

Minutes of a Meeting of Wem Town Council held on Thursday 28th April 2022 at 7 p.m. in the Roden Suite, Edinburgh House, New Street, Wem

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

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

A minutes silence was held in memory of former Honorary Townsman and founding member of Wem Sports and Social Association John Dromgool

205/22 To note apologies for absence received.

Apologies were received from Cllr Edge and Cllr Granger. Absent Cllr Hoffmann

206/22 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.

Councillor	Item	Dispensation
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 Dodd	Bias interest 22/01428/FUL Erection of single storey extension to the front, side and rear elevations 13 Marlcroft as lives on Marlcroft	

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

None received.

207/22 Public Participation - a period of 15 minutes will be set aside for residents of Wem Town to speak – none present.

208/22 Council Minutes.

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Meetings of the Town Council held on 31st March 2022 and 5th April 2022.

Error time of on minutes 5.4.22 was held at 16.00 not 19.00

RESOLVED:-

- **That the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 31.3.22 be approved as a correct record and they were duly signed by the Mayor.**

- **Following an alteration of the start time to 16.00 the minutes of Town Council meeting held on 5.4.22 be approved as a correct record and they were duly signed by the Mayor.**

209/22 Progress report - To consider the Clerks progress report on decisions made at previous meetings.

The Clerk was asked to issue a press release concerning the upcoming work to reopen the disabled toilet on Wem Recreation Ground.

RESOLVED:- to note the report.

210/22 Planning Applications

a) To note the recent planning decisions.

RESOLVED:- to note the report.

b) To consider the following planning applications

i) **22/01478/FUL** Red House, Fir Tree Lane, Wem, Shropshire, SY4 5EU
Proposal: Erection of extensions to existing dwelling.

RESOLVED:- to object to the application for the following reasons:

- **The lay out and density of the proposed extensions are inappropriate for the size of the site.**
- **In addition to this the Council considers that the proposals will have a negative impact on neighbouring properties through a loss of privacy, a loss of light and overshadowing of properties.**

ii) **22/01625/FUL** Addition of rear dormer, internal and external alterations 8 Bowens Field Wem SY4 5AP

RESOLVED:- to support as it is in keeping with other previously extended properties in the area.

iii) **22/01428/FUL** Erection of single storey extension to the front, side and rear elevations 13 Marlcroft Wem SY4 5AN

Cllr Dodd left the room and took no part in discussions.

Concern was expressed that the work had already started on this extension.

RESOLVED:- to comment that the Town Council is concerned that as building work has already started the applicant should not carry out any further work until the application has been determined.

Cllr Dodd returned to the room

iv) **22/01499/FUL** Erection of single storey rear extension 17 Windmill Meadow Wem SY4 5YH

RESOLVED:- to support the application as it is in keeping with other previously extended properties in the local area.

v) **22/01500/AGR** Proposed building for the storage of agricultural machinery Land Adj Unit 2 The Old Creamery Aston Road Wem SY4 5BA – this application does not require planning consent

A discussion took place on this item and concern was raised about the public right of way close to the proposed location.

c) Examination of Local Plan Information – to consider

RESOLVED:- to note the correspondence and agree not to request an opportunity for a representative of the Town Council to speak at the stage 1 examination of the local plan.

211/22 Finance and Accounts for Payment.

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

The Mayor reported that all internal control checks up to 31.3.22 had been completed.

RESOLVED:- to note the report.

b) Accounts for payment - to approve accounts for payment.

RESOLVED:- to approve the following for payment

Supplier	Service	Net	Vat	Gross	Chq / BACS No
ICCM	Membership	95.00	0.00	95.00	1.22
Ash Road Markings	Wem Rec Cycle Markings	1134.00	226.80	1360.80	2.22
Shropshire Council Pension Fund	Actuarial Valuation	200.00	0.00	200.00	3.22
Shropshire Council	Cemetery Non-Domestic Rates	97.31	0.00	97.31	4.22
Shropshire Council	Office Rent & Service Charge	1525.00	0.00	1525.00	5.22
ISM IT Ltd	Computer Contract	86.97	17.40	104.37	6.22
Healthmatic	April Cleaning Toilets	829.17	165.83	995.00	7.22
DW Evans	Grave Digging	625.00	0.00	625.00	8.22
Arrow County Supplies	Bin Bags	135.33	27.07	162.40	9.22
Mark Fitton	Cleaning	70.00		70.00	10.22
SALC	Affiliation fees	1859.18		1859.18	11.22
P O'Hagan expenses	Flags Telephone Total	349.83 21.87	69.97	419.80 21.87 441.67	12.22
PG Skips	Bin emptying rec and cemetery March	115.30	23.05	138.35	13.22
WSSA	Contribution	19500	2600	22100	14.22
Wem Town Hall	Yr1 SLA	20000.00		20000.00	15.22
P O'Hagan	HSE Poster (Reimbursement)	17.00	3.40	20.40	16.22
West Mercia Energy	Electricity Supply	103.07	5.15	108.22	17.22

Flying Colours Flagmakers	Bunting	696.65	139.33	835.98	17a.2 2
Shropshire Council	Salaries April	9465.43		9465.43	DD
Business to Business	Broadband March	37.48	7.50	44.98	DD
Onecom	Landline	34.82	6.96	41.78	DD

Grant / Contributions

	Amount Awarded	BACS No.
Army Cadet Force League	£200	18.22
Baptist Church	£300	19.22
Wem Cricket Club	£500	20.22
Wem Jubilee Band	£500	21.22
NS Wheelers Community Bus Project	£500	22.22
Vehicles of Interest	£500	23.22
Wem Bowling Club	£500	24.22
Wem Guiding	£500	25.22
Wem Christmas Lights	£3000	26.22
Millennium Green	£1700	27.22
Whitchurch Road Cemetery	£2000	28.22
Youth Club	£2000	29.22

c) Town Council Insurance – to review and consider premium for 2022-23 2021-22.

The Clerk explained the quote was the third year of a three year agreement that the Council had committed to with Zurich insurance. The increase in premium was predominantly due to the cost of insuring the Jubilee event on Wem Recreation Ground and that this was currently being queried. The Clerk was also asked to seek clarification on the cover levels for civic regalia along with the libel and slander element of the insurance.

RESOLVED:- to defer a decision on this until the May meeting to allow the clerk to query the matters raised with the insurer.

212/22 Platinum Jubilee Celebration Steering Group meeting 26.4.22 –

a) to receive a verbal report on meeting held 26.4.22 and consider recommendations from this meeting.

A written report of the notes was circulated prior to the meeting and it was

RESOLVED:- to receive the notes.

213/22 Barber Trust – to consider request to renominate Cllr Granger, Cllr Meakin and J Murray as trustees for the next 3 years.

RESOLVED:- to appoint Cllr Granger, Cllr Meakin and J Murray as trustees of the Barber Trust for the next 3 years.

214/22 Policing Charter and Priorities for town – to review.

RESOLVED:- that the Policing priorities for Wem town over the next year should be

1. Speeding

- 2. Anti social behaviour
- 3. Burglary

215/22 Wet pour repair quotes – for consideration.
The Clerk explained that 3 companies were approached but that only 1 quote had been received

RESOLVED:- to award the contract for the repair of the wet pour under the large swing unit and adjacent to the small multiplay unit on Wem Recreation Ground to Ray Parry Playgrounds.

216/22 Correspondence - to discuss the following items
a) Shropshire Council Joint Energy Agreement 2022.

RESOLVED:- to continue with the Joint Energy Agreement with Shropshire Council

b) Closure of Blossoming Wem Project.
Councillors expressed their disappointment that the project had failed.

RESOLVED:- to request that the grant funding is returned to the Town Council and earmarked for future floral projects in the town.

c) Heads-up Project monitoring report.

RESOLVED:- to note report.

217/22 Annual Town Meeting – to consider matters raised for attention of the Town Council at the Annual Town Meeting held 21.4.22. It was reported that no matters were raised.

RESOLVED:- to set up a working party in early 2023 discuss a new format for the Annual Town Meeting in 2023.

218/22 Reports

a) To receive written reports from the Council's representatives to other bodies.
A written report received from Cllr Drummond from the Millennium Green Committee was considered and noted.

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

RESOLVED:- to note the reports received.

219/22 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.*
Ambulance response June

220/22 Dates of future meetings –

a) To note the date and time of May meeting.

RESOLVED:- to note that the May meeting will be held on 26.5.22.

221/22 Exclusion of Public and Press

To resolve that as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and press be excluded from the meeting in accordance with Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

RESOLVED:- to exclude the press and public.

a) Morgan Library – to consider

RESOLVED:- that the Town Council is not able to proceed with the current offer from Shropshire Council to transfer ownership of the Morgan Library to the Town Council on the basis of a full repairing lease due to the condition of the building and the costs involved with its renovation.

b) Office lease

It was reported that there was no update on this matter as the Town Clerk was waiting for a response from the Estates team to queries that had been raised.

Meeting ended at 20.15

Mayor.....