

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Wem Town Council held on Thursday 14th December 2017 at 7 p.m in the Roden Suite, Edinburgh House, New Street, Wem.**

**Present:-** Councillor E Towers (Mayor) Councillors, P Dee, P Glover, C Granger, P Johnson, M Meakin, C Mellings, P Moyse, J Murray and G Nash.  
Mrs P O'Hagan (Town Clerk)

Cllr Towers invited the Mayor's Chaplain Colin Jones to say prayers at the start of the meeting.  
4 members of the public present.

**139/17 To receive apologies for absence.**

**RESOLVED:- to receive the following apologies for absence**

P Broomhall, P White, R Dodd, C Shingler.

**140/17 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests.**

a) To receive any disclosures 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.

The following interests were declared.

<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Dispensation</b>
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 to allow participation and voting on all matters relating to Shropshire Council
Cllr Towers, Cllr Mellings	Item 147/17 Board members Wem Swimming and Lifestyle Centre	Dispensation to allow participation but not voting on all matters relating to Wem Swimming and Lifestyle Centre
Cllr Moyse	Item 147/17 Board member Wem Swimming and Lifestyle Centre	

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

**141/17 Public Participation Time** - a period of 15 minutes will be set aside for residents of Wem Town to speak.

Mr Edwards stated that he was concerned about Shropshire Council's plans to purchase the shopping centres in Shrewsbury and to renovate Shire Hall. He questioned where the money is going to come from for this amount of expenditure?

Mr Edwards and Mrs Burton thanked the Council and its staff for its work over the past year.

**142/17 Council Minutes.**

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2017.

**RESOLVED:-** that the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Town Council held on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2017 be approved as a correct record and were duly signed by the Mayor.

**143/17 Progress report** - To note the Clerks progress report on matters arising at previous meeting.

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

**144/17 Planning Applications.****a) Planning Applications for consideration**

17/05550/FUL 1 Cordwell Villas, Aston Road, Wem, SY4 5JE, Proposal: Erection of 1 no dwelling and associated works

**RESOLVED:-** to support the application.

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

**RESOLVED:-** to note.

**145/17 Finance and Accounts for Payment**

a) To approve accounts for payment and any payments made prior to meeting.

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

**Payments made prior to the meeting**

Supplier	Service	Net	Vat	Gross	Chq / Bacs No.
Shropshire Council	Payroll			6362.24	DD

**Payments for approval**

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

Supplier	Service	Net	Vat	Gross	Chq/ Bacs No.
Healthmatic	Cleaning and Maintenance Public Toilets December	787.50	157.50	945.00	116.17
PG Skips	Rec. bin emptying	64.05	12.81	76.86	117.17
	Cemetery bin emptying	40.55	8.11	48.66	
	Skip x 2	140.00	28.00	168.00	
	Total to pay	244.60	48.92	293.52	
E.on	Streetlight repairs	203.19	40.64	243.83	118.17
Mark Fitton	Cleaning of Bus Shelters Dec	45.00		45.00	119.17

Unity Bank	Bank charges to 31.12.17	28.65		28.65	DD
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**146/17 Amenities and Services Committee 13.12.17** To receive these minutes and approve the recommendations contained therein.

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

**147/17 Wem Swimming and Lifestyle Centre Liaison Group Meeting 13.12.17** - To receive these minutes.

**RESOLVED:- to receive these minutes.**

**148/17 Wem Economic Forum** – for update on AGM held 11.12.17 – meeting cancelled to be rescheduled in January 2018.

**149/17 Wem Commercial Generation** – to discuss holding of brain storming session on this subject.

Cllr Nash presented this item and outlined his thoughts on the need to work with businesses to encourage the empty shops on the High Street to be bought back into use which would in turn improve the Towns economy. He suggested that Councillors organised a briefing session in February to explore his ideas in more detail.

**RESOLVED:- to hold a briefing session in Mid February to discuss this proposal in more detail.**

**150/17 Wem Emergency Plan** – for discussion (at request of Cllr Dee)

Cllr Dee reported that officers from Shropshire Council are willing to come to a Town Council meeting to discuss the Emergency Plan. Following a discussion it was felt that the time would be more productively spent if an officer from the Emergency Planning Team was invited to an informal meeting with Town Councillors to discuss the work of the team and review the existing plan.

**RESOLVED:- to invite a representative of the Emergency Planning Team to a briefing session later in 2018.**

**151/17 Councillor Training Plan** – to consider adoption of training statement of intent and evaluation form.

**RESOLVED:- to adopt the training statement of intent and evaluation form.**

**152/17 Correspondence** – to consider the following items of correspondence

a) Email concerning the Local Plan Review Survey.

Councillors stated the purpose of the survey was to seek the views of the residents on the amount of development in the Town prior to submitting a formal response to the first stage of Shropshire Council's Local Plan Review and that there was no hidden agenda in the survey. It was also stated that the Town Council had no knowledge of the survey Wem Rural Parish Council had created for it's residents until after it had been published.

**RESOLVED:- to authorise the Clerk in discussion with the Mayor to respond to the correspondent outlining the reasons for the survey.**

b) Email concerning Christmas Festival.

**RESOLVED:- to receive the email.**

**153/17 Reports**

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

None received

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

None received. Cllr Mellings stated he would be circulating a report via email before Christmas.

**154/17 Future agenda items – for consideration - none raised**

**155/17 Dates of future meetings – to note the date of the January meeting**

**RESOLVED:- to note that the next meeting of the Town Council would be on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January and that this would be the budget meeting of the Town Council.**

**156/17 Exclusion of Public and Press**

To resolve that as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and press be excluded from the meeting in accordance with Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

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

**a) Staff Appraisals -** It was reported that the staff appraisals for the Groundsman and Assistant Clerk had been completed.

**RESOLVED:- to note.**

**b) Probationary period**

**RESOLVED:- to approve the end of the probation period for the Town Council's litter picker.**

**Meeting ended 20.15**

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**Mayor**