

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Wem Town Council held on Thursday 27th September 2018 at 7 p.m.in the Roden Suite, Edinburgh House, New Street, Wem.

Present:- Councillor C Granger (Mayor), P Glover (Deputy Mayor), Councillors, P Broomhall, P Dee, R Dodd, P Johnson, M Meakin, C Mellings, P Moyse, J Murray, G Nash, G Soul.
Mrs P O'Hagan (Town Clerk).

4 members of the public present

67/18 To receive apologies for absence.

**RESOLVED:- to receive the following apology for absence
Cllr Towers**

68/18 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.

The following interests were disclosed.

Councillor	Item	Dispensation
Cllrs Mellings and Dee	Twin-hatted member 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	Item 77/18 Board Member Wem Swimming and Lifestyle Centre	Dispensation to allow participation but not voting on all matters relating to Wem Swimming and Lifestyle Centre
Cllr Moyse	Item 77/18 Board Member Wem Swimming and Lifestyle Centre	

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

69/18 Public Participation Time - a period of 15 minutes will be set aside for residents of Wem Town to speak.

A member of the public raised the following items

- Due to the number of cars now parked along the road there were concerns that a fire engine would not be able to access some of the narrower streets off the High Street.

- Why are there were two different names for properties on the old Westlands site? The bungalows are called Westlands Bungalows and the flats Vaughn Place. Cllr Mellings explained that the Westlands Bungalows were already in existence before the new development and Vaughn Place refers to the new development.
- Although the one way system in operation is working well and some residents support, if this was to become a permanent feature then ere may be problems for bus routes.
- The River Roden has not been cleared out properly as the debris is all left on the bank.

A member of Wem Civic Society thanked Bernard Sockett for the excellent display he put on to commemorate the 160th anniversary of the opening of the Crewe to Shrewsbury railway line.

The situation regarding the number of shops closing on the High Street was raised and it was suggested that a town meeting may be useful to discuss any ideas people may have to help regenerate the High Street.

70/18 Council Minutes.

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 26th July 2018.

RESOLVED:- to approve as a correct record the minutes of the ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 26th July 2018 and they were duly signed by The Mayor.

71/18 Councillor Co-option applications – to consider applications received and to co-opt an applicant for the Councillor vacancy onto the Council.

Two applications were received and following a vote it was;

RESOLVED:- to co-opt Roger Drummond onto the Town Council.

72/18 Progress report - To note the Clerks progress report on matters arising at previous meetings.

RESOLVED:- to note the progress report.

73/18 Planning Applications.

a) To note the recent planning decisions.

RESOLVED:- to note.

b) Pre-application protocol - to consider draft.

The draft protocol was considered and it was explained that this protocol would cover any pre application not just those on allocated sites. Councillors felt that they needed more time to consider the protocol and it was

RESOLVED:- to defer to the next Town Council or Planning and Transport Committee meeting.

c) Planning Local Subscription – to consider whether to subscribe to.

RESOLVED:- not to subscribe to this service at this time.

d) Planning Applications for consideration

Reference: 18/04218/COU Hair Salon , 104 Lowe Hill Road, Wem, SY4 5UT

Proposal: Application under Section 73A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for the change of use from A1 hair salon to C3 domestic garage

RESOLVED:- to support the application.

74/18 Finance and Accounts for Payment

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

It was reported that the monthly internal control checks had taken place. The 2nd quarter budget report and monthly financial statement were considered and it was

RESOLVED:- to note the report.

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

RESOLVED:- to approve the following payments and payments made prior to the meeting

Payments made prior to the meeting

Supplier	Service	Net	Vat	Gross	Chq / BACS No
Shropshire Council	Payroll	6564.00	10.18	6574.18	DD
Talk Talk	Broadband	16.00	3.20	19.20	DD
Sailflags	Market flags	194.00	38.80	232.80	300078
West Mercia Energy	Toilet electricity July	62.49	3.12	65.61	59.18
PG Skips	Cemetery bin emptying Aug. Recreation Bin Emptying Total	32.44 51.24	6.49 10.25	38.93 61.49 100.42	60.18
E.on	Lighting repair	123.27	24.65	147.92	61.18
Mark Fitton	Cleaning of Bus Shelters August	52.50		52.50	62.18
Healthmatic	Cleaning and Maintenance Public Toilets	787.50	157.50	945.00	63.18
Shropshire Council	Health and Safety Contract	920.00	184.00	1104.00	64.18
Severn Business	Computer licences	194.40	38.88	233.28	65.18
SLCC	Civic Ceremonial Book	51.20	.80	52.00	66.18
Viking	Stamps and Stationery	197.46	16.29	213.75	67.18
C Granger	Mayors expenditure June/ July	75.10		75.10	68.18
B. Humphreys	Relief Litterpicker	20.00		20.00	300079
C Granger	Mayors Civic Service refreshments	650.00		650.00	69.18

Shropshire Council	Payroll	6500.22	10.18	6510.40	DD
PWLB	Sept Loan repayment	2260.73		2260.73	DD

Payments for approval

Supplier	Service	Net	Vat	Gross	Chq / BACS No
Waterplus	Public Toilets Water	145.40		145.40	70.18
PG Skips	Cemetery bin emptying	40.55	8.11	48.66	71.18
	Recreation Bin Emptying	64.05	12.81	76.86	
	Skip hire	160.00	32.00	192.00	
	Total (Sept)	264.60	52.92	317.52	
Ray Parry	Play equipment repairs	820.00	164.00	984.00	72.18
Hunter Lloyd	Toilet electrical repairs	545.00	109.00	654.00	73.18
RDS	Honours Board	55.00		55.00	74.18
PKF Littlejohn	Annual Governance and Accountability Return	800.00	160.00	960.00	75.18
Salop Glass	Bus Shelter Repair	456.00	91.20	547.20	76.18
Andrea Pellegram	Planning Training	414.30		414.30	77.18
Ricoh	Copier lease	105.01			78.18
	copies	117.87			
		222.88	44.57	267.45	
Mark Fitton	Cleaning of Bus Shelters August	65.00		65.00	79.18
NS Print	Civic Service Printing (Mayors Allowance)	259.00	19.00	278.00	80.18
WSLC	Contribution	14500		14500	81.18
Severn Business Solutions	Domain renewal	71.28	14.26	85.54	82.18
Via Della Emelia	Cemetery hedge cutting	455.00	91.00	546.00	83.18
The Fruitful Deli	Paper Plates	41.18		41.18	84.18
Connie Granger	Civic Service Hospitality	9.58		9.58	85.18
	Civic Expenses (Mayors Allowance)	103.59		103.59	
	Total			113.17	
Healthmatic	Cleaning and Maintenance Public Toilets	787.50	157.50	945.00	86.18
Wem Economic Forum	Grant balance	761.00		761.00	87.18
Mr McKean	Allotment 11b rent reimbursement	9.50		9.50	300080

c) To note completion of the limited assurance review for year ended 31.3.18.

The Clerk explained that the Limited Assurance Review for the year ended 31.3.18 had been returned by the External Auditor with no comments and that the completion of the

Annual Governance and Accountability Review had been advertised as per the regulations.

RESOLVED:- to note the report.

75/18 Amenities and Services Committee meeting held 11th September 2018

a) To receive these minutes and approve the recommendations contained therein

RESOLVED:- to receive these minutes and approve the recommendations contained therein with the exception of change in the wording of the Cemetery Fees which will be considered in more detail at the October meeting of the Town Council.

b) LED Streetlight Correspondence – to consider course of action.

It was explained that the glare from the newly erected LED light in Drawwell Walk was causing problems for occupants of a neighbouring property. Two Councillors had visited the property and agreed that the issue needed rectifying. A number of options were considered and it was

RESOLVED:- to authorise the contractor to explore options to reduce the glare from the streetlight..

76/18 Highways

a) **Wem Economic Forum HGV signs** – To consider quote for the supply and installation of additional signs to deter HGV's from travelling through the town.

The Clerk reported that Shropshire Council had indicated that it would cost an estimated £2000 to supply and install up to 7 HGV signs at key junctions approaching the town. A discussion took place on the funding of the new signs and Councillors were of the opinion that the proposed signs would help direct HGV's away from the town. However, concern was raised over the funding of the signs as councillors felt that they should not be funded entirely by the Town Council and it was suggested that some funding could come from Wem Economic Forum or Wem Rural Parish Council.

RESOLVED:- To support the locations identified for the new signs and allocate a contribution of £500 towards the project.

b) **Parking Problems Ellesmere Road** - to consider email correspondence on this matter, item requested by Councillor Dee.

Cllr Dee outlined the problem of dangerous parking on the bend on Ellesmere Road close to its junction with Lowe Hill Road which forced cars onto the wrong side of the road on a blind bend. The need for the footway to be extended was also discussed and it was reported that a feasibility study had been undertaken of this project in 2003.

RESOLVED:- that the Town Council supports the need to install yellow lines on the corner of Ellesmere Road and the Clerk was asked to contact Shropshire Council Highways department to request that they add this to their list of highways improvement projects. The Clerk was also instructed to request that consideration be given by Shropshire Council to extend the footway along Ellesmere Road to Overfields Farm to ensure the safety of pedestrians.

c) **Shropshire wide 20 mph Campaign** – to consider request that the Town Council adopts a general 20mph speed limit on all roads in the town.

RESOLVED:- to respond that whilst the Town Council shares the campaign's concerns about pedestrian safety, Wem Town Council does not support the concept of a town wide 20mph speed limit as The Council does not consider that all roads in Wem are suitable for a 20mph speed limit and would welcome a more targeted approach to speed limits based on a street by street basis.

77/18 Wem Swimming and Lifestyle Centre – to consider request from committee to approve price increase as per the terms of the lease. The price increases were considered and it was

RESOLVED:- to approve the price increase.

78/18 Youth Advocate – to consider the appointment of.
Cllr Dee explained that she had been approached by a local resident with the suggestion that a youth advocate is appointed to give the views of young people in the town.

RESOLVED:- to establish a twice yearly standing agenda item on Youth Matters and contact Thomas Adams and St Peters school to request that they supply items to be considered under this agenda item.

79/18 100 Year Commemoration of the End of WWI

a) To discuss lighting of beacon on recreation ground.

It was explained that the details relating to the lighting of the beacon were the responsibility of Wem Sports and Social Association. However a request had been made to extend the road closure to include New Street and Park Road so that the Remembrance parade could finish at the recreation ground where the beacon would be lit at midday. The Clerk explained that the road closure had already been applied for and published. Therefore it was not possible to amend it and she would not be in favour of the parade taking place on roads that had not been formally closed.

RESOLVED:- not to support the extension of the parade route to the recreation ground.

b) To consider location of memorial seat.

RESOLVED:- to approve the location of the memorial seat outside Wem Library at right angles to the Jubilee noticeboard subject to permission from Shropshire Council

c) To consider correspondence received.- A request to include a white poppy display as part of the Poppy Chain was considered and it was

RESOLVED:- not to progress this request.

80/18 Correspondence – to consider the following items of correspondence (copies enclosed).

a) West Mercia Police We don't buy crime initiative –

RESOLVED:- not to support this initiative due to budget constraints.

b) Community Enablement Team Review.

RESOLVED:- to note

c) ERDF - Natural Environment funding opportunity - Shropshire Wildlife Trust inviting projects to form part of package.

RESOLVED:- to note

d) Wem Level Crossing – request for footbridge. It was explained that the Town Council had requested a footbridge by the station on many occasions with no success. However the suggestion of a ticket machine on both platforms was considered to be an excellent idea.

RESOLVED:- that the Clerk writes to Transport for Wales to request a ticket machine to be installed on both platforms.

81/18 Barclays Bank Future Use of Building – for update from working party. Cllr Mellings and Cllr Dodd updated the Council on the work that had been undertaken since the last meeting.

RESOLVED:- to receive the report

Cllr Johnson left the meeting at 20.45

82/18 Reports

a) To receive reports from the Council's representatives to other bodies. Written reports were considered from Cllr Broomhall representing Christmas Lights Committee and Cllr Dodd who attended the Friends of Whitchurch Road Cemetery meeting.

b) To receive a report from Shropshire Council Councillors Mellings and Dee. A verbal report was given by Cllr Dee and Cllr Mellings presented a written report.

RESOLVED:- to note the reports

83/18 Future agenda items – for consideration.
White Horse

84/18 Dates of future meetings – to note the date of the October meeting

RESOLVED:- to note the next meeting date as Thursday 25th October 2018.

Meeting ended 21.00

Mayor.....