

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Wem Town Council held on Thursday 28th February 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, E Towers.

Mrs P O'Hagan (Town Clerk).

At the start of the meeting Rev Nick Heron said prayers

4 members of the public present

Prior to the start of the meeting a presentation was made to Mr Tom Edwards to thank him for all his support to the Town Council over the past 18 years.

Cllr Glover chaired the meeting due to Cllr Granger's throat illness.

163/19 To receive apologies for absence.

Resolved:- to accept the following apology for absence

G Soul

164/19 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.

Councillor	Item	Dispensation
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 Dodd, Cllr Towers	Bias interest 170/19 married to allotment holder	
Cllr Murray	172/19 bias interest as a relative of the contractor	
Cllr Meakin	168/19 bias interest as knows the applicant 19/00459/FUL 42 Kynaston Drive, Wem, Shrewsbury, SY4 5DE, Proposal: Erection of a first floor side extension as	
Cllr Granger	168/19 19/00524/FUL bias interest as knows applicant 2 Summerfield Road, Wem, SY4 5BW Proposal: Erection of one open market dwelling; formation of new	

	pedestrian access and alterations to existing dwelling.	
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b) To consider any applications for Dispensations under s33 of the Localism Act 2011 – none received.

165/19 Public Participation Time - a period of 15 minutes will be set aside for residents of Wem Town to speak.
 A member of Wem Civic Society highlighted the date of the Spring Market and explained how important these markets are in bringing people into the town. She also raised concerns about the new documentation produced by the applicant which seems to support their claim that there is a need for a 70 bed residential care home on Mill Street as she felt that the research produced was misleading and there was no need for an additional facility of this nature. A resident of Barnard Street raised concerns about the increase in the price of his resident's car parking permit and stated that this increase would lead to problems with people parking in residential streets.

166/19 Council Minutes.
 To approve as a correct record the minutes of the ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 31st January 2019.

RESOLVED:- to approve as a correct record the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 31st January 2019 and they were duly signed by The Deputy Mayor.

167/19 Progress report - To note the Clerks progress report on matters arising at previous meetings.

RESOLVED:- to note the report.

168/19 Planning Applications.
a) To note the recent planning decisions.
 The Clerk updated the Council on planning decisions that had been made after the publishing of the agenda.

RESOLVED:- to note.

b) Planning Applications for consideration

19/00592/TPO To The Rear Of Creamore Villa, Whitchurch Road, Wem
 Proposal: Crown lift to 3m only removing secondary branches of 1no Wellingtonia protected by the Shropshire Council (Fimes Way and Oakley Meadow, Wem) TPO 2015 (Ref: SC/00227/15) Shrewsbury Shropshire SY4 5QR
 Determined prior to the meeting – part refused, part granted.

19/00524/FUL 2 Summerfield Road, Wem, SY4 5BW Proposal: Erection of one open market dwelling; formation of new pedestrian access and alterations to existing dwelling. Cllr Granger left the room and took no part in discussions.

RESOLVED:- to support the application on the proviso that there are no objections from the Highway Authority in relation to the access.

19/00373/FUL 1 Soulton Crescent, Wem, SY4 5HY Proposal: Erection of a detached garage, along with the erection of a brick built boundary wall and the formation of a new vehicle access to replace the existing site access, (following the removal of the boundary hedgerow)

RESOLVED:- to support the application.

19/00459/FUL 42 Kynaston Drive, Wem, Shrewsbury, SY4 5DE, Proposal: Erection of a first floor side extension.
Cllr Meakin left the room and took no part in discussions.

RESOLVED:- to support the application.

169/19 Finance and Accounts for Payment

a) To consider monthly financial statement and monthly budget report.
The Clerk reported that the internal auditor had carried out an interim audit on 26.2.19 and no major concerns were raised.

RESOLVED:- to note.

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

Payments made prior to the meeting

RESOLVED:- to approve the following payments.

Supplier	Service	Net	Vat	Gross	Chq / BACS No
Shropshire Council	Payroll	6592.06	10.18	6602.24	DD
Talk Talk	Broadband	16.00	3.20	19.20	DD
Cllr Granger	Payment of Balance of Mayor's Allowance (included with PAYE salaries for Feb)	791.96		791.96	

Payments for approval

RESOLVED:- to approve the following payments

Supplier	Service	Net	Vat	Gross	Chq / BACS No
E.on	Streetlighting	1800.97	360.19	2161.16	146.18
PG Skips	Rec Bin emptying	64.05	12.81	76.86	147.18
	Cemetery bin emptying	40.55	8.11	48.66	
	Total	104.60	20.92	125.52	

Shropshire Council	Streetlighting	1525.62	305.12	1830.74	148.18
Cllr Granger	Mayor's expenses Jan.	11.70		11.70	149.18
West Mercia Energy	Toilet electricity	134.68	6.73	141.41	150.18
Viking	Office supplies	90.88	6.58	97.46	151.18
Came & Company	Increase in insurance Wem Swimming Pool	120.82	14.50	135.32	152.18
Mark Fitton	Bus shelter cleaning Feb	65.00		65.00	153.18
Youth Club	Contribution	1500.00		1500.00	154.18
Healthmatic	Toilet cleaning	787.50	157.50	945.00	155.18
Weston Sawmill	Cemetery Bench	275.00	55.00	330.00	156.18
SALC	Audit Training	81.00		81.00	157.18
Harlequin Home and Garden	Winter invoice	210.00		210.00	158.19
	Petty Cash			62.42	300086
Onecom	Telephone	25.82	5.16	30.98	DD

170/19 Allotment Tenancy Agreement changes – for approval

The Clerk circulated a report of a meeting held with Shropshire Council Health and Safety to discuss management of the paths between allotment plots as some of the slabs were raised and had the potential to cause a trip hazard. She also presented the proposed changes to the Tenancy Agreement that had previously been discussed by the Amenities Committee. It was explained that in light of discussions with the Health and Safety advisors additional changes had been made to the Tenancy Agreement along with more clarification as what the Town Council means by cultivation.

Cllr Nash attended the meeting at 19.30

RESOLVED:- to approve changes to the Tenancy Agreement and consider purchase of a notice board to display both general and Health and Safety information on site.

171/19 Town Pavements condition – for discussion.

A discussion took place on the narrowness and general condition of pavements in the town and the need for a more proactive approach in the planning stages to ensure the pavements are wide enough for all pedestrians. A number of problem areas were highlighted and it was

RESOLVED:-

- **That an inspection of pavements in the Town co-ordinated by Chris Mellings is undertaken by Town Councillors to identify problem areas.**
- **Following this inspection, a site meeting is arranged with a representative from Shropshire Council Highways Department to discuss solutions to the worst areas.**

172/19 Quotes for work – to consider quotes received for the following works contracts.

a) Floral planter maintenance
Cllr Murray left the room and took no part in discussions.

RESOLVED:- to approve the quote submitted by Harlequin Home and Garden Service.

173/19 Wem Jubilee Committee – to consider request to transfer balance of funds from Jubilee account to the Town Council to be used for the installation of base for Beacon on Wem Recreation Ground. A discussion took place and the view was expressed that it would be more appropriate for the funds to be placed with Wem Sports and Social Association as they manage the Recreation Ground and would be responsible for overseeing any project.

RESOLVED:- that the Town Clerk contacts the Jubilee Committee and requests that the funds are placed with Wem Sports and Social Association and earmarked for the installation of the base for the beacon.

174/19 Car Parking Increases – for discussion.

Cllr Dee updated the Council on the representations she had made to Shropshire Council to have the parking charging machines on Leek Street Car Park and Mill Street Car Park changed to accept coins. It is hoped that the Mill Street one will be changed in the near future and that the tickets purchased from the main car park would cover the Leek Street Car Park. Concern was raised that use of the car park had decreased and it was requested that when Shropshire Council carries out its review of the new car park charges in July that the review compares total ticket sales, not just income received. A discussion took place on the increase in residents car parking permits and Town Councillors expressed the view that the increase was unacceptable.

RESOLVED:- that the Clerk contacts all Town Council's in the old North Shropshire District Council area requesting that a joint letter is issued from the Town Council and associated Unitary Councillors in objection to the unfair increase of residents parking permits in their towns.

175/19 Risk Assessments and Inspection Schedule – to note that a review has been undertaken of all machinery risk assessments and asset inspection schedule.

RESOLVED:- to note the review.

176/19 Environmental Maintenance Grant – to consider response from appeal sent to Shropshire Council.

The Clerk reported that no letter had been received in time for the meeting.

RESOLVED:- to defer discussion on this issue to the March meeting.

177/19 Keep Britain Tidy - Great British Spring Clean 22.3.19 – 23.4.19 - to consider participation in.

Chris Mellings offered to help co-ordinate this project and it was agreed that it would be a good event to run during the Easter holidays to encourage young people to become involved. Councillors expressed the view that this should be a regular event to encourage residents to look after the town.

RESOLVED:- to take part in the initiative and set a provisional date of 16th April 2019 for the town clean up.

178/19 Correspondence – to consider the following items of correspondence (copies enclosed).

a) Llangollen Eisteddfod – request for donation

RESOLVED:- not to approve.

b) Community Enablement Team Briefing Note

RESOLVED:- to note.

c) Reinforcement to North Shropshire Electricity Distribution Network

RESOLVED:- to note.

179/19 Reports

a) To receive reports from the Council's representatives to other bodies. Cllr Broomhall presented a report on the Wem Christmas Lights Committee Cllr Towers also took the opportunity to report back on a meeting he and Cllr Dodd had held with the Leek Building Society.

RESOLVED:- to note the reports.

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

RESOLVED:- to note

180/19 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.* Cllr Nash updated the Council on the damage caused by vandalism of the bridge over the Back Brook.

181/19 Dates of future meetings – to note the date of the March meeting and agree date of Annual Parish Meeting.

RESOLVED:-

- **to note that the March meeting would be held on Thursday 28th March 2019**
- **that the Annual Parish Meeting Thursday 9th May 2019 with the theme of Young Peoples Services in Wem**

Meeting ended 20.45

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Mayor