

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Wem Town Council held on Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> October 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, G Soul, E Towers.

Mrs P O'Hagan (Town Clerk)

11 members of the public present

2 members of the press

**85/19 To receive apologies for absence.**

**RESOLVED**:- to accept the following apology for absence

Cllr Edge

**86/19 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.

<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Dispensation</b>
Cllr Mellings and Dee	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
Cllr Mellings	Item 95/19 WSLC director	Dispensation to discuss but not vote on all matters relating to WSLC
Cllr Towers	Item 95/19 WSLC director	Dispensation to discuss but not vote on all matters relating to WSLC

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

**87/19 Public Participation Time** - a period of 15 minutes will be set aside for residents of Wem Town to speak.

The following points were raised by a member of the public:-

- Park House – it was explained that Park House was called The Hall until the 1940's. The house was then split up and this is where the name Park House came from. As the search for the owner of the freehold of the property has been going on for 17 years it was suggested that the council start to research the ownership of Park House as well to help the residents.
- Tree Planting – it was suggested that one tree be planted in the Town and surrounding area for every name on the War Memoria. Also, could some trees be planted on the scrub land behind the Mill and the landowner could be contacted about this. Another suggestion of placing some trees on Lower Lacon Caravan Park and Bridge Fields was made.

A representative from Roden Grove residents spoke in objection to 19/04415/FUL Land Off Roden Grove, Roden Grove. The representative urged the Council to request a site meeting and for the matter to be determined by committee.

They explained that the proposed swales had already been constructed and were located very close to the boundary of the neighbouring properties. It was also reported that the french drains on the development were not working as gardens have been repeatedly flooded over the past year. Photos were circulated of current flooding and the swales that have been constructed.

A representative of Wem Civic Society congratulated the Town Council on the recent Climate Change meeting and suggested that Shropshire Wildlife Trust is invited to become involved with the tree planting project.

An update was requested on the situation relating to the White Horse.

**88/19 Council Minutes.**

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2019.

**RESOLVED:- that the minutes of the ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2019 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.**

**89/19 Progress report**

a) To consider the Clerks progress report on matters arising at previous meetings

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

b) To reconsider any Highways Matters on the progress report that may no longer be a priority.

A discussion took place on this and it was

**RESOLVED:- that .**

**There was still a need for yellow lines on the Station Road Bend but the length of the area to be lined could be reduced.**

**Community Speed watch can be removed from the progress report.**

**The Clerk would seek an update on progress to resurface Drawwell Walk for the next meeting.**

**90/19 Planning Applications.**

a) To note the recent planning decisions.

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

b) To consider the following planning application

19/04415/FUL Land Off Roden Grove, Roden Grove, Wem.

Proposal: Full Planning Permission for alterations to the approved Public Open Space and drainage layout to allow for creation of swales within approved area of Public Open Space

A discussion took place on this matter and the view was expressed that this application should be treated as a retrospective application as the swales have already been constructed.

Concerns were also raised about the following

- The connection into the river that had been made without permission being given by The Environment Agency to discharge into or from the River Roden.
- The loss of amenity land from this development which will now bring the development below the recreation requirements for new developments.

**RESOLVED:-** to strongly object to the application and submit the following comments

- The impact of the proposals on the neighbouring properties will be detrimental as these properties are already experiencing problems with flooding which can be attributed to the development.
- The council objects to the loss of amenity land that the swales will bring about as this will now bring the development below the recreation requirements needed for new developments and this is unacceptable as there is little public amenity land in this area of town.
- The Town Council consider that this application should be treated as a retrospective application as the swale has already been created. Therefore the development has taken place without the necessary approvals being in place and Shropshire Council must take enforcement action over this.
- This application should be determined by committee and a site meeting must take place prior to the committee meeting.
- The Town Council request that a meeting is also held with planning officers and residents to enable them to voice concerns that have not been addressed.
- The Town Council endorse the comments already submitted in objection to the application by residents and request that the questions raised by people commenting on the application are fully answered by Planning Officers.

A discussion took place on the offer received from the developer to hold a site meeting with the Mayor and Unitary Councillors to discuss the application and it was

**FURTHER RESOLVED:-**

To accept the offer to meeting on the proviso that representatives from the residents are also allowed to attend.

c) Community Infrastructure Levy - for update and to consider submission of expression of interest application.

**RESOLVED:-** to note and not to progress another application at this time.

#### **91/19 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 made prior to the meeting

Supplier	Service	Net	Vat	Gross	Chq / bacs No
Talk Talk	Broadband	17.95	3.59	21.54	DD

**Payments for approval**

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

Supplier	Service	Net	Vat	Gross	Chq / BACS No
Shropshire Council	October Payroll	7689.74		7689.74	79.19
T. Edgerton	Relief litter picking	32.84		32.84	80.19
Ray Parry Playgrounds	Removal/Installation of Seesaw	5900.00	1180.00	7080.00	81.19
Shropshire Council	Rent & Service Charge 1/10/19 – 31/12/19	1525.00		1525.00	82.19
Shropshire Council	External Payroll Recharge 1/10/19 – 31/12/19	152.50	30.50	183.00	83.19
Waterplus	Charges Public Toilets 7/6/19 – 28/9/19	167.13		167.13	84.19
DR.E. Contractors Ltd	Electrical Work Stanier Hall for CCTV	285.66	57.13	342.79	85.19
Via Della Emilia Ltd	Emergency Tree works Wem Recreation Ground	100.00	20.00	120.00	86.19
PG Skips	Cemetery Bin September Recreation Ground Bin Total	33.24 52.04 85.28	6.65 10.41 17.06	39.89 62.45 102.34	87.19
Shropshire Council	Essential Conversations Training Course 22/10/19	80.00		80.00	88.19
Eon	All Lights Lowe Hill Road not working Lights 225 & 256 Noble Street/Chapel Lane Total	107.61 100.26 207.87	21.52 20.05 41.57	129.13 120.31 249.44	89.19
Mark Fitton	Cleaning of Bus Shelters October 2019	65.00		65.00	90.19
Rospa	Post Installation Inspection (Hags Zingo Seesaw)	395.00	79.00	474.00	91.19
Salc	Training Fundamentals for Councillors	30.40		30.40	92.19
SLCC	Training Session Quotes, Contracts & Tendering	675.00	135.00	810.00	93.19
L G Roberts Ltd	Fencing Recreation Ground	2444.70	488.94	2933.64	94.19
G Lungley	Training	183.00		183.00	95.19
7 Business Solutions	Clerks New computer	779.00	155.80	934.80	96.19
Viking	Stationery	59.15	11.83	70.98	97.19
Amazon	Re-imburement kettle Groundsman's Shed	25.01	5.00	30.01	98.19
Via Della Emilia	Hedge Cutting Love Lane	465.00	93.00	558.00	99.19
SJ Jenkins	Toilet door painting	320.00		320.00	100.19

Healthmatic	Toilet Cleaning	829.17	165.83	995.00	101.19
WSSA	Contribution	7800.00	1200.00	9000.00	102.19
WSSA	VAT on contribution			1200.00	103.19
Reaseheath College	Groundsman's Training	950.00		950.00	104.19
West Mercia Energy	Sept Toilet electricity	28.68	1.43	30.11	105.19
RBL	Poppy Wreath	17.00		17.00	Chq 300104
Onecom	Telephone Charges	29.56	5.91	35.47	DD

**92/19 Finance and Corporate Governance Committee 17.10.19** - to receive the minutes from this meeting and to consider any recommendations within the minutes.

**RESOLVED**:- to receive minutes from this meeting but not to approve the recommendation that Full Council agrees the maximum % precept increase that they are willing to accept at the November meeting of the Town Council.

**93/19 Climate Change**

a) Working Party Meeting held 3.10.19 – to receive notes from this meeting and to consider any recommendations within the minutes.

**RESOLVED**:- to receive the notes from this meeting and to only approve the following recommendation contained within the minutes

- Town Councillors are encouraged to commit to receive all meeting papers by email from 1.4.20.

b) Open Meeting 16.10.19 - to receive a verbal report from this meeting. Cllr Nash reported that the meeting was very well attended.

**RESOLVED**:- to note the report

c) RCEF Application – to agree to delegate authority to the working party to oversee the submission of this grant and select the preferred contractor to undertake the study.

**RESOLVED**:- not to delegate this decision to the Climate Change Working Party as it had met for a maximum of 5 times as per its terms of reference and that all matters relating to Climate Change projects must now be determined by the Planning and Climate Change Committee.

**94/19 Events Liaison Group Meeting 23.10.19** to discuss the arrangements for the Remembrance Day Service - to receive a report from this meeting and to consider any recommendations within the report.

**RESOLVED**:- to receive the report from this meeting.

**95/19 Wem Swimming and Lifestyle Centre Liaison Group meeting 24.10.19** - to receive the minutes from this meeting and to consider any recommendations within the minutes.

**RESOLVED**:- to receive the minutes from this meeting.

**96/19 Wem Economic Forum**

a) Traffic Working Group meeting – to receive a report from meetings held. Cllr Mellings gave a report on this meeting.

**RESOLVED:- to note the report**

b) Proposed experimental one-way system - to receive update. Cllr Mellings circulated minutes from a meeting of the WEF Traffic Working Party which updated on progress on this item.

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

**97/19 Consultations – To consider the Town Council’s response to the following consultations (copies enclosed).**

a) Youth Provision

**RESOLVED:- to approve the response circulated with the meeting papers and to send the response direct to Shropshire Council’s Youth Provision Task and Finish Group.**

b) Library strategy - engagement and consultation

A discussion took place on the importance of the library to the community as it provided not only a learning resource but also the social value it offered to residents was invaluable as it provided a safe space for vulnerable and often isolated members of the community.

**RESOLVED:- to delegate authority to Clerk to provide a response to the survey based on the views expressed by Councillors during the discussion.**

c) Council Tax Consultation.

**RESOLVED:- not to comment.**

d) Parking Strategy Amendments

**RESOLVED:- not to comment.**

**98/19 Correspondence**

a) To consider response received from Owen Paterson MP

**RESOLVED:- to note.**

**99/19 Reports**

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

Cllr Dodd updated on a recent Friends of Whitchurch Road Cemetery meeting.

Cllr Broomhall reported on the recent Christmas Lights meeting.

Cllr Granger reported on the Helicopter Liaison Meeting.

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

Cllr Mellings had previously circulated a written report via email and Cllr Dee gave a verbal report.

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

**100/19 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.*

The following items were raised.

The Barber Trust Trustee.

Condition of Shopfronts.

Pavements in Town.

**101/19 Dates of future meetings** – to note the date of the November meeting and agree date of December meeting.

**RESOLVED:- that the next meeting will be held on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November and the December meeting will be held on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December.**

**102/19 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 press and public.**

Morgan Library – to discuss response received from Shropshire Council.  
The Council’s response was discussed, and it was

**RESOLVED:- to progress with the condition survey of the building.**

Meeting ended 20.55

Mayor.....