

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Wem Town Council held on Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2019 at 7 p.m.in the Roden Suite, Edinburgh House, New Street, Wem.

Present:- Councillor C Granger (Mayor), Councillors, P Broomhall, P Dee, R Dodd, R Drummond, P Glover, P Johnson, M Meakin, C Mellings, P Moyse, J Murray, G Soul, E Towers.

Mrs P O'Hagan (Town Clerk).

At the start of the meeting Rev Nick Heron said prayers

4 members of the public present

**143/19 To receive apologies for absence.**

**Resolved:- to accept the following apology for absence**  
Cllr Nash

**144/19 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, Cllr Mellings	Twin-hatted members 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

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

**145/19 Public Participation Time** - a period of 15 minutes will be set aside for residents of Wem Town to speak.

A representative of Wem Civic Society raised concerns about the following:-

- Deterioration of Park House along with other listed buildings in the town.
- The sustainability of the proposals for Wem in the Local Plan Review.
- The poor quality of train services for the town supplied by Transport for Wales.
- Could Shropshire Council be approached to allow free parking for the quarterly markets held in the town?

It was also reported that Wem Civic Society is looking to hold a heritage weekend in September to encourage visitors to the town.

A member of the public spoke in objection to plans to increase the number of streetlights along Drawwell Walk as in his opinion this was not necessary and would have a detrimental impact on properties neighbouring the footpath. Instead it was suggested that residents should be asked to cut back the overhanging trees to open up the path more.

A member of the public raised the issue of the condition of Park House and stated that the building is in real need of repair as owners of the flats had concerns over whether the building is structurally sound and support was needed from English Heritage on this issue.

**146/19 Council Minutes.**

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2018 and Budget Meeting held on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

**RESOLVED**:- to approve as a correct record the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2018 and the special meeting of the Town Council held on 24<sup>th</sup> January 2019 and they were duly signed by The Mayor.

**147/19 Progress report** - To note the Clerks progress report on matters arising at previous meetings.

**RESOLVED**:- to note the report and the Clerk was authorised to appeal the amount awarded to the Town Council from Shropshire Council's Environmental Maintenance Grant.

**148/19 Planning Applications.**

**a) To note the recent planning decisions.**

**RESOLVED**:- to note.

Cllr Mellings attended the meeting at 19.20

**b) Planning Applications for consideration**

19/00198/TPO: Mill House Farm , Whitchurch Road, Wem, SY4 5QR: Crown raise to 25m high, raising bottom branches to 5 metres above the ground of 1no Wellingtonia protected by the Shropshire Council (Fismes Way and Oakley Meadow, Wem) TPO 2015 (Ref: SC/00227/15)

**RESOLVED**:- to submit the following comment:-

**The Town Council does not object to the application as long as the actual height of the tree is not reduced.**

19/00006/FUL: Robinson And Young, Shrewsbury Road Garage, Shrewsbury Road, Wem, SY4 5PA, Proposal: Demolition of existing shop/fuel sales building and replace with car parking spaces; extend existing MOT workshop building and change use to shop and fuel sales building

**RESOLVED**:- to submit the following comments:-

**Wem Town Council supports this application however would wish to request that a condition of any planning permission granted should be that the applicant must ensure that the visibility splay into and out of the site is not obstructed by parked cars as is currently the case.**

**c) CIL Local** - to consider submitting application.

The Clerk explained that the deadline for the applications had been extended until March 2019.

A discussion took place on whether an application could be submitted to fund the experimental one way system reversal around Leek Street and Drawwell Lane as the extra development in the town had added to congestion on Mill Street and the High Street.

**RESOLVED:- to submit an application to fund the Experimental Traffic Order on Drawwell Lane.**

**149/19 Finance and Accounts for Payment**

a) To consider 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 under delegated authority**

Supplier	Service	Net	Vat	Gross	Chq / BACS No
WSSA	Reimbursement Groundsmans workwear	179.19		179.19	128.18
Mark Fitton	Bus Shelter Cleaning Dec	65.00		65.00	129.18
Severn Business Solutions	Computer repair	45.00	9.00	54.00	130.18
Ricoh	Copier lease Copier usage 1.1.18- 30.11.18 Total	105.01 88.71 193.72	38.74	232.46	131.18
WME	Toilet Electricity	98.62	4.93	103.55	132.18
Shropshire Council	Payroll	6672.16	61.10	6733.26	DD
Talk Talk	Broadband	16.00	3.20	19.20	DD
Onecom	Telephone	22.45	4.49	26.94	DD
Bank charges	3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter			31.20	DD
Cash handling charges	3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter (new charge)			11.40	DD

**Payments for approval**

Supplier	Service	Net	Vat	Gross	Chq / BACS No
Friends of Wem Swimming Pool	Contribution			£14,500	133.18

E.on	Streetlighting	110.69	22.14	132.83	134.18
PG Skips	Rec Bin emptying	51.24	10.25	61.49	135.18
	Cemetery Bin emptying	32.44	6.49	38.93	
	Total			100.42	
Cllr Granger	Mayor's expenses Dec.	50.40		50.40	136.18
Mark Fitton	Bus shelter cleaning Jan	65.00		65.00	137.18
Severn Business Solutions	Computer repairs	30.00	6.00	36.00	138.18
Silk Sharples Jennings	Pool insurance revaluation	300.00	60.00	360.00	139.18
Shropshire Council	Office rent and service charge 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter	1525.00		1525.00	140.18
Princes	Water heater Public Toilets	253.66	50.73	304.39	141.18
West Mercia Energy	Toilet electricity	94.00	4.70	98.70	142.18
Viking	Office supplies	54.34	10.87	65.21	143.18
Healthmatic	Toilet cleaning	787.50	157.50	945.00	144.18
Welch and Phillips	Bench installation	85.00	17.00	102.00	145.18

**150/19 Finance and Corporate Governance Committee Meeting 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019**

a) To receive these minutes and approve the recommendations not relating to the 2019-20 budget contained therein.

**RESOLVED**:- to receive these minutes and approve the recommendations not relating to the 2019-20 budget contained therein.

b) To set date for Cllr Training

**RESOLVED**:- to approve quote for training and to set a date for early March 2019.

**151/19 Planning and Transport Committee meeting 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2019.**

a) To receive these minutes.

**RESOLVED**:- to receive these minutes

**152/19 Heating Groundsman's shed – to consider quotes received.**

The Clerk explained that she had only been able to secure 1 quote for this work but had looked at alternative options including air source heat pumps which were not deemed suitable as they did not heat the air quickly enough.

There was also no specific budget code for this work however the funds could be vired across from other underspent budget codes. WSSA has also agreed to contribute 1/3 towards the cost of the installation.

**RESOLVED**:- to accept the quote for the works and to place an order for the supply and installation of a Powrmatic OUH 30f Suspended heater mounted above the rear door.

**153/19 Speaker Unit** – to consider options for purchase of battery powered speaker unit. A discussion took place and Councillors expressed the opinion that it would be better to hire the speaker units on an ad hoc basis as it would not be possible to purchase a unit that would suit every occasion. It was also pointed out that there were other organisations in the Town who may be willing to share speaker units for events.

**RESOLVED:- not to proceed with the quote.**

**154/19 Drawwell Walk** – to consider quote for improved lighting and to discuss the general condition of the surface. The Clerk explained that there was currently insufficient funds in the new lighting budget to fund this project. A discussion took place on whether it would be better to look at ways to cut back the canopy of trees that overhang the walkway from neighbouring properties. As this would open up the walkway and improve the lighting. Cllr Mellings reported that he had been in discussions with the Rights of Way department concerning the resurfacing works and would be willing to arrange a site meeting to look at all options.

**RESOLVED:- not to proceed with the quote and to attend a site meeting to discuss further options.**

**155/19 Dog Fouling** – to discuss concerns raised about dog fouling of pavements across the town. A discussion took place on this matter and Councillor's considered the options laid out in the report. It was explained that most of the problem was restricted to the pavements around the town which were not the responsibility of the Town Council.

**RESOLVED:- to delegate authority to the Amenities and Services Committee to look into the feasibility of running a Pink Poo campaign to highlight the issue.**

**156/19 Park House** – to consider condition of the building (at request of Cllr Dee). A discussion took place on the condition of the building as the wall is bulging and there is a need to prevent this building from deteriorating further especially as it had not been possible to identify who owns the freehold of the building.

**RESOLVED:- to write to Historic England to highlight the Town Council's concerns over the condition of the building and request that Park House is listed on the "At Risk" Register and that an inspection is undertaken of the building as a matter of urgency.**

**157/19 Presentation of Council Certificate** – for consideration (at request of Cllr Moyse). A draft certificate was considered.

**RESOLVED:- to approve the presentation of a certificate to Tom Edwards for his long serving support to the Town Council.**

**158/19 Correspondence** – to consider the following items of correspondence (copies enclosed).  
a) Shropshire Association of Local Councils' Area Committee Review 2019.

**RESOLVED**:- to delegate authority to Cllr Dodd and Cllr Granger as the Town Council's representatives on this committee to submit a response on behalf of the Town Council.

b) CPRE membership request

**RESOLVED**:- not to become a member of CPRE.

c) Future Fit Update – to receive.

**RESOLVED**:- to receive.

**159/19 Reports**

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

No reports received.

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

No reports presented.

**160/19 Future agenda items – for consideration**

Condition of pavements in the Town

**161/19 Dates of future meetings – to note the date of the February meeting.**

**RESOLVED**:- to note that the next meeting will be held on 28.2.19

**162/19 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 the press and public

London Bridge Protocols – for adoption

**RESOLVED**:- to adopt the protocol.

.....  
Mayor