

Minutes of the Meeting of Wem Town Council held on Thursday 25th January 2018 at 7 p.m.in the Roden Suite, Edinburgh House, New Street, Wem

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

5 members of the public present.

Inspector Tracy Ryan attended the meeting and gave an update of her role within Wem Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT). Inspector Ryan stated that she was responsible for a number of towns including Wem, Ellesmere, Whitchurch, Oswestry and Market Drayton. She outlined that it was imperative that local people worked with the police to make them aware of any issues within the town and urged Councillors and members of the public to report any incidents as the police rely on this information to make successful prosecution cases. She reported that the Police Authority is currently exploring options for the best possible location of the Police Station in the town and it may be that the station is relocated to enable it to share a building with another organisation in the town and reduce overhead costs. A question was asked about budget cuts and whether they would affect the Safer Neighbourhood team. Inspector Ryan responded that the budget for SNT was ring fenced and they were currently looking to recruit a new Community Service Officer to work in the town.

163/18 To receive apologies for absence.

**Resolved:- to accept the following apologies for absence
Cllr Dee, Cllr Granger, Cllr Glover, Cllr White, Cllr Shingler**

164/18 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.

Councillor	Item	Dispensation
Cllr Mellings	Twin-hatted member 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 180/18 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 180/18 Board member Wem Swimming and Lifestyle Centre	

b) To consider any applications for Dispensations under s33 of the Localism Act 2011.

Cllr Towers requested a dispensation to discuss but not vote on matters relating to Wem Sports and Social Association.

Resolved:- to award a dispensation to Councillor E. Towers for the term of the Council, to discuss but not vote on matters relating to Wem Sports and Social Association.

165/18 Public Participation Time - a period of 15 minutes will be set aside for residents of Wem Town to speak.

Mr Edwards raised the following objections to the reconsultation on planning application 17/01924/FUL:-

- The planning papers submitted as part of the application are poorly presented and there is no mention about how water is going to be piped through to Mill Dam Cottage.
- The development will obstruct access to adjacent properties for residents and emergency vehicles.
- The proposed car park provision is too small for a development of this nature.

Mr Edwards also commented that various applications have been submitted for this parcel of land over the last 12 years all of which had been refused.

Mr Boddy agreed with Mr Edward's objection to the reconsultation on planning application 17/01924/FUL and stated that due to the type of ground it had cost a fortune to prepare the foundations on previous developments in the area resulting in them being financially unviable.

166/18 Council Minutes.

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 14th December 2017 and Budget Meeting Minutes held on 16th January.

RESOLVED:- that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 14th December 2017 be approved as a correct record and were duly signed by the Mayor.

FURTHER RESOLVED:- that the minutes of the Special Meeting of the Town Council held on 16th January 2018 be approved as a correct record and were duly signed by the Mayor.

167/18 Progress report - To note the Clerks progress report on matters arising at previous meetings.

RESOLVED:- to note the report.

168/18 Planning Applications.

a)Planning Applications for consideration

i) Reconsultation due to amendment on application 17/01924/FUL - Land Off Mill Street; Proposal: Erection of two blocks of residential care home comprising 50.no units with communal facilities.

RESOLVED:- to submit the following comments

The Town Council considers that the reports provided as part of this re-consultation are poorly produced and images provided are misleading as they do not portray an accurate depiction of Mill Street.

The Town Council strongly objects to the use of piling in this development as they consider that due to the ground conditions it is unsuitable and would destroy the below ground archaeology of this area. Any development (if approved) should be constructed on rafts.

There is no need for additional capacity for elderly housing in the town especially as the Westlands site is currently being redeveloped for this purpose.

The proposals will impact detrimentally on neighbouring properties and there is insufficient parking identified in the proposals for a development of this nature.

The Town Council therefore will not amend or withdraw any of the objections previously submitted as part of this application as the Town Council considers that this development is completely inappropriate for the town. In addition to this the Town Council wishes to question why Shropshire Council is still accepting planning applications on this piece of ground as all previous applications have been refused both by the Council and the Planning Inspectorate at appeal.

Given the concerns about development in this part of Wem, as part of the SAMDEV process the development boundary was re-drawn to protect this area of land from future development.

This is a valuable green wedge into the townscape which enhances the town and would be destroyed by this inappropriate development which does not conform with the Council's Core Strategy Policies.

ii) 17/06127/VAR Thomas Adams School, Lowe Hill Road, Wem, Shropshire, SY4 5UB

Proposal: Variation of Condition No.1 attached to permission CC2007/0024 dated 21/12/2007 to allow for the retention of the demountable accommodation for a further temporary period of ten years.

RESOLVED:- to support the application.

b) To note the recent planning decisions.

RESOLVED:- to note.

c) Planning Correspondence

To consider request received from Berrys to present proposals for development land in the town to the Town Council.

RESOLVED:- to respond that the Town Council would be willing to hear representations from agents and landowners once the consultation period on the sites put forward for potential development in Wem has started.

169/18 Finance and Accounts for Payment

a) To consider monthly financial statement and monthly budget report.
The Clerk presented the monthly financial statement and monthly budget report

RESOLVED:- to note.

b) 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	BACS/ Chq No
Shropshire Council	Payroll			6465.78	DD
Unity	Bank charges to 31.12.17			28.65	DD
BT	Telephone	62.04	12.41	74..45	DD

Payments for approval

RESOLVED:- to approve the following payments

Supplier	Service	Net	Vat	Gross	BACS/ Chq No
E.on	Lighting contract	1800.97	360.19	2161.16	121.17
	Streetlight repairs	246.20	49.24	295.44	122.17
	owed from previous bills			0.04	
	Total			2456.64	
Viking	supplies	34.41	6.88	41.29	123.17
Friends of Wem Swimming and Lifestyle Centre	Contribution 1/3	14500.00		14500.00	124.17
Ricoh	Rent & charges	175.19	35.04	210.23	125.17
PG Skips	Recreation bin emptying	51.24	10.25	61.49	126.17
	Cemetery bin emptying	32.44	6.49	38.93	
	Total to pay			100.42	
Hunter Lloyd	Office equipment PAT testing	52.50	10.50	63.00	127.17
Shropshire Council	Office rent and service charge	1525.00		1525.00	128.17
Healthmatic	Cleaning Public Toilets January	787.50	157.50	945.00	129.17
Mark Fitton	Cleaning of Bus Shelters January	65.00		65.00	130.17
West Mercia Energy	Toilets electricity December	64.91	3.25	68.16	131.17
ORP	Maintenance Contract 1.9.17-31.8.18	1897.50	379.50	2277.00	132.17

Viking	Stamps and paper	88.88	6.58	95.46	133.17
Wem Youth Club	Contribution	1000.00		1000.00	300060

170/18 Planning and Transport Committee Meeting 18.12.17 To receive these minutes.

RESOLVED:- to receive these minutes.

171/18 Finance and Corporate Governance Committee Meeting 4.1.18 To receive these minutes and approve the recommendations contained therein.

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

172/18 Wem Economic Forum – for update on AGM held 11.1.18.
Cllr Towers gave a report on this meeting and outlined that the amended terms of reference have been adopted.

RESOLVED:- to note.

173/18 Relief Road – To receive update on meeting held with Owen Paterson MP on 12.1.18.
Cllr Towers gave a report on this meeting which he felt had been very productive.

RESOLVED:- to note the report.

174/18 Floral Planter – to consider quotes received for purchase of 2 x 3 tiered planters.

RESOLVED:- to approve the quote of £657.50 for the purchase of 2 x 3 tiered planters.

175/18 Town Council Drop in surgeries – to consider format and agree date and location of first session.
The Clerk presented the report outlining suggestions of dates and locations for surgeries.
A discussion took place on the need to develop a Town Council leaflet that could be distributed to people attending the drop ins. It was also commented that Councillors in attendance should report back any comments to the office as well as providing a formal report at the Town Council meeting.

RESOLVED:- to approve the plans to hold 10 Councillor drop in sessions per year and to authorise the Clerk to book the locations as suggested in the report and to develop a Town Council information leaflet to be printed in house.

176/18 Correspondence – to consider the following items of correspondence
a) SALC Invitation - to consider submitting a nomination for the current Mayor to attend the Buckingham Palace Garden Party.

RESOLVED:- to approve the nomination submission.

177/18 Reports

a) To receive reports from the Council's representatives to other bodies.
A written report was circulated from Cllr Broomhall (Wem Christmas Lights Festival and Cllr Dodd (Wem Town Hall).
Cllr Towers gave a verbal report of the friends of Whitchurch Road Cemetery meeting he attended in January.

RESOLVED:- to note the reports.

b) To receive a report from Shropshire Council Councillors Mellings.
A written report from Cllr Mellings was presented and it was

RESOLVED:- to note the report.

178/18 Future agenda items – for consideration.

Street cleansing including Dog Fouling
Jubilee Board condition.

179/18 Dates of future meetings – to note the date of the February meeting.

RESOLVED:- to note that the February meeting would be held on Thursday 22nd February.

180/18 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) To consider draft deed of variation of Wem Swimming and Lifestyle Centre lease

RESOLVED:- to approve.

b) To consider draft licence for alterations to Wem Swimming and Lifestyle Centre
a discussion took place and it was

RESOLVED:- to approve.

c) Insurance Claim – to update Council on findings of the solicitor.
The Clerk provided a verbal report on the outcome of the claim against the Council.

RESOLVED:- to note.

Meeting ended 21.00

Town Mayor.....