

MUCH WENLOCK TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
held at The Guildhall, Much Wenlock
7.00 pm on Thursday 4th June 2015

PRESENT:

Cllr. Yvonne Holyoak (Chairman), Cllr. Robin Bennett, Cllr. Mike Grace, Cllr. Bert Harper, Cllr. Mary Hill, Cllr. Robert Toft, Cllr. David Turner, and Milner Whiteman OBE.

MINUTE TAKER:

Sarah May – Assistant to the Town Clerk

IN ATTENDANCE:

No members of the public were present.

1) CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

Apologies were received from Revd Matthew Stafford and Revd John Cumberland who both had other commitments. The Chairman said prayers.

2) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr. Dafydd Jenkins and Cllr. Paul Laming who had work commitments and Cllr. Joffrey Watson who had family commitments.

These apologies were accepted as APPROVED absences.

3) DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Members were reminded that they are required to leave the room during the discussion and voting on matters in which they have a disclosable pecuniary interest, whether or not the interest is entered in the register of members' interests maintained by the Monitoring Officer.

As a Shropshire Councillor, Cllr. David Turner declared an interest in any matters relating to Shropshire Council, and as a Member of the Shropshire Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Partnership Management Board, in any matters relating to the Shropshire Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

4) DISPENSATIONS

None were requested.

5) AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Members were to receive information from Nick Wood at Shropshire Council, concerning the allocation of affordable housing. Apologies for absence were received from Nick Wood who had other work commitments.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED that Nick Wood should be invited to talk at the next meeting and asked the following questions prior to the meeting:

- Is there anything in the SAMDev inspector's report relating to the Affordable Housing Policy that might affect the way the Town Council deals with any potential Planning applications?
- Is there anything new or any progress on affordable housing in the Place Plan?
- Does anything in the Place Plan infer that there will be investments in Much Wenlock?
- What changes have been made to the Place Plan and how will they affect the Neighbourhood Plan?

6) PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None requested.

7) MINUTES

a) The minutes of the Annual Town Council Meeting held on 5th May 2015 were considered for approval.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED that the minutes be signed and ADOPTED as a true record.

b) The minutes of the Annual Town Council Meeting held on 14th May 2015 were considered for approval. After the following amendments were made it was PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED that the minutes be signed and ADOPTED as a true record.

- 5) 'Cllr Milner Whiteman arrived at this point in the meeting' should be moved to the end of item 5, following the sentence ending in 'his concerns later in the meeting'.
- 19a) iii. Include 'These will be made available for public inspection during the day of the meeting' at end of the sentence.
- 19b) Change wording to 'It was RESOLVED that this matter would be DEFERRED'.
- 24) Change wording to 're-surfacing Wilmore Street and Barrow Street.'
- 24) Change resolution wording to 'It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED that Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday would be the best days to re-surface Wilmore Street and Barrow Street, avoiding 20th June, 10th -12th July, 17th-19th July (Festival at the Edge) and 4th-7th September (Wenlock Walking Weekend).'
- 26) Change wording to 'Hunters Gate at which representatives'.
- 26) Remove the 's' from the word 'Councils'.
- 27) Include the following sentence after the sentence ending in 'mitigating risk.' 'Members expect the Town Clerk to advise them if she believes a new policy, or a change of an existing policy is necessary. The Town Council will then make a decision on whether it wants valuable staff time invested in drafting them as they arise.'

c) The minutes of the Personnel Committee Meeting, which took place on the 22nd April 2015, were NOTED.

8) TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

Members received a written report from the Town Clerk on outstanding matters and action taken since the last Council meeting (document 7).

a) Minute no. 19(a)(iii)

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED that the Gaskell Recreation Ground Management Committee would sort through and organize the required Gaskell Recreation Ground files.

b) Minute no. 19 (b)

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED that all relevant documents need to be available to members of the public and Councilors on the day of the next Gaskell Recreational Ground Charity meeting and also displayed on the Town Council's website.

c) Minute NO. 21

Members enquired if there was any feedback from the letter sent to RPS, which expressed why the Town Council did not wish to have a pre-application meeting.

Members NOTED that there were some matters from the last meeting, which have been referred to the Finance & Resources Committee for action or deferred to a future Town Council meeting.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED that the Chairman of the Finance and Resources Committee would oversee the End of Year Accounts process with RBS Software support practitioner.

It was RESOLVED that the Town Clerk's report be NOTED.

9) ACTION PLAN Members reviewed the Town Council's Action Plan

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED by members that:

- A Working Group would be set up to monitor the Action Plan priorities' progress.
- Management Groups would be set up to lead each Action Plan project.
- More details would be required on the level of completion for each Action Plan project.

10) CEMETERY CHAPEL

Members considered for approval granting delegated authority to the Town Clerk to spend within an approved budget for architectural plans and drawings for the refurbishment of the cemetery chapel.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED that the Town Clerk has delegate authority to spend up to £2400 on architect drawings and £1200 on surveyor drawings.

Members RECOMMENDED a single tender action is required because the allocated grant money must be spent within 6 months.

11) REPORT FROM SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL

Members received a verbal report on the following items from Cllr David Turner (for information only).

- Shropshire Council's Leader Keith Barrow hosted a high-level briefing on Wednesday 3rd June for business leaders and other key stakeholders from the Shropshire area about plans to improve mobile phone coverage in the county by releasing new radio spectrum.
- The B4376 Broseley Road has been resurfaced at the entrance to Much Wenlock.
- Walton Hills and Oakfield Park are scheduled for re-surfacing this year.
- The A4169 Sheinton Street work is intended to take place this year, avoiding school time.
- SALC are making a concerted effort to get the Area Committee meetings working more effectively.
- The next advice surgery is at Brockton Church of England Primary School on Saturday 20th June 10:30am until 12:00noon.
- The Site Allocations and Management of Development (SAMDev) Plan Schedule of Main Modifications, has been published for a six-week consultation period from Monday 1 June until 5pm Monday 13 July 2015. The Inspector is now inviting comments on the Main Modifications as part of the examination into the Shropshire Council SAMDev Plan.

12) MUCH WENLOCK ALMSHOUSES

Members received a verbal update from Cllr. David Turner on the Almshouses 51-54 Sheinton Street.

Members NOTED that:

- This Almshouse charity principally caters for widows from the Parishes of Much Wenlock and Harley.
- Trustees are considering how they could advertise tenancies in a more timely manner.
- The Almshouse charity received support from the Shropshire Rural Housing Association.

13) CONSULTATIONS

No requests were received.

14) CORRESPONDENCE

- SALC information bulletin and other information – emailed to Members
- Information on the Site Allocation and management of development (SAMDev) Plan of Main Modifications
- National Rural Crime Survey

Members NOTED the SALC and the SAMDev Plan of Main Modifications information.

Members AGREED that the National Rural Crime Survey should be advertised on the Town Council's website and notice boards.

15) PLANNING

- There were no planning applications referred by the Planning & Environment Committee.
- Members received an update from the Chairman of the Planning & Environment Committee about the lack of supporting information provided for a Planning application for a property located in the Bullring behind the Holy Trinity Church.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED by members that:

- The Town Clerk writes to Shropshire Council to request further information before comments are submitted on this application.
- If there isn't enough supporting information with future planning applications then the committee should object to the application.
- That future correspondence with Nick Wood from Shropshire Council should be linked to the review of the Neighbourhood Plan and the monitoring of the s106 investment money.
- The Planning Committee should have a copy of the s106 funding plan to spend money in the fixed period of time.

16) VOLUNTEER POLICING

Members received a verbal report from Cllr Robin Bennett on Voluntary Police Officers in Much Wenlock. Members were advised that there are currently no Special Constables (Volunteer Police Officers) in Much Wenlock and that Cllr Robin Bennett is hoping to meet the Police & Crime Commissioner before the next meeting, to discuss the possibility of holding a Special Constables Recruitment Fair in the town. It was AGREED that Philip Dunne would be contacted to discuss linking this event with his Job Recruitment Fair.

Members NOTED the verbal update.

17) FLOOD REPORT

Members were informed that there was no flood report from the Community Flood Action Group this month.

18) AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

It was AGREED that the following items should be included in the next agenda for the Town Council meeting.

- A Working Group to be set up to monitor the Action Plan Priorities progress.
- Management Groups to be set up to lead the various Action Plan projects.
- To elect a representative for the Local Area Committee.
- Receive a report from the Town Clerk on the progress of the arrangements with the West Mercia Police possibly using Youth Club building as a part time station.

Members NOTED that the next Finance and Resources Committee would take place on 23rd June 2015 at 5.30pm in the Corn Exchange.

Member NOTED that an Extraordinary Town Council Meeting would take place on 30th June 2015 at 7.00pm in the Guildhall, to approve the End of Year Accounts for 2014/15.

19) DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was NOTED that the next Town Council meeting would take place on 2nd July 2015 at 7.00pm in the Guildhall. Member NOTED that an Extraordinary Planning and Environment meeting may be needed, but would depend on the number of applications received.

The meeting closed at 20.24pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Town Mayor – Cllr. Yvonne Holyoak