Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Wem Town Council held on Thursday 19th December 2019 at 7 p.m.in the Roden Suite, Edinburgh House, New Street, Wem.

Present:- Councillor P Glover (Mayor), Councillors, P Broomhall, P Dee, R Dodd,

R Drummond, C Granger, P Johnson, M Meakin***,*** C Mellings, J Murray, G Nash,

E Towers, G Soul

Mrs P O’Hagan (Town Clerk)

4 Members of public present

Rev Heron said prayers before the start of the meeting

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| **123/19** | **To receive apologies for absence.**  **RESOLVED:- to accept the following apology for absence**  Cllr Edge |
| **124/19** | **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 Dee And Cllr Mellings | Twin-hatted members declared a personal interest in any matters relating to the Town Council’s relationship with Shropshire Council | Dispensations to allow participation and voting on all matters relating to Shropshire Council |   b) To consider any applications for Dispensations under s33 of the Localism Act 2011 - None received |
| **125/19** | **Public Participation Time** - a period of 15 minutes will be set aside for residents of Wem Town to speak.  A member of the community raised the following items   * Development off Lowe Hill Road – The Town Council should consider requesting that when the proposals become a planning application the entrance to the development off Lowe Hill Road should be one way with an exit from the development being created onto the Ellesmere Road. * Mill Street Traffic Survey – Thank you to Cllr Johnson for tidying up the mess left by the traffic survey. * New houses on Mill Street - The old gates are starting to look a mess and attracting litter, could these be tidied up please.   A representative from Wem Civic Society reported that the strategic review of the library service is causing concerns as local people are worried about the future of the library and what will happen to the building when the lease finishes. It was suggested that the library could relocate to one of the empty buildings in the High Street. |
| **126/19** | **Council Minutes**.  To approve as a correct record the minutes of the ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 28th November 2019.  **RESOLVED:- that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 28th November 2019 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.** |
| **127/19** | **Progress report**  a) To consider the Clerks progress report on matters arising at previous meetings.  **RESOLVED:- to note the report**. |
| **128/19** | **Planning Applications**  a) To note the recent planning decisions.  The Clerk updated on decisions made since the report had been issued.  **RESOLVED:- to note the report**.  b) To consider the following planning application  i) 19/05334/TCA - 24 Noble Street, Wem, SY4 5DZ Proposal: Remove one damaged stem of 1no twin-stemmed beech within Wem Conservation area.  **RESOLVED:- not to object.**  ii) 19/05244/ADV - Hawkins Motors, High Street, Wem, SY4 5DS Proposal: Erect and display 1No. illuminated free standing sign and 1No. replacement vinyl for dealer name and service sign.  **RESOLVED:- not to comment.**  iii) 19/05165/LBC - 3 Chapel Street, Wem, SY4 5ER Proposal: Various internal alterations, including work to cellar, replacement windows on rear elevation, new grille to air con unit to front elevation and extractor vent to rear elevation.  **RESOLVED:- not to comment.**  c) Planning correspondence - to consider.  **RESOLVED:- to note the correspondence and to hold the comments on file until a planning application is submitted for the land off Lowe Hill Road.** |
| **129/19** | **Finance and Accounts for Payment**  a) To consider monthly financial statement and monthly budget report.  **RESOLVED:- to note the report.**  b) To approve accounts for payment and any payments made prior to meeting.  **RESOLVED:- to approve the following payments**  **Payments Made before meeting**   |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Supplier** | **Service** | **Net** | **Vat** | **Gross** | **Chq / BACS No** | | Shropshire Council | November salaries | 7551.74 |  | 7551.74 | 120.19 |   **RESOLVED:- to approve the following payments**  **Payments for approval**   |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Supplier** | **Service** | **Net** | **Vat** | **Gross** | **Chq / BACS No** | | Rialtas | Omega Software Annual Support | 255.00 | 51.00 | 306.00 | 121.19 | | Severn Business Solutions | Installation and Associated Works Assistant Clerks PC | 835.25 | 167.05 | 1002.30 | 122.19 | | PG Skips | Cemetery Bin November  Recreation Ground Bin Emptying November  Total | 33.24  52.04  85.28 | 6.65  10.41  17.06 | 39.89  62.45  102.34 | 123.19 | | Eon | Installation of 2 Feeder Pillars Noble Street  Replacement of 3 columns Drawwell Walk  Total | 2496.64  2632.11  5128.75 | 499.33  526.42  1025.75 | 2995.97  3158.53  6154.50 | 124.19 | | Mark Fitton | Cleaning of Bus Shelters December 2019 | 65.00 |  | 65.00 | 125.19 | | Salc | Web Accessibility Regulations Training | 27.00 |  | 27.00 | 126.19 | | Marches Energy Agency | Consultation | 900.00 | 180.00 | 1080.00 | 127.19 | | Waterplus | Charges Public Toilets  28/9/2019-7/12/2019 | 143.85 |  | 143.85 | 128.19 | | Ricoh | Copier Charges | 185.74 | 37.15 | 222.89 | 129.19 | | Shropshire Council | December Salaries | 7,668.54 |  | 7,668.54 | 130.19 | | Healthmatic | Toilet Cleaning | 829.17 | 165.83 | 995.00 | 131.19 | | Rialtas | Making tax Digital enablement | 118.00 | 23.60 | 141.60 | 132.19 | | Onecom | Telephone Charges | 25.56 | 5.11 | 30.67 | DD |   c) To delegate authority to Town Clerk, Mayor and Chairman of Finance and Corporate Governance Committee to approve invoices for payment received up to 31.12.19.  **RESOLVED:- to delegate authority to Town Clerk, Mayor and Chairman of Finance and Corporate Governance Committee to approve any invoices for payment received up to 31.12.19.** |
| **130/19** | **Town Hall Liaison Group Meeting 3.12.19** – to receive the notes from this meeting  **RESOLVED:- to receive the notes from the meeting on 3.12.19**. |
| **131/19** | **Planning, Transport and Climate Change Committee meeting 9.12.19.**  a) To receive minutes from this meeting.  **RESOLVED:- to receive the minutes from the Planning, Transport and Climate Change Committee meeting 9.12.19.**  Cllr Murray left the meeting at 19.20  b)Climate Change Action plan - to consider  **RESOLVED:- to approve the Action Plan and review on a quarterly basis.** |
| **132/19** | **Amenities and Services Committee Meeting 10.12.19** – to receive minutes from this meeting and consider any recommendations within the minutes.  **RESOLVED:- to receive the minutes from the Amenities and Services Committee meeting held 10.12.9 and approve the recommendations contained within.** |
| **133/19** | **Shropshire Mind –** to consider a proposal to use the Mayor’s charity funds raised by Cllr Granger during her Mayoral term as match funding for a grant to run mental health first aid sessions in the town and establish a regular drop-in session.  **RESOLVED:- to support the use of the £1000 raised for mental health support by Cllr Granger during her term as Mayor as match funding for the submission of a grant application in partnership with Shropshire Mind to Meres and Mosses Housing Association to provide mental health training and mental health drop in support sessions in the town.** |
| **134/19** | **Wem Eating Well Project** - to make the Council aware of the initiative and to seek its support as a partner on the Steering Group which has been set up.  Cllr Mellings outlined this project and all present commented on the need of a project like this in the town.  **RESOLVED:- that the Town Council agree to be a partner in this project. Cllr Broomhall and Nash were nominated to be co-opted onto the project steering group.** |
| **135/19** | **Wem Economic Regeneration Workshop** – for update.  The Clerk explained that following a meeting with officers from the Economic Development Team at Shropshire Council it was felt that there was insufficient time or support available to enable the Town Council to run the workshop on the original date of 21.1.20. However this date would be used instead as the next Economic Forum Meeting and the planning of a workshop would be discussed.    **RESOLVED:- to note the report.** |
| **136/19** | **Wem Sports and Social Association –** to consider financial request for  2020-21  The Secretary of WSSA explained that due to increasing costs Wem Sports and Social Association would be requesting a contribution from the Town Council of £19,000 in 2020-21 an increase of £1000 on previous years. She explained that £6,500 of the contribution would be earmarked for equipment and the remaining £12,500 would go towards running costs.  **RESOLVED:- to note the request and consider at the Annual Budget Meeting of the Town Council in January 2020.** |
| **137/19** | **Correspondence.**  a) Request to support the local electricity bill.  **RESOLVED:- That Wem Town Council**   * **notes that the Local Electricity Bill aims to address the current situation, whereby the very large financial setup and running costs involved in selling locally generated renewable electricity to local customers result in it being impossible for local renewable electricity generators to do so, if made law, would make these financial costs proportionate to the scale of a renewable electricity supplier’s operation and therefore empower councils, together with their communities, to sell locally generated renewable electricity directly to local people, businesses and organisations, and would result in councils or community organisations that set up local renewable electricity companies receiving revenues that could be used to help fund local greenhouse gas emissions reduction measures and to help improve local services and facilities** * **supports the Local Electricity Bill, supported by a cross-party group of 115 MPs during the 2017-19 Parliamentary session.** * **will write to the organisers of the campaign for the Bill, Power for People, (at 8 Delancey Passage, Camden, London NW1 7NN or info@powerforpeople.org.uk) expressing its support.** |
| **138/19** | **Reports**  a) To receive reports from the Council’s representatives to other bodies.  A report on Wem Christmas Lights Festival circulated by Cllr Broomhall was considered.  **RESOLVED:- to note the report.**  b) To receive a report from Shropshire Council Councillors Mellings and Dee.  Cllr Mellings had previously circulated a written report.  **RESOLVED:- to note the reports.** |
| **139/19** | **Future agenda items** – for consideration Councillor’s opportunity to raise items for inclusion on the next agenda – *Councillors are respectfully reminded that this is not an opportunity for debate or decision making.*  Availability of appointments at Wem GP Practice and access to the pharmacy. |
| **140/19** | **Dates of future meetings** – to note the date of the January meeting.  **RESOLVED:- to note that the January meeting will be held on Thursday 30th January 2020.** |
| **141/19** | **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 – to receive a report on.  **RESOLVED:- to note that staff appraisals had been completed.**  b) Fothergill Way Public Open Space – to consider response received from Persimmon Homes.  **RESOLVED:- to respond that the Town Council will not take on the liability for the ditch and gabions on the west side of the public open space.**  c) London Bridge Protocol – to review.  **RESOLVED:- to defer review to the January meeting.** |

Meeting ended 20.10

Mayor…………………………………