

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Wem Town Council held on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April 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 Nash, G Soul, E Towers.

Mrs P O'Hagan (Town Clerk).

2 members of the public present

**197/19 To receive apologies for absence.**  
none

**198/19 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.

<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Dispensation</b>
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
Cllr Mellings, Cllr Towers, Cllr Moyse	WSLC directors 205/19	Dispensations to speak but not vote
Cllr Mellings, Cllr Drummond, Cllr Meakin and Cllr Towers	WSSA trustees 211/19	

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

**199/19 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 trade was down at the recent Spring Market and this must be put down to parking charges as the market was well publicised. There was a concern that Wem will be turned into a dormitory town if this downturn in trade continues.

**200/19 Council Minutes**

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

**RESOLVED**:- to approve as a correct record the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2019 and they were duly signed by The Mayor.

**201/19 Progress report** - To note the Clerks progress report on matters arising at previous meetings.

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

**202/19 Planning Applications**

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

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

**b) Mill Bank, Mill Street Housing Development** – to discuss condition of rebuilt stone wall fronting the new development at Mill Bank in Mill Street.

Cllr Mellings reported he had discussed this issue with the case officer involved with this development and had reported concerns about the height and quality of the reconstruction of the southern section of the wall. Concerns were also raised about the gateway reinstatement as well. A question was asked over the ownership of the wall once the houses have been sold.

**RESOLVED:-** that Cllr Mellings will continue to discuss this problem direct with Shropshire Council Officers.

**203/19 Finance and Accounts for Payment**

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

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

**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**

Supplier	Service	Net	Vat	Gross	Chq / BACS No
GR Consultancy	Training	177.00		177.00	172.18
The Safe Shop	Safe	223.00	44.60	267.60	1.19
Sarah's Embroidery	Staff work clothing	86.87	17.37	104.24	2.19

**Grant Contributions as agreed January 2019**

Organisation	Amount Awarded	Chq number
Wem Albion Bowling Club	£400	300087
Wem Amateur Dramatic & Operatic Society	£500	300088
Wem Army Cadet Force League	£200	300089
Wem Baptist Holiday Bible Club	£200	300090
Wem Carnival Committee	£500	300091
Wem Cricket Club	£500	300092
Wem Jubilee Band	£500	300093
NS Wheelers	£500	300094

Wem Tennis Club	£500	300095
Wem Bowling Club	£500	300096
Welcome to Wem Community Group	£100	300097
1 <sup>st</sup> Wem Girl Guiding	£200	300098
Vehicles of Interest	£400	300099

### **Payments for approval**

<b>Supplier</b>	<b>Service</b>	<b>Net</b>	<b>Vat</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>Chq / BACS No</b>
Institute of Cemetery & Crematorium Management	Membership	95.00		95.00	3.19
Friends of Wem Swimming & Lifestyle Centre	Contribution	29,000.00		29,000.00	4.19
Shropshire Council	Rates Love lane Cemetery	83.96		83.96	5.19
SALC	Membership	1583.04		1583.04	6.19
Ricoh	Lease	105.01			
	Copy costs	134.64			
	Total 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter	239.65	47.93	287.58	7.19
PG Skips	Rec Bin emptying	51.24	10.25	61.49	8.19
	Cemetery Bin	32.44	6.49	38.93	
	Total	83.68	16.74	100.42	
JDH Business Services	Internal Audit	535.50	107.10	642.60	9.19
Smart water	Annual renewal	165.00	33.00	198.00	10.19
Mark Fitton	Bus shelter cleaning April	65.00		65.00	11.19
Rialtus	Year end accounts closedown	563.40	112.68	676.08	12.19
West Mercia Energy	Toilet electricity	84.56	4.23	88.79	13.19
Wem Sports and Social Association CIO	6 month contribution	9000.00		9000.00	14.19
Healthmatic	Toilet cleaning	787.50	157.50	945.00	15.19
Friends of Whitchurch Road Cemetery	Contribution	2000.00		2000.00	300100
Wem Millennium Green	Contribution	1700.00		1700.00	300101
Wem Town Hall	Annual contribution	22,000		22,000	300102
Onecom	Telephone	25.77	5.15	30.92	DD
Shropshire Council	Payroll	7330.03	10.18	7340.21	DD
Talk Talk	Broadband	16.00	3.20	19.20	DD

c) To approve Payroll Contract 2019-20.

**RESOLVED**:- to approve contract with Shropshire Council to provide payroll services for the Town Council during 2019-20.

d) Town Council Insurance – to consider quote.

It was reported that the Town Council's insurance had been reviewed along with the quote at the Finance and Corporate Governance Committee meeting on 16.4.19 and it was recommended that the payment be approved.

**RESOLVED**:- to approve payment

Came and Company	Insurance	£5661.36		£5661.36	16.19
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**204/19 Finance and Corporate Governance Committee meeting 16.4.19** - to receive minutes and approve recommendations within the minutes.

**RESOLVED**:- to receive minutes of the Finance and Corporate Governance Committee meeting 16.4.19 and approve recommendations within the minutes.

**205/19 Swimming Pool** - to consider quotes for purchase of Heat Exchange Unit. The Clerk explained that despite contacting 5 companies only 2 quotes had been received.

**RESOLVED**:- to award contract for the supply and installation of the Heat Exchange Unit at Wem Swimming and Lifestyle Centre to Shropshire Spa and Pools.

**206/19 Bus service consultation**- to consider Shropshire Council's consultation on the Reduction of Local Bus Service Subsidies - Financial Year 2019/20. A discussion took place on the proposals and in particular the impact that the changes would have on the 511 and the 201 buses that run in the town.

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

- The Town Council is unable to make an informed decision on this matter due to the lack of specific data about the cuts to the services in the consultation document.
- Proposals will reduce independence of nondrivers in the community.
- Young people will be unable to access education and work in Wem if the peak time Shrewsbury to Whitchurch bus service is cut.
- Medical appointments at the larger medical centres in both Whitchurch and Shrewsbury will be difficult for residents from the town to access if they are unable to travel by bus.
- The proposals will force more cars onto the road adding to congestion and pollution locally.
- These cuts will have a significant impact on the Market Towns again and it would be more appropriate to look at changing the frequency of town buses around Shrewsbury which would have a lesser impact.

207/19

**Climate Emergency** To consider following motion submitted by Cllr Mellings

*This Council notes that the IPCC's Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C, published in October 2018, describes the enormous harm that a 2°C rise is likely to cause compared with a 1.5°C rise, and confirms that limiting Global Warming to 1.5°C may still be possible with ambitious action from national and sub-national authorities and others.*

*As well as increasing temperatures and more extreme weather, human activities are also having a massive impact on nature. The worldwide population of mammals, birds, fish and aquatic creatures, amphibians and reptiles have plunged by almost 60 percent, since 1970. Current rates of species extinction are 100- to 1,000-times higher than the 'standard rate' of extinction. There are also huge health impacts associated with fossil fuels, for example, air pollution causes 40,000 excess deaths every year in the UK and reduces average life span globally by 2 years.*

*To reduce the chance of runaway global warming and limit the effects of climate breakdown, it is imperative that, as a species, we reduce our CO<sub>2</sub>eq (carbon equivalent) emissions from their current 6.5 tonnes per person per year to less than 2 tonnes as soon as possible. Individuals cannot be expected to make this reduction on their own. Society needs to change its laws, taxation, infrastructure etc., to make low carbon living easier and the new norm. The good news is there are many social, environmental and economic benefits in doing so.*

*We welcome action by London, Bristol and other City Councils around the world to declare and commit resources to tackling a 'Climate Emergency'. We also welcome actions by other Town and Borough Councils such as Scarborough, Frome and Stroud and more locally Machynlleth, Welshpool and Oswestry to pledge to be carbon neutral by 2030.*

*We therefore resolve that Wem Town Council:-*

- 1) Supports the Declaration of a Climate Emergency*
- 2) Pledges to make the Council carbon neutral by 2030*
- 3) Calls on Westminster to provide powers and resources to make this possible*
- 4) Signs up to the Covenant of Mayors*
- 5) Requests that the Planning & Transport Committee develops a detailed Action Plan in pursuit of the above objectives and reports back within 6 months*

Cllr Mellings presented this item and a discussion took place, it was

**RESOLVED:- that Wem Town Council**

- 1) Supports the Declaration of a Climate Emergency.**
- 2) Pledges to make the Town Council carbon neutral by 2030.**
- 3) Calls on Westminster to provide powers and resources to make this possible.**
- 4) Will sign up to the Covenant of Mayors.**
- 5) Will set up a working party composed of Cllrs Mellings, Drummond, Soul, Nash, Dee and Towers to discuss the development of a draft action plan in pursuant of the above objectives to be considered by The Planning & Transport Committee within the next 6 months.**

208/19

**Reports**

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

A written report on a recent Friends of Whitchurch Road Cemetery meeting was circulated by Cllr Dodd.

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

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

**RESOLVED:- to receive the written report from Cllr Mellings and verbal report from Cllr Dee.**

**209/19 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* – none received.

**210/19 Dates of future meetings** – to note the date of the May meeting.

**RESOLVED:-** to note date of May meeting as 30.5.19.

**211/19 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.

Cllr Mellings, Cllr Towers, Cllr Meakin and Cllr Drummond left the room and took no part in discussion.

**Wem Sports and Social Association**

a) To approve and give consent to the assignment of the leases of both Bowens Field (under the 1974 lease) and the Recreation Ground (under the 1967 lease) between the Urban Parish Council of Wem (1) and a number of Trustees on behalf of the Wem Sports and Social Association (2), from Wem Sports and Social Association to Wem Sports and Social Association CIO in accordance with the terms of the 1974 and 1967 lease.

**RESOLVED:-** to approve and give consent to the assignment of the leases of both Bowens Field (under the 1974 lease) and the Recreation Ground (under the 1967 lease) between the Urban Parish Council of Wem (1) and a number of Trustees on behalf of the Wem Sports and Social Association (2), from Wem Sports and Social Association to Wem Sports and Social Association CIO in accordance with the terms of the 1974 and 1967 lease.

b) To consent to the underletting of the Hall, Bar and Members Lounge at Wem Sports and Social Club to the sub-tenant being Wem Sports and Social Club Limited. As per the terms of the 1974 lease (referred to above) such consent is not to be unreasonably withheld and the terms of the sub-lease are to be approved and contain the provisions referred to at clause 2(e) of the 1974 lease.

**RESOLVED:-** to consent to the underletting of the Hall, Bar and Members Lounge at Wem Sports and Social Club as per the terms of the 1974 lease.

Meeting ended 20.15

Mayor.....