

MUCH WENLOCK TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
 held at The Guildhall, Much Wenlock
 7 pm on Thursday 1 February 2018

Present:

Cllr. Graham Edgcumbe Venning (Chairman), Cllr. Trevor Childs, Cllr. Adam Davy, Cllr. Herbert Harper, Cllr. Mary Hill, Cllr. Yvonne Holyoak, Cllr. Marcus Themans, Cllr. Allan Walter and Cllr Milner Whiteman OBE.

Town Clerk:

Sharon Clayton

In attendance:

Cllr. David Turner - Shropshire Council
 2 members of the public

1) Chairman's welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. He said he had not attended any Mayoral engagements during January however, he would be attending a Civic Service at Whitchurch on Sunday 11 February 2018.

He advised that Councillor surgeries would be re-introduced on Saturday 3 February 2018 and take place inside the newly re-furnished library. He suggested that it might be more appropriate for future surgeries to take place on a monthly basis and he would prepare a rota.

2) Apologies for absence

COUNCILLOR	REASON
Dafydd Jenkins	Work commitment
David Gibbon	Personal commitment

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

None requested.

5) Shropshire Council Report

Cllr. David Turner gave the following verbal report:

- He had attended St. Chad's remembrance services for those from Much Wenlock who were killed in action or had died from injuries during WW1.
- Shropshire Council has commissioned Airband to roll-out broadband services in Shropshire by 2020 to fill in gaps that can't be serviced by fibre-optic cable.
- Shropshire Council was asking for expressions of interest for the former youth club building at Station Road and some had already been received.
- He had met with some students from the university centre in Shrewsbury, the Chair of the Severn and Wye Regional Flood & Coastal Committee and a representative from the Environment Agency to discuss the flood alleviation scheme for Much Wenlock.
- Shropshire Council had purchased the freehold of the Charles Darwin Shopping Centre in Shrewsbury including a property in Castle Street, and the leasehold of the Riverside Shopping centre and Riverside Medical Centre for a purchase price of £51m.

- The next scheduled litter pick had been postponed until 9 February 2018. The Great British Spring Clean, organised by 'Keep Britain Tidy', would take place between 2 and 4 March 2018.
- His next advice surgery would take place at Much Wenlock museum on 3 March 2018 and he invited a councillor to join him.

Cllr. Turner's report was **NOTED**.

Cllr. Turner was asked about Shropshire Council's recent consultation on parking. Cllr. Turner explained that a Scrutiny meeting was to take place at which Ludlow Town Councillors were going to object, and because of the size of the task, further proposals were planned concerning residents parking. He said he would not stop campaigning to get a better deal for Much Wenlock.

6) Public session

There were no requests to speak.

7) Minutes

- a) The minutes of a Town Council meeting held on 11 January 2018 were considered for approval. After agreed amendments at minute number 12(a) and 12(b), **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 5 December 2017 were **NOTED and ADOPTED.**
- c) The minutes of a Finance & Resources Management Committee meeting held on 29 November 2017 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 the following verbal report:

- The contractor who maintains the cemetery had been asked to try to repair the damage caused by a vehicle in the new part of the cemetery.
- Arrangements had been made to remove the Christmas tree in the Square.

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

9) Nominations for Mayor 2018/2019

Nominations were sought for Mayor for the ensuing year.

It was PROPOSED by Cllr. Herbert Harper and SECONDED by Cllr. Mary Hill that Cllr. Graham Edgcumbe Venning be nominated as Mayor for the ensuing year.

A recorded vote was requested and with seven votes in favour and two abstentions;

it was AGREED that Cllr. Graham Edgcumbe Venning be nominated as Mayor for 2018/2019.

10) Nominations for Deputy Mayor 2018/2019

Nominations were sought for Deputy Mayor for the ensuing year.

It was PROPOSED by Cllr. Mary Hill and SECONDED by Cllr. Milner Whiteman that Cllr. Herbert Harper be nominated as Deputy Mayor for the ensuing year.

With no further nominations **it was AGREED that Cllr. Herbert Harper be nominated as Deputy Mayor for 2018/2019.**

11) Annual Town Meeting

Members considered for approval what items should be included on the agenda for the Annual Town Meeting that was to take place on 8 March 2018.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that the following items should be included on the agenda:

- a) **Chairman's report.**
- b) **An open forum at which Members of the public would be invited to present written questions.**

It was further AGREED that Members should also be prepared to answer questions about the affordable housing at Callaughton Ash.

12) Terms of Reference

Members considered for approval draft Terms of Reference for the Archives Working Group that was established at the last meeting of the Town Council held on 11 January 2018.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that:

- a) **The Terms of Reference be APPROVED.**
- b) **Cllr. Mary Hill and Cllr. Yvonne Holyoak represent the Town Council on the Archives Working Group.**

13) Income and expenditure

Members received income and expenditure from 1 April to 31 December 2017.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that income and expenditure from 1 April to 31 December 2017 be NOTED.

14) Town Council Critical Commitments Strategy 2019-2021 and Action Plan

Members received the updated Critical Commitments Strategy and Action Plan in accordance with decisions made at a Town Council meeting held on 11 January 2018.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that the updated documents be NOTED and ADOPTED.

15) Cemetery fees

Members considered for approval a recommendation from the Finance & Resources Management Committee that there should be only one flat interment fee for both parishioners and non-parishioners.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that one flat fee of £375 for both parishioners and non-parishioners should apply for interments.

16) CCTV

Members considered a review of High Street security by improving the existing lighting and upgrading the CCTV.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that the Town Clerk be granted delegated authority to bid for funding from the PCC to upgrade the Town Council's CCTV.

17) Asset Management Plan

Members received an updated Asset Management Plan from 2018 to 2021. Cllr. Graham Edgcumbe Venning informed Members he and other Town Councillors had met with Shropshire Council's Conservation Officer to discuss works to the Corn Exchange, the Guildhall and the museum. She had recommended a number of professionals who could be approached to conduct a feasibility study and provide professional advice for the buildings to be repaired and renovated, one of whom would be conducting a survey on 8 February 2018.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED to NOTE.

18) Traffic issues

Concerns were expressed concerning obstructive parking on the streets within the town which were exacerbated by the cost of parking, which was currently under review by Shropshire Council. It was felt that the new proposed parking charges would make the problem worse.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that the Chairman would write to Cllr. Peter Nutting, Leader at Shropshire Council, to express the Town Council's concerns.

19) Consultation

There was no consultation for consideration.

20) Correspondence

The following correspondence was received:

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

NOTED.

21) Agenda items for the next town council meeting

It was **AGREED** that Members should inform the Town Clerk of any items for inclusion on the next agenda.

22) Date of next meeting

It was **NOTED** that the next meeting would take place on Thursday 1 March 2018.

08/18

The meeting closed at 20:19.

Signed.....
Town Mayor

Date.....