

**Minutes of a Meeting of Wem Town Council held in the Roden Suite, Edinburgh House, New Street, Wem on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2016 at 7 p.m.**

Present:-Councillors, R Dodd (Mayor), E Towers (Deputy Mayor), P Moyse, P Dee, M Meakin, P Johnson, P Broomhall, P Glover, J Murray, D Boddy, C Mellings, K Bailey, C Granger.  
Mrs Penny O'Hagan (Town Clerk).

1 member of the public present.

Rev. Neil Adams said prayers before the start of the meeting.

Kelly Oldham from Shropshire Council gave a presentation at the start of the meeting to update the Council on the Integrated Community Management Project taking place in Wem. She gave a background on the history behind Integrated Community Management and highlighted the work of the Team Shrewsbury project which has been very successful in tackling local issues. The project has now extended to new areas including Wem and Shifnal and is funded by the Police and Crime Commissioner and Shropshire Council with a full time staff member covering each area. The Wem area covers the local neighbourhood policing area and incorporates Wem Rural Parish as well. It was outlined that there is a need for a flexible approach to the project as it is intelligence led and relies on information from the public and other agencies. The aim of the project is to engage with the community and statutory agencies through a range of methods to identify issues and seek solutions to problems using a multi agency approach. It was reported that a survey has recently been carried out with the community of Wem and it is anticipated that the project will start to tackle issues raised from this research.

**78/16 To receive apologies and reasons for absence.**

**RESOLVED**:- to accept the following apology for absence;  
**C. Shingler.**

**79/16 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, Cllr Mellings	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, Cllr Mellings	Item – 92/16 Directors of Wem Swimming and Lifestyle Centre	Councillors allowed to participate but not vote in all discussions regarding this organisation
Cllr Moyse	Item 92/16 – Trustee of Wem	

	Swimming and Lifestyle Centre	
Cllr Boddy	Item 86/16 Amenities and Services Committee – Cemetery Noticeboard.	
Cllr Dee, Cllr Dodd, Cllr Mellings	Item 88/16 Vice Presidents Wem Jubilee Band.	
Cllr Murray	Item 83/16 Wellgate planning 16/00639/OUT Item 86/16 Amenities and Services committee – floral display.	
Cllr Meakin	Item 83/16 16/03783/FUL - 3 Station Road.	

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

**80/16 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

- Mill Street Scaffolding - The erection of scaffolding around a property in Mill Street on a Saturday morning caused disruption to pedestrians as they had to walk in the road which was extremely dangerous. Mr Edwards stated that work of this nature should have been carried out on a Sunday to minimise disruption.
- The footpath linking Harris Croft to the railway footbridge is very well used and needs a much better surface especially near the kissing gate.
- Civic Service – Mr Edwards stated that it was disappointing that a number of the invited guests to the Civic Service did not respond to their invitations making it difficult to plan seating in the Chapel. He was of the opinion that this lack of response was bad manners and needs addressing.
- 10 Wellgate planning application 16/00639/OUT Mr Edwards reported that he had sent maps and pictures relating to the planning application to Shropshire Council which highlighted the poor access to the proposed site and sewage issues.

**81/16 Council Minutes.**

To approve as a correct record the minutes of an ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 25<sup>th</sup> August 2016.

**RESOLVED:- to approve the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Town Council held on 25<sup>th</sup> August 2016 as a correct record and they were duly signed by the Mayor.**

**82/16 Progress report** - To consider the Clerks progress report on matters arising at previous meetings.

Questions were asked about why some of the CCTV cameras were still not working and The Clerk was asked to seek an update from the contractor on outstanding works needed to ensure the cameras are all working.

Cllr Moyse updated on the outcome of the Everybody Active Everyday voting which had been very successful.

**RESOLVED:-to note the report.**

## **83/16 Planning Applications.**

### **a) Planning Applications for consideration**

Meeting adjourned for 5 minutes at 19.35 to enable the councillors to view the plans.

Reconsultation due to Amendment on application 16/00639/OUT Outline application (all matters reserved) for the erection of 2 no. dwellings | Proposed Residential Development Land Adjacent 10 Wellgate Wem Shropshire.

Cllr Murray left the room and took no part in discussions.

**RESOLVED:- not to add any further comments.**

Reconsultation due to Amendment on application 16/00994/FUL - Roseville Proposal: Erection of one building to comprise four apartments for supported living for adults with learning difficulties and one staff bedroom.

**RESOLVED:- not to comment.**

16/03984/TCA Islington House, 79 New Street, Wem, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY4 5AF: To crown reduce 1 No. Conifer Tree by 2m, fell 6 No Conifer Trees, Pollard 1 No Willow Tree to 7m and fell 1 No Holly Tree within Wem Conservation Area.

**RESOLVED:- not to object.**

16/03775/FUL : 86 Trentham Road, Wem, SY4 5HW, Proposal: Erection of a single storey extension and associated works.

**RESOLVED:- not to object.**

16/03847/FUL: Land Adj. Islington House, 79 New Street, Wem, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY4 5AF Proposal: Erection of two detached garages/stores to serve converted outbuilding and new dwelling.

**RESOLVED:- not to object.**

16/03783/FUL - 3 Station Road, Wem : Application under Section 73a of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for formation of vehicle access to rear garden and installation of gates to a height of 1.8m (part retrospective).

Cllr Meakin left the room and took no part in discussions.

**RESOLVED:- not to object.**

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

**RESOLVED:-to note**

## **84/16 Finance and Accounts for Payment**

a) To approve monthly financial statement and 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter budget report

**RESOLVED:- to approve the monthly financial statement and budget report.**

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 29.9.16**

Supplier	Service	Net	Vat	Gross	Chq number
Shropshire Council	Payroll August	6639.13	12.72	6651.85	DD
Barclays	Charges	8.33		8.33	DD
PWLB	Street lighting loan	2405.63		2405.63	DD
Talk Talk	Broadband	16.00	3.20	19.20	DD

**Accounts for authorisation**

Supplier	Service	Net	Vat	Gross	BACS No
West Mercia Energy	Toilets electricity July	30.46	1.52	31.98	BACS1
Mazars	External Audit	800.00	160.00	960.00	BACS2
West Mercia Energy	Toilets electricity June	30.10	1.51	31.61	BACS3
E.ON	Streetlight emergency call out	264.00	52.80	316.80	BACS4
Severn Business Solutions	Computer repairs / software renewals	149.40	29.88	179.28	BACS5
PG Skips	Cemetery bin emptying	40.55	8.11	48.66	BACS6
PG Skips	Recreation ground bin emptying	64.05	12.81	76.86	BACS7
Ricoh	Copier hire and usage	170.81	34.16	204.97	BACS8
Shropshire Council	Street light energy 1.4.16- 30.6.16	2830.25	566.05	3396.30	BACS9
Viking	Stationery / stamps	57.90	00.58	58.48	BACS10
PG Skips	Skip hire	69.00	13.80	82.80	BACS11
D. Murray	Floral Planters watering and maintenance	2080.00		2080.00	BACS12
West Mercia Energy	Toilets electricity August	18.94	00.95	19.89	BACS13
					<b>Chq number</b>

Mark Fitton	Bus shelter cleaning September	45.00		45.00	300001
Via Della Emilia Ltd	Hedge cutting cemetery hedge	452.00	90.40	542.40	300002
Healthmatic Ltd	Sept Toilet Cleaning Outstanding from Aug Invoice Total	787.50	157.50	945.00 00.60 945.60	300003
Unity Bank	Charges 27.7-3.9	18.15		18.15	DD

**85/16 Finance and Corporate Governance Committee meeting 13.9.16.**

a) **Minutes** - To approve these minutes and recommendations contained therein.

Cllr Mellings updated the meeting in relation to the recommendations contained in the minutes and reported that clarification had been received on standing order 18av and 18c and it was recommended that threshold should remain at £60000.

**RESOLVED:- to approve the minutes and recommendations contained therein.**

**86/16 Amenities and Services Committee meeting 27.9.16.**

Cllr Boddy and Cllr Murray left the room and took no part in discussions.

a) **Minutes** - To approve these minutes and recommendations contained therein

Cllr Mellings presented the recommendations contained within the minutes. A discussion took place and The Clerk was asked to write to The Fox, The White Lion and The Castle Public Houses to thank them for their fantastic floral displays over the summer.

Cllr Meakin also raised the issue that friends of Whitchurch Road cemetery were concerned about non compostable material being put in compost bins in the cemetery.

**RESOLVED:- to approve the minutes and recommendations contained therein.**

**87/16 SP energy network formal response** - To agree a response to SP Energy Network's consultation on the proposed reinforcement to the North Shropshire Electricity Distribution Network.

**RESOLVED:- to support the proposed route and use of the wooden poles.**

**88/16 Correspondence** – to consider the following items of correspondence (copies enclosed)

**Wem Rotary Purple 4 Polio Campaign** - To consider request to plant crocus bulbs in areas of open space in Wem.

A discussion took place and it was suggested that crocus bulbs could be planted along the fence line in the cemetery as well as areas of the Recreation Ground and

The Wheatfields Open Space.

**RESOLVED**:- to agree to the planting of crocus bulbs on Town Council owned open space following discussions with Wem Sports and Social Association and the Groundsman as to the most appropriate locations.

**Wem Jubilee Band** - To consider request for funding.

Cllrs Dee, Dodd and Mellings left the room and took no part in discussion.

**RESOLVED**:- to defer to the January meeting of the Town Council when all applications for funding are to be considered.

**Church Stretton Town Council** – to consider letter from Church Stretton TC relating to the transfer of assets and services from Shropshire Council to Town and Parish Councils.

**RESOLVED**:-to note the letter.

**John Hand** - to consider questions raised in emails of 14.9.16 and 20.8.16 relating to a variety of road safety concerns in the town.

The questions raised in emails sent by Mr Hand were considered and a discussion took place on the need for better speed enforcement measures in the Town particularly Mill Street.

- **HGV Survey** Cllr Mellings reported that the results of the HGV survey had been held up which was due to the complex nature of the analysis of the data collected. However it was anticipated that the results would be available in Mid-October.
- **Site Meeting** Cllr Mellings reported that despite several requests for a meeting he had not received a response from council officers and had now contacted the Director of Highways for Shropshire about this matter as the lack of response was unacceptable.
- **Public Meeting** Councillors stated that they were in support of the holding of a public meeting to discuss traffic issues and had already stated this in correspondence sent to Shropshire Council in July. However as the Town Council is not a Highway Authority and has no responsibility for Highways, Councillors felt that the organisation of a meeting to discuss Highways concerns in the town should be the responsibility of Shropshire Council as a Highways Authority to organise.
- **Community Speedwatch** - The Clerk reported that the Safer Roads Partnership had identified that Pyms Road, Souldon Road and Whitchurch Road had all been deemed suitable locations for a community speed watch project and that data was now being collected on the three locations. Unfortunately, due to a lack of safe standing areas for volunteers Mill Street, Ellesmere Road and Lowe Hill Road were unsuitable locations. However, the Safer Roads Partnership was willing to supply wheelie bin stickers to residents of Mill Street which have worked very effectively in other areas. Councillors discussed the need for a vehicle activated sign along Mill Street to slow traffic down in addition to this Councillors questioned whether Mill Street would be a suitable location for specialist traffic lights similar to the lights recently installed in Much Wenlock.

**RESOLVED:- to respond to Mr Hand to update him on the situation regarding the issues raised in his emails and to contact Shropshire Council to request that a vehicle activated sign is installed on Mill Street.**

#### **89/16 Reports**

a) To receive reports from the Council's representatives to other bodies. Reports were received from the following Councillors

- Cllr Granger attend NSALC meeting which included a presentation on the transfer of local services, fibre broadband and emergency medicine provision in the county.
- Cllr Broomhall attended a Christmas Lights Committee and reported that plans are underway for this year's event.
- Cllr Dee attended a Town and Parish Council's forum on the transfer of services and highlighted the need for the council to respond to the draft proposals relating to precept capping for Town and Parish Councils.
- Cllr Towers, Boddy and Meakin attended Friends of Whitchurch Road Cemetery meeting and reported that a number of working days are planned to tidy the cemetery in the Autumn.
- Cllr Meakin and Cllr Dee attended the retirement of Andrew Cross the Town Council's solicitor.
- Cllr Mellings reported that the War Memorial Group had put on an exhibition in the Town Hall on the plans for the war memorial which were very impressive.

b) To receive a report from Shropshire Council Councillors Mellings and Dee. Cllr Mellings thanked Councillors for attending the Energy Recovery Facility site visit and hoped that they found the visit informative. He reported that he had set up a meeting with Morris Homes to discuss the surfacing of Isherwoods Way.

#### **90/16 Information/future agenda items – for consideration.**

**RESOLVED:- to add the following items to future agenda's for further discussions**

**Floral Display Competition**

**Town Council Grant Application Review**

**Integrated Community Management Project**

#### **91/16 Dates of future meetings – To note date of October meeting and set date for December meeting.**

**RESOLVED:- to note the date of the October meeting as 27.10.16.**

**FURTHER RESOLVED:- to set the date of the December meeting as Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2016.**

#### **92/16 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 –**

a) Pool insurance – Following advice from the Council’s solicitor to receive a verbal report from the Town Clerk on the implications of removing Clause 2.2 from the proposed lease.

**RESOLVED**:- that Clause 2.2 relating to the payment of the insurance for the Swimming Pool be retained and that the Town Council would be willing to issue a letter stating that it would commit to paying the insurance of the existing building for the term of the lease.

b) To approve 2<sup>nd</sup> draft lease.

**RESOLVED**:- to approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> draft lease.

Meeting ended 21.30

Mayor.....