

Minutes of a Meeting of the Planning, Transport and Climate Change Committee held on Friday 26th March at 15.00 via the Zoom Virtual Meeting Platform.

Present:- Councillor P Glover (Mayor), Councillors, E Towers, C Mellings, R Drummond, P Johnson, G Nash, M Meakin, P Dee, G Soul, A Everett

1 To receive apologies and reasons for absence.

RESOLVED:- to approve the following apologies for absence

Cllr Granger, Cllr Hill

Absent Cllr Edge, Cllr Broomhall

2 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.

The following interests were declared

Councillor	Item	Dispensation
Cllrs Mellings and Dee	Item 5 21/00924/EIA North West Relief Road scheme as Shropshire Councillors	

b) To consider any applications for Dispensations under s33 of the Localism Act 2011.

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

4 Minutes - to approve the minutes of the Planning, Transport and Climate Change Committee meeting held on 13.10.20.

RESOLVED:- that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Committee held on 13.10.20 be approved as a correct record and authority was given for them to be signed at a later date.

5 Planning application for consideration

21/00924/EIA North West Relief Road scheme. comprising - construction of 6.9km single carriageway (7.3m wide) road; severance of local roads and footpaths; provision of combined footway/cycleway; erection of three bridged structures over carriageway; diversion of existing bridleway/footpath via an underpass; climbing lane on westbound approach; 670m long viaduct; bridge over railway; two flood storage areas; provision of two new roundabout junctions and improvements to two existing roundabouts; associated traffic calming measures, landscaping and drainage schemes | Street Record Welshpool Road Bicton Heath Shropshire

A discussion took place on this item and councillors debated the advantages and disadvantages of the scheme which included improved travel times to hospital, although concerns were expressed over potential for increased pollution and the negative impact on the environment.

Questions were asked about how much benefit the road would be to Shrewsbury Wem specific issues were raised including how it will impact on the economy of the town

RESOLVED to support the application subject to the following conditions:

- **The Town Council request that if permission is approved one of the conditions of planning permission must be that construction traffic is excluded from travelling through the town of Wem.**
- **The Town Council must be consulted on an appropriate signing strategy to deter unnecessary traffic being routed through the town of Wem.**

6 Extension of Conservation Area – to discuss

Cllr Nash outlined his suggestion that the Conservation Area was extended to include the Mill Fields land as the western extent of the Conservation Area currently extends to an arbitrary north-south line that excludes 50% of the historic landscape that includes the early post-medieval holding pond, 17th-century leat system, bridges and later boat-building activity. Based on historic mapping and early 20th century images (see enclosed) the land west of the Conservation Area is archaeologically and ecologically sensitive.

RESOLVED to recommend that the Town Council request that Shropshire Council consider extending the Conservation Area to incorporate the Mill Fields land. to acknowledge the wealth of archaeology, the historic landscape, and ecology (especially the area north of the River Roden). .

Meeting ended 16.05

Meeting ended at 14.55

Chairman.....