

Minutes of a Meeting of Wem Town Council held in the Roden Suite, Edinburgh House, New Street, Wem on Thursday 28th July 2016 at 7 p.m.

Present:-Councillors, R Dodd (Mayor), E Towers (Deputy Mayor), P Moyse, C Granger, P Dee, C Mellings, K Bailey, M Meakin, C Shingler, P Johnson, P Broomhall, D Boddy and P Glover. Mrs Penny O’Hagan (Town Clerk).

5 members of the public present.

Rev Adams said prayers before the start of the meeting.

47/16 To receive apologies and reasons for absence
RESOLVED:- to accept the following apologies for absence;
 Cllr J Murray.

48/16 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
Cllr Glover	Declared a bias interest in item 6 16/03036/FUL - 2 Noble Street, Wem Proposal: Change of Use from A1 (shops) to A1/A3 (shops and cafes) as he runs a similar business in the town	None
Shropshire Councillors Cllr Mellings and Cllr Dee	Twin-hatted members declared a personal interest in any matters relating to the Town Council’s relationship with Shropshire Council	Dispensation previously granted to allow participation and voting on all matters relating to Shropshire Council
Cllr Towers and Cllr Mellings	Item 18 - Directors of Wem Swimming and Lifestyle Centre	Councillors allowed to participate but not vote in all discussions regarding this organisation
Cllr Mellings	Item 4 - Director Shropshire Housing Group.	

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

49/16 Public Participation Time a period of 15 minutes will be set aside for residents of Wem Town to speak.

Mr Edwards raised the following issues;

GHA buses – He reported that the Arriva bus service was running well and an improvement on the GHA bus service.

Westlands – Mr Edwards reported that he was unhappy with the presentation from Shropshire Housing Group at the special Town Council meeting on 14.7.16 and he

felt that the representatives for the Housing Group did not take on board comments of Councillors and the public.

Drawwell Walk - The Pyms Road end of this footpath is very overgrown with hedges and neighbouring properties need cutting back.
The Town Clerk reported that Shropshire Council had been made aware of this problem.

Mrs Burton reported that the streetlights had been on day and night in the Butler Road.

The Town Clerk reported that she was aware of this problem which is believed to have been caused by contractors working on the Pyms Road lights and that she had asked Shropshire Council to rectify the problem as soon as possible.

Mr Hand stated that he was pleased that the Community Speed Watch scheme was on the agenda. However he was concerned that road traffic accidents along Mill Street seem to be occurring every month. He reported that he had been in contact with Chris Edwards from Shropshire Council who had stated that he would consider improving the 20mph signage in the area and he urged the Town Council to discuss this option with Chris Edwards.

50/16 Council Minutes

To approve as a correct record the minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 30th June 2016 and the Special Meeting held on 14th July 2016 (copies previously circulated).

RESOLVED:- that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 30th June 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

RESOLVED:- that the minutes of the Special Meeting of the Town Council held on 14th July 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

51/16 Progress report - To consider the Clerks progress report on matters arising at previous meetings (copy previously circulated).

RESOLVED:- to note.

52/16 Planning Applications

The meeting was adjourned for 5 minutes at 19.15 for Councillors to view applications and reconvened at 19.20.

a) Planning Applications for consideration

16/02883/FUL 19 Kynaston Drive, Wem, Shrewsbury, SY4 5DE Proposal: Formation of bay window extension to front elevation.

RESOLVED:- to support the application.

16/02890/FUL: 4 Noble Street, Wem, Shrewsbury, SY4 5DZ, Proposal: Erection of a workshop following retrospective demolition of existing.

RESOLVED:- to support the application.

16/02959/FUL: Tony Moss Motor Cycles, 56 Aston Street, Wem, Shrewsbury, SY4 5AU. Proposal: Change of use of ground floor from Motorcycle Showroom to single residential dwelling; demolition of single storey motorcycle showroom and erection of two dwellings.

A discussion took place and Councillors raised concerns over the lack of parking places for the development which could add to congestion problems if residents were forced to park on the roadside. In addition to this it was raised that the site was small with insufficient space for 2 houses.

Cllr Broomhall proposed that the Town Council comments that it is concerned that the parking provision may be insufficient for 3 dwellings.

Cllr Towers proposed an amendment to the proposal that the Town Council formally objects to the application as the addition of 2 new dwellings in place of the showroom would overdevelop the site and parking allocation in the proposals is insufficient.

Following a vote the amendment was carried.

RESOLVED:- to object to the planning application as the addition of 2 new dwellings in place of the showroom would overdevelop the site and parking allocation in the proposals is insufficient.

16/03036/FUL - 2 Noble Street, Wem Proposal: Change of Use from A1 (shops) to A1/A3 (shops and cafes)

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

RESOLVED:- support change of use but to request that the conservation officer considers listing the building due to its age and construction type.

Cllr Glover returned to the room.

b) To note the recent planning decisions.

Cllr Mellings reported that application 16/00639/OUT had been granted an extension until the end of August 2016 to allow for the preparation of additional reports.

RESOLVED:-to note.

53/16 Finance and Accounts for Payment

a) To consider 1st quarter budget report to 30.6.16 and financial statement.

RESOLVED:-to approve the report.

b) To receive report from Mayor on internal financial checks undertaken between 1.4.16 – 30.6.16.

The Mayor reported that she had undertaken all the internal checks of the Town Council accounts and found no area of concern.

RESOLVED:-to note.

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

RESOLVED:-to authorise the following payments.

Accounts paid prior to the meeting on 28.7.16

RESOLVED:-to approve the following payments.

Supplier	Service	Net	Vat	Gross	Chq no.
Shropshire Council	Payroll June	8231.57	12.72	8244.29	DD
Barclays Bank	Charges Overdraft interest	8.33 0.05		8.33 0.05	DD
E.On	Lighting repairs	355.55	71.11	426.66	106609
PG Skips	Recreation ground bin emptying	64.05	12.81	76.86	106611
PG Skips	Cemetery bin emptying	40.55	8.11	48.66	106612
PG Skips	Skip hire	69.00	13.80	82.80	106613
SALC	Better Councillor training	60.00		60.00	106614
Healthmatic	Toilet Coin boxes	4500.00	900.00	5400.00	106615
Shropshire Council	2 nd quarter rent	1525.00		1525.00	106616
Petty Cash	Petty Cash	40.86		40.86	106617
Mark Fitton	Bus shelter cleaning July	45.00		45.00	100618
BT Phone	Office telephone	63.48	12.70	76.18	DD
Talk Talk	Broadband	16.00	3.20	19.20	DD
E. Towers	Travel Expenses Ludlow Meeting	19.10		19.10	106619
Imprint Design and print	Annual reports	200.00		200.00	106620
Information Solutions Ltd	Website design Web hosting	480 190 670.00	134.00	804.00	106621
Sarah's Embroidery	Staff Personal Protective Clothing	187.30	37.46	224.76	106622
Playsafety Ltd	Play Equipment Inspection	399.00	79.80	478.80	106623

Accounts for authorisation

RESOLVED:-to authorise the following payments.

Supplier	Service	Net	Vat	Gross	Chq no.
Shropshire Council	Health and Safety Service Provision (annual)	1220.00	244.00	1464.00	106624

d) To authorise the opening of a Mayors Charity Account for Cllr Dodd.

RESOLVED:- to authorise the account opening and to keep the account open for future Mayor's use.

54/16 Amenities and Services Committee held 19.7.16.

a) **Minutes** - To approve these minutes and recommendations contained therein. Cllr Mellings gave a report on the meeting and outlined the recommendations in the minutes.

RESOLVED:-to approve the minutes of the Amenities and Services Committee held on 19.7.16 and the recommendations with the exception of the recommendation relating to minutes point 11, Transfer of Services, considered as a separate agenda item by the council.

55/16 Transfer of Services – for update following submission of expression of interest to Shropshire Council and to consider establishing a working party to oversee negotiations on asset transfer and undertake due diligence checks on each asset.

RESOLVED:-to establish a working party comprised of the following councillors Cllr Broomhall, Cllr Moyse, Cllr Mellings, Cllr Dodd & Cllr Towers with a remit to;

- Liaise with Shropshire Council and enter into early stage negotiations on the transfer of services as identified in the expression of interest.
- Identify any additional services / facilities that may be better run by the Town Council.
- Undertake due diligence checks and financial risk assessments for each asset.
- Oversee a town community engagement initiative to seek the views of the community on the potential transfer of assets.
- Develop relationships with neighbouring parishes.

56/16 Verification Committee – to receive a report from meetings of the local connection verification committee held on 13.7.16 (copy previously circulated) and 27.7.16 (copy circulated at meeting).

It was reported that in total 3 applications had been considered by the committee on 13.7.16 and 1 on 27.7.16 but that none of the applicants had provided evidence to support the 2 local connection criteria required as part of the Local Connection Policy and that Shropshire Housing Group had been informed of this outcome.

RESOLVED:-to note the report.

57/16 Community Speed watch – To consider supporting an application for a Community Speedwatch initiative to be established in Wem.

RESOLVED:-to support this initiative and to contact Safer Roads Partnership to this effect.

- 58/16 Integrated Community Management** -To receive a report on the pilot project for Wem Town.

The Clerk gave a report on this project which has been created to enable local authorities, statutory bodies and volunteers to work together better to share information and tackle community issues to bring about speedier resolutions to small scale problems. It was reported that a Town Walk was held on 28.7.16 which was attended by a number of different organisations to help familiarise them with the town and to identify problem areas and issues that required action.

RESOLVED:-to note the report.

- 59/16 Town Mayors Board** – to consider quote for supply of a new Town Mayor’s Board.

RESOLVED:-to approve the quotation.

- 60/16 Correspondence** – to consider the following items of correspondence (copies previously circulated).

i) NS Wheelers – to consider letter from Mr Harrison on public transport in North Shropshire (deferred from June meeting). As Mr Harrison was not in attendance it was **RESOLVED**:- to receive the item.

ii) West Mercia Search & Rescue - an appeal to Councillors.

RESOLVED:-to receive the appeal and defer the request for a grant to the January 2017 meeting of the Town Council.

iii) Mr Hand – To consider email from Mr Hand calling for an extraordinary meeting of the Town Council to discuss traffic and highways issues in the town.

The Mayor read out a statement outlining the work that the Town Council had carried out over the past few years to highlight the need for improved road safety initiatives in Wem. The Mayor stated that she felt that an extraordinary meeting of the Town Council would not be necessary as it would be more appropriate for Shropshire Council as Highway Authority, in partnership with the Police to hold a public consultation event to present the findings from the HGV survey.

RESOLVED:-to request that Shropshire Council be asked to work with the Police and hold a public consultation session to present the findings of the HGV survey and enable local residents to voice any concerns they may have about road safety and speeding throughout the town.

- 61/16 Reports**

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

Cllr Moyle reported that he had attended a Shropshire Housing Group event in Neenton which had been very informative and highlighted how the organisation had worked together with local residents.

Cllr Boddy and Cllr Mellings reported that they had attended a meeting of the War Memorial Group which for insurance purposes had now become a committee of the Civic Society.

b) To receive a report from Shropshire Council Councillors Mellings and Dee. Cllr Mellings reported on a number of matters

The White Horse - a site meeting is to be held with one of the owners to try and progress matters.

Shropshire Council Customer Service Provision – The results of the consultation have been collated and opinion had been divided on the best location for provision. However the preferred option was to establish a self-serve facility at Edinburgh House which would be resourced by Shropshire Housing Group staff and it was anticipated that this would start in September.

Rail Bridge replacement – A meeting had been held to discuss a project to replace the rail bridge at Mill Street which if it were to go ahead would take place in March 2017.

Libraries – A reduction in the opening hours of Wem library has been approved by Shropshire Council.

Cllr Dee reported that the planning committee for August had been cancelled due to lack of applications.

62/16 Information/future agenda items – none received.

63/16 Dates of future meetings – To note date of August meeting.

RESOLVED:-to note the next meeting date as 25.8.16.

64/16 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.

Swimming Pool Lease – To consider response received from Wem Swimming and Lifestyle Centre concerning the lease produced by the Town Council.

The Clerk reported that whilst a response had been received from Wem Swimming and Lifestyle Centre Committee, a schedule of dilapidations was still awaited. As a result this item will be deferred to the August meeting of the Town Council.

Meeting ended 20.45

Mayor.....

DRAFT