

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of Wem Town Council held on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2021 at 19.00 in The Roden Suite, Edinburgh House, New Street, Wem

Present:- Councillor P Broomhall (Mayor), Councillors, R Dodd, R Drummond, K Edge, A Everett, P Glover, C Granger, D Hill, P Johnson, M Meakin, D Parry, G Soul, E Towers,

1 member of the press  
Mrs P O'Hagan (Town Clerk)

Matt Smith from FullFibre Network gave a presentation on the installation of full fibre in the town and how it would benefit the community. He explained that some of the installation works would require the erection of poles in some areas where there are no poles. It is anticipated that everyone will have the ability to have access to full fibre by the end of 2022.

**102/21 To receive and consider for approval apologies for absence and reasons given.**

**RESOLVED**:-to accept the following apologies for absence Cllr Hoffmann (work commitment).

**103/21 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

<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Dispensation</b>
Cllrs Towers and Broomhall	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 Soul	Trustee Wem Town Hall	Dispensation to allow participation but not vote on all matters relating to Wem Town Hall

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

None received.

**104/21 Public Participation** - a period of 15 minutes will be set aside for residents of Wem Town to speak.

None present

**105/21 Council Minutes.**

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 28<sup>th</sup> October 2021.

**RESOLVED:- That the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 28.10.21 be approved as a correct record and they were duly signed by the Mayor.**

**106/21 Progress report** - To consider the Clerks progress report on decisions made at previous meetings.

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

**107/21 Planning Applications**  
a) To note the recent planning decisions.

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

**b) To consider the following planning applications**

21/05323/FUL Proposed - Application under Section 73A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for the formation of a new access (retrospective) LOCATION: - Grange Park, Shawbury Road, Wem, SY4 5PF

**RESOLVED:- not to comment on the application.**

**108/21 Finance and Accounts for Payment**

a) **Internal Controls** – to note that internal checks carried out by The Mayor are up to date.

**RESOLVED:- to note that all internal controls were up to date.**

b) **Monthly income expenditure against budget report** – to consider.

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

c) **Accounts for payment** - to approve accounts for payment.

**RESOLVED:- to approve the following payments paid prior to the meeting**

Supplier	Service	Net	Vat	Gross	Chq / BACS No
EE	Mobile phone	39.73	7.95	47.68	DD
Talk Talk	Broadband	21.95	4.39	26.34	DD
Onecom	Telephone charges	40.61	8.12	48.73	DD
Wem United Services Club	Room Hire	40.00	0.00	40.00	300112

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

Supplier	Service	Net	Vat	Gross	Chq / BACS No
ISM Ltd	Computer Contract	61.98	12.40	74.38	136.21
Ray Parry	Playground Repairs	2040.00	408.00	2448.00	137.21
PG Skips	Bin emptying Cemetery and Rec. October 2021	92.24	18.44	110.68	138.21
Via Della Emilia	Removal of dead trees and overhanging ivy	575.00	115.00	690.00	139.21

Via Della Emilia	Cutting Hedge Love Lane Cemetery	465.00	93.00	558.00	140.21
Water Plus	Water Supply Public Toilets 16.8.21-7.11.21	96.63	0.00	96.63	141.21
DW Evans Grave Digging	Grave Digging October 2021	305.00	0.00	305.00	142.21
Hunter Lloyd	Public Toilets EICR	150.00	30.00	180.00	143.21
SLCC	Membership Fee	234.00	0.00	234.00	144.21
Rialtas	Omega Licence	10.58	2.12	12.70	145.21
Rialtas	Training	200.00	40.00	240.00	146.21
Wem Swimming Centre	Swimming Pool Grant 3/3	13750.00	0.00	13750	147.21
Wem Truly Scrumptious Catering	Mayor's Civic Service Refreshments	460.00	0.00	460.00	148.21
Shropshire Council	November Salaries	8757.50	0.00	8757.50	149.21
Wem Jubilee Band	Remembrance Contribution	50.00	0.00	50.00	150.21
Healthmatic	Toilet Cleaning	829.17	165.83	995.00	151.21
Securitywise	Leek Street camera	1176.00	235.20	1411.20	152.21
Shropshire Council	Streetlighting energy 3 <sup>rd</sup> Qtr.	1603.51	320.70	1924.21	153.21
Mark Fitton	Bus shelter cleaning	70.00	0.00	70.00	154.21
RDS	Townsmen Board	55.00	0.00	55.00	155.21
Petty Cash	Top up	74.97		74.97	300113

**109/21 Traffic Working Group meeting 10.11.21**

a) To consider report on meeting.

**RESOLVED:- to note the report from the meeting held 10.11.21.**

b) As a principal consultee to submit comments on the proposed experimental order for the one way system.

A discussion took place on this item and concern was expressed about access to Thomas Adams by coaches as the proposed plans were different to the school's current one way system. Benefits of the scheme were discussed and councillors expressed the view that it could reduce traffic on the High Street.

**RESOLVED:- to support the proposed experimental order for a one way system around the town subject to the condition that the following concerns are addressed as part of the order**

- **Measures must be put in place on Pym's Road either side of the vehicle entrance into Thomas Adams School to protect pedestrians from the possible hazard of coaches overhanging the pavement when making a right turn from Pym's Road into the school.**
- **Signage must be in place at Drawwell Lane to prevent the use of the main car park as a cut through to Aston Street.**

**110/21 Town Council Action Plan – to discuss.**

The notes from the Vision Session were considered and it was

**RESOLVED**:- to approve the notes from the session and to nominate Cllrs Soul, Dodd and Broomhall to progress the action plan for consideration at a future meeting.

**111/21 2022 Queen's Platinum Jubilee** - to receive a report from the meeting held 23.11.21.

A verbal report from the meeting was given by Cllr Soul and it was explained that the Town Council would be asked at the next meeting whether it would agree to take on the running of the event and its finances.

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

**112/21 Heads up Mental Health Project** – to receive a report on.

The Clerk reported that the project was now being held at Thomas Adams School on a Monday and was offering drop in sessions for year groups along with referrals, this has meant that young people were more likely to access the support on offer. The project would switch to work with year 6 at St Peters after May half term 2022.

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

**113/21 Love lane Cemetery Consultation on amendments to the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016 as applied to groundwater activities and related surface water discharge activities** - for consideration.

A discussion took place on this item and the impact that the proposals could have on the number of future burials at Love Lane Cemetery.

**RESOLVED**:- to delegate authority to the Town Clerk to respond to this consultation as per the comments in her report.

**114/21 Correspondence.**

**a) Town of Sanctuary** – to consider.

A discussion took place on this item and councillors expressed concerns that the aims of the Town of Sanctuary were already at the core of how the Town Council operates and was it necessary to sign up for a scheme of this nature.

**RESOLVED**:- to defer this item to enable the Clerk to gather more information on what is involved.

**115/21 Reports**

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

**RESOLVED**:- to note the written reports received and previously circulated from Cllr Drummond on the Blossoming Wem Group meeting and the report from Wem Town Hall AGM received from Cllr Soul.

b) To receive a written report from Shropshire Councillors Broomhall and Towers

**RESOLVED**:- to note the written report received and previously circulated from Cllrs Towers and Broomhall

**116/21 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.* – No matters raised.

**117/21 Dates of future meetings –**

a) To review the date of December meeting and set date for January Budget Meeting.

**RESOLVED:- that due to the by-election to change the date of the December meeting to Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December at 19.00 and to set the date of the Budget Meeting at Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2022.**

**118/21 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.**

**a) Wem Town Hall SLA Working Party –** to consider recommendations from the working party meeting held 21.10.21.

**RESOLVED:-to approve the recommendations of the working party in relation to the terms of the grant agreement and the annual financial contribution for the three year period 2022-2025.**

**b) Morgan Library –** to consider report of meeting held with Shropshire Council on 1.11.21 and consider options open to the Town Council.

It was reported that the Clerk had been informed that the building would not qualify for an Architectural Heritage Grant as suggested by Shropshire Council.

**RESOLVED:- that**

- **The Town Council is not able to proceed with the current offer from Shropshire Council to transfer the ownership of the Morgan Library to the Town Council on the basis of a full repairing lease unless suitable funding is identified for the works outlined in the viability appraisal by 31.3.22.**
- **The Town Council wish for the Town Clerk to enter into early discussions with other organisations in Wem to identify a suitable location for a Town Council office.**

Meeting ended 20.45

Mayor.....