

MUCH WENLOCK TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
 held at The Guildhall, Much Wenlock
 7 pm on Thursday 12 January 2017

PRESENT:

Cllr. Herbert Harper (Chairman), Cllr. Robin Bennett, Cllr. Mike Grace, Cllr. Mary Hill, Cllr. Paul Laming, Cllr. Yvonne Holyoak, Cllr. David Turner, and Cllr. Milner Whiteman OBE.

TOWN CLERK:

Sharon Clayton

IN ATTENDANCE:

Revd. Matthew Stafford

1) CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting after which he PROPOSED that, in accordance with Standing Order no: 10(a)(vi) the order of business be changed and, after being SECONDED, it was **RESOLVED** that agenda item 16 be brought forward and considered after agenda item 5 because Cllr. David Turner had to leave the meeting early.

The Chairman informed Members of his Mayoral engagements as follows:

- 3 December 2016 – Much Wenlock Christmas Fayre. It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and unanimously **AGREED** that the town council should write to the Christmas Fayre Organising Committee to thank them for all their hard work in organising and staging the annual Christmas Fayre.
- 18 December 2016 – Holy Trinity Church, Much Wenlock for a candlelit carol service and reading.

2) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

COUNCILLOR	REASON
Graham Edgcumbe Venning	Holiday
Dafydd Jenkins	Work commitment
Cllr. Joffrey Watson	Family commitment

Cllr Milner Whiteman apologised that he would be late due to a prior engagement.

These apologies were **CONFIRMED** and **AGREED** as **APPROVED** absence.

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.

None declared.

4) DISPENSATIONS

Dispensation granted to Cllr. David Turner - request to participate in discussions concerning devolved services.

Dispensation granted to all town councillors to enable the 2017/2018 precept/budget to be considered and approved.

NOTED.

5) PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public present.

6) REPORT FROM SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL

Members received the following verbal update from Cllr. David Turner:

- New directional signage was proposed to be installed by Shropshire Council to emphasise the existing 7.5t weight limit and help prevent HGV traffic travelling through the narrow streets of Much Wenlock. Cllr. Turner and Cllr. Yvonne Holyoak had carried out a tour of where the signage was to be changed and they felt the proposals would be an improvement.
- Shropshire Council was carrying out a partial review of its Local Plan which includes extending the Plan period from 2026 to 2036, and reviewing housing requirement, strategic distribution of future growth, strategies for employment growth and the delivery of development in rural settlements. Provided the Cabinet approved the proposals public consultation would take place for 8 weeks beginning on 23 January 2017. The Neighbourhood Development Plan for Much Wenlock runs from 2013 to 2026 and the town council would need to ensure that its local principles retained their importance as part of the Local Plan review.
- Excavation of the attenuation ponds at Stretton Road and the Sytche were progressing and efforts had been put in place to prevent mud on the roads from vehicles using the sites.
- The Friendly Bus, which provides transport to the people of Broseley, Much Wenlock and surrounding areas, needed volunteer drivers and members were encouraged to spread the word.
- A litter pick would take place on 13 January 2017 meeting at 10 am in the Square.
- Cllr. Turner's next advice surgery would be at Shipton Village Hall on 28 January 2017.

NOTED.

7) MINUTES

- a) The minutes of a Town Council meeting held on 1 December 2016 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 a Planning & Environment Committee meeting held on 1 November 2016 were **NOTED and ADOPTED.**
- c) The minutes of a Planning & Environment Committee meeting held on 29 November 2016 were **NOTED and ADOPTED.**
- d) The minutes of Finance & Resources Committee meetings held on 22 November 2016 were **NOTED and ADOPTED.**

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.

The Town Clerk also gave a verbal update and informed members that she had attended the last meeting of the Christmas Fayre Organising Committee. The Committee had discussed problems experienced with the park and ride at the last Christmas Fayre and that they were concerned about the lack of park and ride sites for future years. The Committee was also appealing for volunteers to help with the organisation and management of future Fayres.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that:

- i. **The Town Clerk's report be NOTED.**
- ii. **The Town Clerk should write to Telford & Wrekin Council and ask why it would not allow the Much Wenlock Christmas Fayre to use the park and ride car park near to Jigger's Bank on the day of the Christmas Fayre.**

Cllr. David Turner left at this point in the meeting.

It was **PROPOSED** that agenda items 9, 10, and 11 be considered together and, after being **SECONDED**, and in accordance with Standing Order no: 10(a)(vi) it was **RESOLVED to consider the Forward Plan, the Asset Management Plan, and the Action Plan together.**

9) FORWARD PLAN, ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN, AND ACTION PLAN

Members received a revised Forward Plan, a revised Asset Management Plan, and a revised Action Plan for consideration and approval.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that the Forward Plan, Asset Management Plan and Action Plan should be reviewed by the Finance & Resources Committee.

Cllr. Milner Whiteman arrived at this point in the meeting.

10) 2017/2018 BUDGET AND PRECEPT

Members received a draft budget/precept for consideration and approval.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and unanimously AGREED that the full budget setting report be APPROVED and that:

- i. **The budget for 2017/2018 should be £239,556.**
- ii. **The precept for 2017/2018 should be £183,926.**

11) DEVOLVED SERVICES

- a) Members received notes from a meeting of the Hub held on 21 November 2016.
It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED to NOTE.
- b) Members received notes from a meeting of the Devolved Services Working Group held on 18 November 2016.
It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED to NOTE.
- c) Members were informed that the last meeting of the Devolved Services Working Group had been cancelled. At its last meeting the working group had discussed the possibility of traders in the town giving refunds for parking in order to encourage trade, and this concept was to be discussed with the Chamber of Trade.
It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED to NOTE.

12) DIRECTIONAL TRAFFIC SIGNAGE

Members received information from Shropshire Council concerning proposed new directional traffic signage and place names for the town.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that:

- i. **The proposals for new signage be APPROVED.**
- ii. **Sign number TS03 would need to be carefully designed and sited.**
- iii. **Traffic traveling down St. Mary's Road to its junction with Barrow Street would benefit from a sign informing large vehicles that they cannot turn left.**
- iv. **A give way sign was needed at the bottom of the High Street where it joined Barrow Street.**
- v. **HGVs entering the High Street (at the junction with Back Lane), Wilmore Street, and Sheinton Street, need to be made aware that wide vehicles should not travel along these streets, not just because of their weight but because the streets are not wide enough for them to pass without incident.**

13) PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Members considered for approval that Cllr. Graham Edgcumbe Venning be appointed to the Planning & Environment Committee.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that Cllr. Graham Edgcumbe Venning be appointed to the Planning and Environment Committee.

14) CONSULTATION

The following consultation was considered.

- a) Shropshire Council Bus Strategy consultation.
It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that the Chairman and the Town Clerk should respond on behalf of the Town Council.
- b) Shropshire Council, The Big Conversation.
It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED not to comment.

15) CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was received:

- a) SALC information bulletin and other information sent to Members via email.

NOTED.

16) PLANNING

- a) There were no planning applications referred to the Town Council for consideration.
NOTED
- b) The Chairman of the Planning & Environment Committee informed Members that she had attended a meeting of Shropshire Council's Southern Planning Committee on 10 January 2017 at which she had expressed the Committee's objections to planning application no. 16/03878/FUL, Withies Campsite, Stretton Road. She was disappointed that the Committee had paid no heed to neither the town council's objections, nor the Neighbourhood Plan and local opinion, and the Committee had agreed to the application despite objections.
It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that the Town Clerk should write to Shropshire Council to inform of the town council's disappointment that the Southern Planning Committee was not considering the Neighbourhood Plan sufficiently when making planning decisions.

04/17

17) AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

It was AGREED to contact the Town Clerk if anyone wanted anything included on the next agenda.

18) DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was NOTED that the next meeting would take place on Thursday 2 February 2017.

The meeting closed at 20:52.

Signed.....

Date.....

Cllr. Herbert Harper
Town Mayor