

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Wem Town Council held on Thursday 30th January 2020 at 7 p.m.in the Roden Suite, Edinburgh House, New Street, Wem.

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

Mrs P O'Hagan (Town Clerk)

4 Members of public present

Rev Heron said prayers before the start of the meeting

150/20 To receive apologies for absence.

RESOLVED:- to accept the following apology for absence

Cllr Dee

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 Mellings	Twin-hatted member 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 Edge	Wem Youth Club Committee member	

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

151/20 Public Participation Time - a period of 15 minutes will be set aside for residents of Wem Town to speak.

A representative from Wem Civic Society reported that at their AGM funding for Wem Youth Club was discussed and members consider it vital that the youth club is supported, also the long-term future of Wem Library remains a concern to members. A representative from Wem Civic Society raised the following matters:-

- Members are frustrated at the lack of a ticket machine at Wem Station especially as Transport for Wales has promised its replacement since August 2019.
- Proposed Lowe Hill Road Development indicative layout – the Wem Traffic Forum is concerned about the proposed exit onto Pyms Road and has submitted comments that they want to ensure that a roundabout is put in place to deal with the traffic in this busy area.

152/20 Council Minutes.

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 19th December 2019 and Budget meeting held 23.1.20.

RESOLVED:- that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 19th December 2019 and the Special Meeting of the Town Council to agree the budget held on 23rd January 2020 be approved as correct records and both were duly signed by the Mayor.

153/20 Progress report

a) To consider the Clerks progress report on matters arising at previous meetings. Cllr Soul requested that the Clerk chase up the ticket machine at the station Cllr Mellings stated that he had received an update saying that the installation had been delayed until April. Thanks were expressed to Cllr Mellings and the Rights of Way Department for the recent resurfacing work on Drawwell Walk. Councillors also expressed thanks for the recent highways works on Shawbury Road.

RESOLVED:- to note

154/20 Planning Applications

a) To note the recent planning decisions

RESOLVED:- to note

b) To consider the following planning application 20/00075/FUL, Erection of commercial offices, Former Hawk Site Grange Park Shawbury Road Wem, SY4 5PF.

RESOLVED:- not to comment.

c) Place Plan Publication - to note.

RESOLVED:- to note.

d) Planning Correspondence - 19/04415/FUL Land off Roden Grove, Wem to consider email received concerning the public open space from Shropshire Council Planning Dept.

A discussion took place on this item and it was

RESOLVED:- to submit the following response;

The Town Council does not consider that a proposed off site contribution to offset the loss of safe usable open space on this development is an appropriate resolution to this application. An off-site contribution would not address the needs of future residents who live on the development. These residents should not be disadvantaged to resolve the drainage issues of the site. The Town Council has always considered this to be an inappropriate site for development and the current application only serves to reinforce this.

The Council wish to refer planning officers to the previous comments that the Council has submitted relating to this application in particular the request that a meeting is held with the developer, planning officers, councillors and representatives from residents to enable them to voice concerns about the development that have not been addressed by this application.

155/20 Finance and Accounts for Payment

a) To consider monthly financial statement and monthly budget report.

It was reported that the Mayor had carried out the monthly bank reconciliation checks of all bank accounts as part of the Town Council's internal controls and found no issues of concern.

RESOLVED:- to note the reports.

b) To approve accounts for payment and any payments made prior to meeting.

RESOLVED:- to approve the following payments

Payments Made before meeting

Supplier	Service	Net	Vat	Gross	Chq / BACS No
CES	Asbestos sheet removal	100.00	20.00	120.00	134.19

Payments for approval

Supplier	Service	Net	Vat	Gross	Chq / BACS No
Severn Business Solutions	PC Disposal	40.00	8.00	48.00	135.19
	Shared drive set up	150.00	30.00	180.00	
	Total			228.00	
West Mercia Energy	Electricity Supply Toilets				136.19
	1.11.19 – 30.11.19	121.87	6.09	127.96	
	1.12.19- 31.12.19	125.25	6.26	131.51	
	Total			259.47	
Wem Swimming & Lifestyle Centre	Contribution	14,500		14,500	137.19
Shropshire Council	Room Rental & Service Charge Edinburgh House 1.1.20 – 31.3.20	1525.00		1525.00	138.19
Shropshire Council	External Payroll 1.1.20 – 31.3.20	152.50	30.50	183.00	139.19
Cllr Glover	Mayor's Expenses December 2019	20.00		20.00	140.19
Mark Fitton	Cleaning of Bus Shelters January 2020	65.00		65.00	141.19
PG Skips	Cemetery Bin emptying	41.55	8.31	49.86	142.19
	Recreation Bin Emptying	65.05	13.01	78.06	
	Total	106.60	21.32	127.92	
Balfours	Condition Survey	668.70	133.74	802.44	143.19
Viking	Stationery Order	107.15	9.23	116.38	144.19
Sarah's Contract Embroidery	Clothing & Embroidery of Town Council Logo	83.64	16.73	100.37	145.19
Wem Youth Club	Annual Contribution	2000.00		2000.00	146.19
Healthmatic	Toilet Cleaning	829.17	165.83	995.00	147.19
Shropshire Council	January Salaries Dec overtime and expenses	7462.95		7462.95	148.19
Penny O'Hagan	Reimbursement of order placed with Toye Kenning & Spencer for 4	16.83	2.47	19.30	300107

	x Black Mourning Rosettes				
Onecom	Telephone Charges	25.82	5.16	30.98	DD

c) To approve year end accounts closedown quote

RESOLVED:- to approve the quote for the year end closedown.

156/20 Finance and Corporate Governance Committee Meeting 14.1.20 – to receive minutes from this meeting and consider any recommendations not previously considered within the minutes.

RESOLVED:- to receive the minutes from the Finance and Corporate Governance Committee Meeting 14.1.20 and to approve recommendations not previously considered within the minutes.

157/20 Wem Medical Practice to discuss concerns raised over availability of appointments at the surgery and access to the pharmacy.
Cllr Granger reported that she had received multiple complaints from residents on this issue concerning the pharmacy and in particular collection of prescriptions and access to repeat prescriptions. A discussion took place on the physical access to the pharmacy as customers must walk through the car park and a safe pedestrian route is needed.

RESOLVED:- to

- **Request Cllr Dee raise the concerns over access to services particularly blood tests with the Patient Access Group and request that the practice manager attends a future meeting of the Town Council to provide an insight into the workings of the surgery and how appointments are prioritised.**
- **Contact Rowlands Pharmacy to raise concerns over access to prescriptions.**

158/20 Wem Area Climate Change Forum 15.1.20 – to receive a report from the meeting. Cllr Drummond gave a report from this meeting.

a) to consider request for payment of expenses for coordination of forum.

RESOLVED:- to

- **Reimburse the forum for expenses related to its work up to a maximum of £20 a month. All expenses claimed must be accompanied by a receipt and and mileage claimed at 40p per mile**
- **Town Council to offer help with printing of documents.**

159/20 Wem Economic Forum meeting 21.1.20 – to receive a report from the meeting. Cllr Dodd gave a report from this meeting.

RESOLVED:- to note the report.

160/20 Correspondence (copies enclosed).

a) Wem Youth club – to consider email received.

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

It was reported that a meeting had been held between the Town Clerk, Cllr Mellings, Karen Ladd and Sue Challis from Wem Youth Club to discuss future funding of the Youth Club. It had been made clear that due to the timing of the Council decision on youth provision the Town Council had not been in a position to include in its budget any additional provision for Wem Youth Club this financial year and that it was imperative that Shropshire Council continued to provide the same level of funding to the Youth Club up to 31.3.21. However confirmation that this funding would be continued was not guaranteed.

RESOLVED:- to note the report

b) Pick n Mix Events - to consider email received.

RESOLVED:- not to progress.

161/20 Reports

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

A report received from Cllr Dodd on a recent Whitchurch Road Cemetery meeting was circulated with the meeting papers and it was;

RESOLVED:- to note the report

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

A written report received from Cllr Mellings was circulated with the meeting papers and it was;

RESOLVED:- to note the written report from Cllr Mellings

162/20 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.*

The Clerk was asked to request that a representative of the Police be asked to attend a future meeting to discuss concerns over staffing levels.

163/20 Dates of future meetings – to note the date of the February meeting

RESOLVED:- to note that the next meeting of the Council would take place on 27th February 2020.

164/20 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) London Bridge Protocols – for review deferred from December meeting.

RESOLVED:- to approve revised document.

b) Fothergill Way Public Open Space – to consider response received from Persimmon Homes.

RESOLVED:- to note the response but before the matter is closed to query with Persimmon Homes the actual ownership of the of the ditch and gabions.

Meeting ended 20.30

Mayor.....