

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

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

Mrs Penny O'Hagan (Town Clerk).

5 members of the public present

At the start of the meeting The Mayor reported the death of ex Mayor Douglas Cooley. Rev N Heron said prayers of remembrance and a minutes silence was held.

203/16 To receive apologies and reasons for absence
RESOLVED:- to accept the following apologies for absence
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204/16 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 Meakin	Item 6 planning application 15/05417/FUL bias interest	
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

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

205/16 Public Participation Time a period of 15 minutes will be set aside for residents of Wem Town to speak.

Sue Griffiths of Mill Street requested an update regarding HGV's using the town. She reported that in the past few months 2 bollards outside the Church have had to be replaced twice after being hit by HGV's and this week a shop canopy has been hit causing damage.

Cllr Dee responded that the Council is awaiting the results of the consultation and that the Wem Economic Forum will not meet until the results of the consultation are completed. Councillors reported that this has been an ongoing issue but the Council is committed to keep putting pressure on Shropshire Council to seek a solution that is in the best interests of the town and its residents.

Mr Edwards thanked Cllr Mellings for his help in moving the bus stop but requested whether an extra request stop can be added at the Tilley Road junction near the bridge.

Wem Civic Society – It was reported that the Wem Jubilee Noticeboard is in a poor condition and in need of repair. Cllr Murray reported that the board was provided by the Chamber of Commerce and nothing to do with the Town Council but requested that Environment Committee consider the issue when it next meets.

206/16 Council Minutes

To approve as a correct record the minutes of Meetings of the Town Council held on 17th December 2015 and 14th January 2016 (copies enclosed).

RESOLVED:-that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 17th December 2015 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

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

207/16 Progress Report - To consider the Clerks progress report on matters arising at previous meetings. It was confirmed that Councillors Dee, Moyse and Towers would attend the Road Safety Seminar on 3.3.16.

RESOLVED:- to note the report.

208/16 Planning Applications

a) Planning Applications for consideration

RESOLVED:-to adjourn the meeting at 19.20 for 5 minutes for councillors to view the planning applications.

15/05390/LBC Address: 52 High Street, Wem, SY4 5DW Proposal: Repointing; treatment of exposed timbers and repairs to lead work around chimney and front elevation affecting a Grade II Listed Building.

RESOLVED:- to support the application as it is in sympathy with the building

15/05417/FUL 4 Station Road, Wem, SY4 5BH Proposal: Erection of single storey rear extension.

Cllr Meakin took no part in discussions

RESOLVED:- to support the application.

15/05586/FUL - 18 Station Road: Erection of a two storey side extension and associated works.

RESOLVED:- to support the application.

Reconsultation due to Amendment on application 15/01939/FUL - Proposed Dwelling Adjacent 13 The Grove, Wem: Erection of a dwelling.

RESOLVED:-to continue to object to the application as the council considered the application to be overdevelopment of the site.

b) To note the recent planning decisions.

Cllr Dee reported on the application 15/04233/FUL Valnorver a site meeting has taken place but the full plans were not available for the committee meeting so the item has been deferred to the next meeting.

RESOLVED:-to note the report.

c) Roden Grove meeting – To receive report from Cllr Mellings on meeting held with Shropshire Council.

Cllr Mellings updated on a the meeting held in December with residents, officers and Shropshire Council Planning committee members which he felt was productive. It was reported that the action group feel that the planning decision was unsound and are planning to challenge it.

RESOLVED:-to note the report.

d) Site Allocations and Management of Development (SAMDev) Plan – to note adoption of the plan.

RESOLVED:- to note the report.

209/16 Finance and Accounts for Payment

To approve accounts for payments and payments made prior to meeting. (Presented at meeting).

RESOLVED:-to approve the following payments.

Accounts paid prior to the meeting on 28.1.16

Supplier	Service	Net	Vat	Gross	Chq number
WSSA	Contribution	1500.00		1500.00	106481
Rialtus Business Solution	Accounts software installation and training	1707.30	341.46	2048.76	106482
Ricoh	Copier	18.88	3.78	22.66	106483
PG Skips	Cemetery mini skip	69.00	13.80	82.80	106484
PG Skips	Recreation ground bin emptying	40.55	8.11	48.66	106485
Healthmatic	Toilet cleaning	787.50	157.50	945.00	106486
Shropshire Council	4 th quarter office rent	1525.00		1525.00	106487
E.on Energy	Streetlighting repairs	114.26	22.85	137.11	106488
West Mercia Energy	Toilets electricity	68.10	3.58	71.68	106489
WSSA	VAT on contribution reimbursement (2/3rds)		600.00	600.00	106490
PG Skips	Cemetery bin emptying	64.05	12.81	76.86	106491
Talk Talk	Office internet	16.00	3.20	19.00	DD
Barclays	Bank fees	8.33		8.33	DD
BT	Office telephone	63.68	12.74	76.42	DD

RESOLVED:-to authorise the following payments.

Accounts for authorisation

Supplier	Service	Net	Vat	Gross	Chq number
Wem Senior Club	Room Hire Dec/ Jan	50.00		50.00	106492
Ricoh	Copier costs	82.32	16.47	98.79	106493
Viking	Copier paper	41.39	8.28	49.67	106494
Shropshire Council	Salaries Jan	6270.13	12.72	6282.85	DD
C Mellings	Travel 26.1.16	12.80		12.80	106495

John Murray	Reimbursement refreshments honorary townsman (from Mayors Hospitality Account)	67.21	13.44	80.65	100182
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b) To consider quote from RBS to undertake the preparation of the year end accounts.

RESOLVED:-to approve the quote

Thanks were recorded to the Clerk for the work that had been carried out in transferring the accounts from paper based onto the new computer programme.

210/16 Communications Working Party – to receive verbal report from meeting held 21.12.15.

Cllr Towers gave a verbal report on this item and reported that the working party is planning to have proposals for the new website to put before the Audit Committee in February.

RESOLVED:-to receive the report.

211/16 War Memorial Project – to consider request to give permission for the use of the image of the Wem Phoenix, to be incorporated into the design of the railings around the memorial area.

Cllr Mellings raised the need for a condition survey to be undertaken before a grant application can be submitted so that the full extent of the repairs is known

RESOLVED:-to approve the use for Phoenix in the railing design.

FURTHER RESOLVED:- for the Town Council to seek quotes from building conservations companies to undertake a condition survey.

212/16 Registration Service – to consider letter relating to the future provision of the registrars service in Wem.

A discussion took place on this item and Councillors were pleased that the service is to be retained in Wem. However concerns were raised that if the registrars service is only to be available in Wem on 1 morning a week then residents needing to register a death which may occur on a Thursday/ Friday would have to travel to register a death in order to be within the 5 day legal requirement.

RESOLVED:-to contact Shropshire Council to establish whether the proposed 3 hours could be split over 2 days so that residents have the opportunity to register a death in Wem whenever a death occurs.

213/16 Twinning Links – to discuss Town Twinning Links with Fismes. It was reported that the Town Council has received a response from the Mayor of Fismes to its letter of condolence following the Paris attacks. A discussion took place and councillors felt strongly that a letter should be sent to the Mayor of Fismes seeking to re-establish twinning links with the town.

RESOLVED:-to send a letter in French to the Mayor of Fismes.

214/16 Queens 90th Birthday Celebration – to receive a report from the meeting held on 12.1.16 and verbal report from meeting held on 26.1.16.

Cllr Dodd gave a report from the meeting and stated that the event is starting to take shape on the afternoon of 12.6.16. The committee are planning that the event will not cost anything to hold as all time and services are being given voluntarily.

RESOLVED:-to receive the report.

215/16 To consider the following correspondence

NHS111 and out-of-hours briefing letters. Councillors were encouraged to keep the Shropdoc service - **RESOLVED:- to send a letter from Town Council outlining its strong support of the Shropdoc service which is invaluable to the residents of the town.**

To receive email from Mr Cobbold ref 2016-17 budget. **RESOLVED:-to receive the letter.**

216/16 Reports

a) To receive reports from the Council’s representatives to other bodies.
Inspiration Event - Cllr Mellings, Cllr Towers and Cllr Dodd attended this event and it was reported that the meeting was very positive in sharing ideas and seeking innovative solutions to financial cut backs.
Friends of Whitchurch Cemetery - Cllr Dodd and Cllr Towers attended a meeting of the group and it was reported that the charity Caring for God’s Acre will be visiting the cemetery to identify what support they may be able to give the friends.
Christmas Lights Committee - Cllr Meakin reported that a debriefing meeting had been held and fundraising has started to fund the purchase of new lights as a number of the older lights were damaged in the high winds.
Youth Club Cllr Broomhall attended a meeting of the group and reported that a new leader has started work and is working hard to encourage young people to use the facility.

RESOLVED:-to note the reports.

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

Cllr Mellings reported that the financial strategy for Shropshire Council has been drafted and presented to councillors. He also updated on the kerbing works undertaken at Marlcroft which have caused concerns as residents felt that the work was unnecessary when the road surface itself is in need of resurfacing. He reported that it was standard policy for Shropshire Council to install dropped kerbs at crossing points prior to footways being improved and that the resurfacing of the road was also planned for the next financial year.

Cllr Dee updated on the recent LJC planning meeting and reported that Wem has been selected as a town to be able to bid for up to 30000 as part of the “Everybody Active Everyday” community fund. Cllr Dee stated that the initiative required the support of the Town Council and requested that the item be placed on the February agenda for further consideration.

Cllr Dee reported that she has also attended the budget scrutiny meeting. It was **RESOLVED:-to note the reports.**

217/16 Information/future agenda items – for consideration – none received.

218/16 Dates of future meetings – to note date of February meeting. RESOLVED:-to note that the next meeting would be held on 25.2.16.

Meeting ended 20.50

Mayor.....