

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Wem Town Council held on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2017  
at 7 p.m.in the Roden Suite, Edinburgh House, New Street, Wem.

Present:- Councillor R Dodd (Mayor) Councillors, E Towers (Deputy Mayor), D Boddy, P Broomhall, P Dee, P Glover, C Granger, P Johnson, M Meakin, C Mellings, J Murray, K Bailey, P Moyse.

Rev Adams said prayers before the start of the meeting.

3 members of the public present.

**182/17 To receive apologies for absence.**

**RESOLVED:-** to accept the following apology for absence;  
C Shingler

**183/17 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.

<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Dispensation</b>
Shropshire Councillor Cllr Dee and Cllr Mellings	Twin-hatted member 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 Mellings, Cllr Towers, Cllr Moyse	Item 189/17– Trustees of Wem Swimming and Lifestyle Centre	Cllr Mellings and Cllr Towers Dispensation previously granted to allow participation but not voting on all matters relating to Wem Swimming and Lifestyle Centre.
Cllr Johnson, Cllr Meakin	Item 190/17 WSSA Bias Interest as members of the Executive Committee of WSSA	
Cllr Boddy	Item 192a/17 Bias interest as lives on Mill Street	
Cllr Murray	Item 188/17 – Relative of Floral Planters Contractor	
Cllr Towers	Item 186/17 17/01036/FUL Bank House Barn Bankhouse. Bias interest.	

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

**184/17 Public Participation Time** - a period of 15 minutes will be set aside for residents of Wem Town to speak.

Rev Adams raised the issue of speeding in the town and the lack of traffic calming measures on the access roads into Wem. He requested that the Town Council raise this concern with Shropshire Council.

Tom Edwards reported the following items;

- The brash remaining from the work on clearing the Back Brook still needs removal.
- Drawwell Walk continues to be a mess and needs work doing to the surface of the path.
- Land is currently advertised for sale on the internet on Mill Street stating that planning permission has been granted for development, this is untrue as no permission had been granted.

A resident of Roden Grove updated on the work he had carried out on ground water levels in the area of the proposed development. He reported that official GIS mapping from Shropshire Council showed that the land is wetland, this coupled with other findings means that the ecology, hydrology and archaeology of the area all need to be reconsidered in relation to any potential future development.

**185/17 Council Minutes.**

To approve as a correct record the minutes of an ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2017.

**RESOLVED:- to approve the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 23rd February 2017 as a correct record and they were duly signed by the Mayor.**

**185/17 Progress report** - To note the Clerks progress report on matters arising at previous meetings. The Clerk presented the progress report and it was

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

**186/17 Planning Applications.**

**a) Planning Applications for consideration**

17/00928/FUL Overfields, Ellesmere Road, Wem, SY4 5TU: Change of use of an agricultural building for use as stabling.

**RESOLVED:- to support the application subject to Highways approval.**

17/01036/FUL Bank House Barn Bankhouse Lane Wem SY4 5TR Erection of a detached garage and carport including change of use of land.

Cllr Towers left the room.

**RESOLVED:- to object to the application as it is outside the development boundary.**

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

**The planning decision report was considered and it was;**

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

**187/17 Finance and Accounts for Payment**

a) To approve accounts for payment and any payments made prior to meeting. The accounts statement to the 30.3.17 was considered and noted.

**RESOLVED:-** to approve the following accounts;

**Accounts paid prior to the meeting on 30.3.17**

Supplier	Service	Net	Vat	Gross	Chq number
Via Della Emilia	Emergency Tree works	180.00	36.00	216.00	BACS 65
West Mercia Energy	Toilets electricity	147.77	29.55	177.32	BACS 66
Zurich	LCAS Seminar	30.00	6.00	36.00	BACS 67
Shropshire Council	IOSH Training	300.00	60.00	360.00	BACS 68
E.on	Lighting repairs	276.26	55.26	331.52	BACS 69
Healthmatic	Toilet Cleaning February	787.50	157.50	945.00	BACS 70
PG Skips	Skip Supply	69.00	13.80	82.80	BACS 71
	Bin Emptying recreation	51.24	10.25	61.49	
	Bin Emptying Cemetery	32.44	6.49	38.93	
	Total	152.68	30.54	183.22	
Eon	Lighting repairs	73.17	14.63	87.80	BACS 72
	Marlcroft New Light	795.53	159.11	954.64	
	Trentham Road new light	795.53	159.11	954.64	
	Total	1664.23	332.85	1997.08	
SALC	Good Councillors guide	44.00		44.00	BACS 73
Mark Fitton	Bus Shelter Cleaning March	45.00		45.00	BACS 74
XMA	Toner	46.84	9.37	56.21	BACS 75
West Mercia Energy	Electricity Toilets	92.69	4.63	97.32	BACS 76
Ricoh	Copier lease	105.01			BACS 77
	Copy charges	87.22			
	Total	192.23	38.44	230.67	
Severn Business Solutions	Computer repair	22.50	4.50	27.00	BACS 78
Shropshire Council	Payroll	6568.64	12.72	6581.36	DD
PWLB	Streetlighting loan repayment	2369.40		2369.40	DD

**Accounts for authorisation**

Supplier	Service	Net	Vat	Gross	Chq No
Viking	Stamps and stationery	79.39	15.88	95.27	300014
E.on	Lighting repairs	223.36	44.67	268.03	300015
Healthmatic	Toilet cleaning	787.50	157.50	945.00	300016
D Boddy	Noticeboard Cemetery	585.60		585.60	300018
Wem Youth Club	Donation	2000.00		2000.00	300019
Unity Bank	Charges to 5.12-4.3.17	26.25		26.25	DD
Talk Talk	Broadband	16.00	3.20	19.20	DD
<b>Mayors Hospitality Account</b>					
Wem Truly Scrumptious Catering Company Ltd	Refreshments Band	35.00		35.00	100186

b) Internal Audit Plan – for consideration.

**RESOLVED:- to approve the internal audit plan for 2017-18.**

c) Staff Pensions – to note reduction in contributions. It was reported that there would be an estimated reduction in staff pension contributions of £5000 per year over the next 3 years due to an over calculation of pension payments.

**RESOLVED:- to note the reduction in contributions and to agree to ring fence any underspend in the budget for pensions to offset any future increases in contributions.**

**188/17 Amenities and Services Committee meeting 7.3.17**

To receive these minutes and approve recommendations contained therein/  
Cllr Murray left the room and took no part in discussions.

**RESOLVED:- to receive the minutes of the Amenities and Services Committee meeting held on 7.3.17 and to approve the recommendations therein.**

**189/17 Wem Swimming and Lifestyle Centre Liaison Group meeting 29.3.17**

To receive these minutes and approve recommendations contained therein.  
The Clerk was asked to amend the minutes to include the actual amount quoted for the filter replacement, building works and chemical dosing unit by the selected contractor.

Cllr Mellings abstained from the vote

**RESOLVED:- to receive the minutes of the Wem Swimming and Lifestyle Centre Liaison Group meeting held on 29.3.17 and subject to the above amendment to approve the recommendations including to allocate the**

following funds in the Bulmer Cottage Fund towards the plant room refurbishment;  
£15400 for the filter replacement.  
£4979 for the supply and installation of a chemical dosing system.  
£2125 to supply and install external doors into the pump room.

**190/17 Wem Sports and Social Association**

a) Constitution Working Party meeting 14.3.17 – to receive a report from this meeting.

Cllr Johnson and Cllr Meakin left the room and took no part in discussions.

Cllr Mellings updated the council on the working party meeting and reported that a number of items had been identified that required progressing and that the working party would be meeting again in July.

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

b) Management Committee meeting – to consider report from this meeting and request for financial support for floodlights.

The Clerk presented a report from Wem Sports and Social Association concerning the floodlights. A comprehensive discussion took place on the floodlights and whether they were necessary as the number of community events they were needed for was low and it may be more cost effective to hire in portable lights for one off events. However Councillors felt that it was important to retain the lights as it was the only facility of this nature in the town and would help Wem Town Youth Team to grow and provide better sporting facilities for the benefit of the town and in particular the young people of the town.

**RESOLVED**:- to approve the request for up to £20,000 to be allocated from the Bulmer Cottage Fund to Wem Sports and Social Association as a contribution towards the floodlight replacement project.

**191/17 Wem Economic Forum – to receive a report from meeting held 22.3.17.**

Cllr Dee reported on the meeting held on 22.3.17. She said that the Forum had asked for some additional road safety items relating to the HGV survey to be considered and that these would be put to the Town Council in April.

The Forum was planning a relaunch in September to also raise awareness of its existence, develop an action plan and to increase its membership especially from the business community.

**192/17 Highway Issues**

**a) Mill Street Vehicle Activated Sign** – to consider location put forward by Shropshire Council for the sign and agree preferred type of sign.

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

The Clerk reported that following a meeting with David Gradwell the best location for a sign would be just inside the 20mph zone on the way into Wem, located on the lamp column adjacent to Mill House.

**RESOLVED**:- that the preferred type of Vehicle Activated Sign to be located adjacent to Mill House would be a mains fed rectangular flashing 20mph sign with the wording Slow Down.

b) **Community Speedwatch** – for update. It was reported that work on the Community Speedwatch initiative was being progressed.

**RESOLVED**:- to request that Ellesmere Road is reconsidered as a site for Community Speedwatch as there were a number of wide driveways where the volunteers could stand.

**193/17 Armed Forces Day** – to consider submission of grant application. Cllr Towers gave a brief background to Armed Forces Day and outlined his proposal to apply for a grant to purchase a moveable flag pole that would be located by the war memorial. A discussion took place on this item and it was felt that as the deadline for the grant was 2.4.17 there was not enough time to put together a grant application. A discussion took place on whether a request for an extension of the grant could be submitted.

**RESOLVED**:- to approve the submission of a grant up to £150 if an extension to the deadline for the grant submission is granted.

**194/17 Correspondence** – to consider the following items of correspondence (copies enclosed).

a) Royal Mail's response to Postal Address concerns. The response received from Royal Mail was considered and Cllr Dee highlighted an example of problems caused by addresses being mixed up with Shrewsbury locations.

**RESOLVED**:- to defer a further response until more examples of problems with postal addresses being confused between Shrewsbury and Wem are provided to the Town Council.

b) Shropshire Council's Economic Growth Strategy Consultation.

**RESOLVED**:- that Councillors would respond to the consultation on an individual basis and that a Town Council response would not be sent.

c) Design of Wales and Borders Rail Service Consultation.

**RESOLVED**:- that Councillors would respond to the consultation on an individual basis and that a Town Council response would not be sent.

d) Response from Wem Town Hall concerning request for trustee. It was reported that the Town Hall had approved the request that the Town Council could nominate a trustee for the Hall who would be selected at the May meeting of the Town Council.

**RESOLVED**:- to note.

**195/17 Reports**

a) To receive reports from the Council's representatives to other bodies.  
A written report compiled by Cllr Broomhall on the Youth Club was considered and noted.

Cllr Moyses reported that he had attended the Shawbury Helicopter Liaison Committee which was very useful.

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

Cllr Mellings circulated a written report which was considered and noted.

**RESOLVED:- to note the reports**

**196/17 Future agenda items – for consideration.**

One way street Noble Street requested by Cllr Dee.

**197/17 Dates of future meetings – to note date of the April meeting.**

**RESOLVED:- to note that the April meeting will take place on 27.4.17**

**198/17 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.**

a) To nominate panel to undertake complaint hearing.

**RESOLVED:- to delegate authority to handle the complaint process and undertake the hearing as per the Town Council's Complaints Policy to Cllr Mellings, Cllr Dodd and Cllr Towers.**

Meeting ended 20.43