

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Wem Town Council held on Thursday 27th April 2017 at 7 p.m.in the Roden Suite, Edinburgh House, New Street, Wem.

Present:- Councillor R Dodd (Mayor) Councillors, E Towers (Deputy Mayor), D Boddy, P Broomhall, P Dee, P Glover, C Granger, P Johnson, M Meakin, C Mellings, J Murray, K Bailey, P Moyse, C Shingler.

6 members of the public present.

Prior to the start of the meeting Sgt Claire Greenaway from Wem Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) reported on current issues the team was dealing with in Wem which include speeding and burglary of outbuildings. She stated that the crime figures for the town are relatively low and efforts are being focussed on identifying and addressing anti-social behaviour before incidents escalate. The Recreation Ground and Butler Sports Centre car park continue to be part of the nightly patrol plan. In addition to this speed enforcement is being carried out as and when resources allow.

A question was asked about the level of staffing in the Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) and Claire reported that the team was now up to staffing strength which includes 1 Sergeant, 1 Police Constable, 3 Community Safety Officers. It was explained that there are so many elements to the SNT role that resources do not allow for routine patrolling of the High Street to increase visibility, however people were visiting the police station to seek advice.

A question was asked about drugs in Wem and Claire reported that the police are asking residents to report problems and the team have been actively promoting the Crimestoppers number to try and gather information on the issue.

199/17 To receive apologies for absence. None received.

200/17 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.

Councillor	Item	Dispensation
Shropshire Councillor Cllr Dee and Cllr Mellings	Twin-hatted member 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 Murray	Bias interest in item 205/17 as relative of floral planter contractor	
Cllr Towers, Cllr Mellings, Moyse	Bias Interest item 205/17 as Swimming Pool Trustees	Cllr Mellings and Towers dispensation previously granted to allow participation but not voting on all matters relating to Wem Swimming and Lifestyle Centre

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

201/17 Public Participation Time - a period of 15 minutes will be set aside for residents of Wem Town to speak.
Mr Edwards raised the following issues;
Roden Grove roadworks are causing a large amount of disruption to local residents and very little work has happened to date.
The suggested alterations to the direction of traffic along Leek Street and Chapel Street will have an impact on the site lines for the new houses being built on Leek Street. In addition to this it may also have an impact on the businesses in the area.
If Shropshire Council were to make Noble Street a one way street traffic should enter the street from Adams School as this may provide some relief if Maunds Corner is busy.
The road markings by the level crossing still need re-painting.
Mr Edwards also highlighted the number of missed appointments at the Doctors' surgery and stated that something needs to be done about this as it is very difficult to get an appointment when you genuinely need one.

Mrs Burton requested that the road sweeper cleans the gully on Butler Road properly. She also reported that Drawwell Walk continues to be a problem with its poor surface and dog fouling.

A resident reported that the issue of HGV's mounting the pavement to get past traffic was a particular problem in the town and she had been involved in a near miss recently. She urged the council to continue its campaign to find a solution to the problem.

202/17 Council Minutes.
To approve as a correct record the minutes of an ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 30th March 2017.

RESOLVED:- to approve the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 30th March 2017 as a correct record and they were duly signed by the Mayor.

203/17 Progress report - To note the Clerk's progress report on matters arising at previous meetings.
The Clerk reported that Team Wem would be organising a Day of Action on Saturday 8th July to tidy up the town ahead of the Sweet Pea Festival and Vehicles of Interest Event.

RESOLVED:- to note the report.

204/17 Planning Applications.
a) Planning Applications for consideration
17/01428/TCA - The Drayton Gate Proposal: To crown reduce 1No Silver Birch Tree (T1), group of 3No Silver Birch (G1) by 30% and remove over hanging branch in carpark of 1No Horse Chestnut (T2) within Wem Conservation Area.
Cllr Meakin commented that the Horse Chestnut tree is actually a Sweet Chestnut tree.

RESOLVED:- to support the application.

17/01090/FUL - 109 Trentham Road, Proposal: Erection of detached garage and formation of garden.

RESOLVED:- to support the application.

17/01397/FUL - 21 Pantulf Road, Proposal: Erection of two storey side extension.

RESOLVED:- to support the application

b) To note the recent planning decisions.

The Clerk was asked to check the status of application number 16/0289/FUL Lowerdale.

RESOLVED:- to note the planning decisions to 27.4.17.

205/ Finance and Accounts for Payment

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

RESOLVED:- to approve the following payments made prior to the meeting.

Accounts paid prior to the meeting on 30.3.17

Supplier	Service	Net	Vat	Gross	Chq number
Shaw and sons	Exclusive right of Burial Book	98.23	19.68	117.88	300021
Institute of Cemetery Management (ICCM)	Membership	90.00		90.00	300022
BT	Phone Bill	31.99	12.40	74.39	DD

Contributions as agreed January 2017

Organisation	Award	Payment Method
Friends of Whitchurch Road Cemetery	£1500	300023
Wem Millennium Green	£1700	300024
Wem Town Hall	£22000	300025
Wem Branch Shropshire Army Cadet Force League	£300	300026
Wem Carnival Committee	£500	300027
Eckford Sweet Pea Society	£900	300028
Wem Scout and Guide HQ	£500	300029
1 st Wem Scout Group	£500	300030
NS Wheelers	£500	300031
Wem Jubilee Band	£300	300032
Wem Baptist Holiday Bible Club	£200	300033
Welcome to Wem Community Group	£300	300034
Wem Albion Bowling Club	£200	300035
Shropshire Handball Foundry	£100	300036

Accounts for authorisation

Cllr Mellings, Moyse, Towers and Murray took no part in the approval of the payments due to previously declared interests.

RESOLVED:- to approve the following payments.

Supplier	Service	Net	Vat	Gross	BACS No
Shropshire Council	Streetlights 4 th Quarter	1483.80	296.76	1780.56	BACS 1.17
PG Skips	Bin Emptying Cemetery	40.55	8.11	48.66	BACS 2.17
	Bin emptying rec.	64.05	12.81	78.66	
	Total			125.52	
Shropshire Council	Payroll	6509.84	12.72	6522.56	DD
David Murray	Winter planter maintenance	120.00		120.00	300037
Petty Cash		48.32		48.32	300038
Rialtus Business Sol.	Year end Closedown	525.60	105.12	630.72	BACS 3.17
Shropshire Council	Office Rent 1 st quarter	1525.00		1525.00	BACS 4.17
SALC	Affiliation Fee	1537.64		1537.64	BACS 5.17
Hatchers	Legal Fees Swimming pool lease	1450.00	290.00	1740.00	BACS 6.17
WSSA	6 month contribution	9000.00	1200.00	10200.00	BACS 7.17
West Mercia Energy	Power Public Toilets March	67.17	3.36	70.54	BACS 8.17
Mark Fitton	Bus Shelter Cleaning April	45.00		45.00	BACS 9.17
Viking	Stamps, Stationary	92.43	7.29	99.72	BACS 10.17
Wem Swimming Lifestyle Centre	Contribution (6 months)	29000.00		29000.00	BACS 11.17
ORP Surveillance	Call out fee	48.00	9.60	57.60	BACS 12.17
Shropshire Council	Cemetery rates	67.39		67.39	BACS 13.17
Healthmatic	April Toilet Cleaning	787.50	157.50	945.00	BACS 14.17

206/17 Finance and Corporate Governance Committee meeting 18.4.17

To receive these minutes and approve recommendations contained therein.

Cllr Mellings outlined the recommendations contained in the minutes and it was;

RESOLVED:- to receive the minutes of the Finance and Corporate Governance Committee meeting held on 18.4.17 and to approve the recommendations therein.

207/17 Highway Issues

a) Mill Street Vehicle Activated Sign – for update.

It was reported that the original sign chosen by the council was felt by Shropshire Council officers to be too large for the site. In addition to this the Clerk had been informed that the sign would require its own post as the new lighting columns may not be strong enough to support a sign of this nature.

Following a discussion it was;

RESOLVED:- to approve the order for the supply and installation of a Vehicle Activated Sign and feeder post.

b) Wem Economic Forum – To consider additional traffic measures put forward by Wem Economic Forum in response to the HGV Survey.

Cllr Dee reported that Wem Economic Forum had put forward a number of other suggestions that the forum would like the Town Council to support in relation to the HGV problems in the town. These included the implementation of loading restrictions on the High Street during peak times. Creation of a loading bay and disabled parking bay outside the Nat West and consideration being given to the alteration of the one way system currently in operation along Chapel Lane, Drawwell Lane and Leek Street. A discussion took place on whether changing the one way system would create additional problems as it could affect site lines of existing properties and businesses.

RESOLVED:- to request that Shropshire Council Highways is asked to consider the following proposals put forward by Wem Economic Forum in response to the HGV survey results;

- **Creation of a loading bay and disabled parking bay in the existing parking bay outside the old Natwest Bank.**
- **Introduction of loading restrictions along the High Street during peak times - suggested times for restrictions would be during the morning rush hour and school finishing time.**
- **Chapel Street / Leek Street/ Drawwell Lane one way system – to investigate whether alterations to the existing direction of traffic will alleviate pressures on the junction of High Street and Mill Street.**

c) Implementation of a one way traffic system along Noble Street (at request of Cllr Dee) – to consider whether to support the proposal.

Cllr Dee reported that this proposal had been supported previously by the Town Council and that residents have requested that this proposal is re considered as the road is narrow and residents are experiencing problems with large vehicles accessing the street. A discussion took place and councillors were concerned that if the street were to be made one way which direction of travel would be the most suitable for residents and businesses on Noble Street.

RESOLVED:- to support the proposal and to request that Shropshire Council consider whether making Noble Street a one way street would be a viable option.

208/17 Correspondence – to consider the following items of correspondence (copies enclosed).
a) Housing White paper – for consideration.

RESOLVED:- to note the paper and not comment further.

b) Environment Agency – to consider response received relating to Roden Grove.

RESOLVED:- to note the response.

209/17 Reports

a) To receive reports from the Council's representatives to other bodies.
Cllr Boddy reported that he had attended a meeting of Whitchurch Road Cemetery and that Nick Heron is now chairman of the committee.

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

Cllr Mellings's written report was considered and noted.

RESOLVED:- to note the reports.

210/17 Future agenda items for consideration – none.

211/17 Dates of future meetings – to note date of the May meeting.

RESOLVED:- to note that the May meeting would be held on 16.5.17.

212/17 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) To approve appointment of the Litter Picker.

RESOLVED:- to approve the appointment of Christopher Martin as Town Council Litterpicker.

The Mayor ended the meeting by thanking all councillors for their hard work for the benefit of the town over the last 4 years.

Meeting ended 20.05

Mayor.....