



**Minutes of Wem Economic Forum Meeting
Roden Suite, Edinburgh House, Wem
21 January 2020 at 2pm**

Present: Cllr Tim Wilton-Morgan (Wem Rural Parish Council) (Chair), Rosemary Dodd (Wem Town Council), Viv Edgar (Dementia Friendly Wem), Huw Edwards (Wem Rural Parish Council) and Peter Marsh (Wem Rural Parish Council)

In attendance: Wem Town Council Clerk Penny O'Hagan and Wem Rural Parish Council Clerk Carole Warner.

1 Welcome

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 Apologies

Cllr Phil Glover (Wem Town Council), Cllr Connie Granger (Wem Town Council), Cllr Chris Mellings (Shropshire Council) and Simon Thornley (Mid-Counties Co-op)

3 Minutes of meeting held on 24 September 2019

The minutes were agreed. Following a question, Mrs O'Hagan advised that although the Wem Sweet Pea Society still existed there would be no Sweet Pea Show this year. There could be a plant stall at the Vehicles of Interest Show in July.

4 Wem 'Regeneration' Project

Mrs O'Hagan and Ms Warner presented their recent work in connection with working with Shropshire Council to prepare a local growth strategy (LGS). They explained alternatives to promote and enhance Wem's activities to the benefit of all businesses in Wem and local area. A summary document was circulated to those present.

Following discussion, the following was agreed:

To progress the idea of 'Make Wem FIT' with Mrs O'Hagan and Ms Warner initially taking this forward with assistance from Cllr Edwards/Cllr Wilton-Morgan

To make available a budget of £500 towards initial costs.

5 Working Groups – update

- a. Traffic – Cllr Wilton- Morgan reported that the 3 projects were still in progress with Shropshire Council. Discussion took place on the recent discussions regarding the proposed Lowe Hill Road housing development.

It was agreed that comments made by the Working Group would be submitted to the developer, and Terms of Reference for all Working Groups should be reviewed/agreed at the Annual General Meeting.



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- b. Emergency Plan – Ms Warner advised Cllr Mellings was arranging a meeting with Shropshire Council to review the wider implications of the Plan.
- c. Review Markets – No report.
- d. Dementia Friendly Wem – Mrs Viv Edgar reported that the first meeting of 2020 was to be held the following week when plans for 2020 would be agreed.

6 Climate Change

Mrs O'Hagan outlined the work the Town Council had undertaken to date. The latest public meeting had been attended by over 40 people and a separate community-led group was now progressing this issue.

7 Other matters of interest

No matters were raised by those present

8 Agree date of next meeting:

The next meeting would be held on Wednesday 25 March 2020 at 3pm