and it was reported that Cllr Broomhall and Cllr Dodd had visited the pool to inspect the items raised in the schedule of dilapidations.

**RESOLVED TO:-**

- Accept the items included in the schedule of dilapidations.
- Agree to the removal of clause 2.2 however the Clerk was asked to clarify the situation with the Town Council's solicitor relating to who would be responsible for insuring the extension when built.
- To approve the lease term as 25 years.
- That the Town Council will not take responsibility for registering the lease as this is to be carried out by the tenant.

A further discussion took place on the need for a full inspection of the filter system of the pool and it was reported that the centre manager would be obtaining quotes for the inspections. In addition to this the Town Council was made aware of other non-urgent plant issues that would require further investigation including a faulty skimmer unit and a suspected minor leak.

Meeting ended 20.30

Mayor.....