

# MUCH WENLOCK TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the  
**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**  
held at The Guildhall, Much Wenlock  
at 7 pm on Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2021

**Present:** Cllr. Michael Atherton, Cllr. David Fenwick, Cllr Mike Grace, Cllr Wilfred Grainger, Cllr. John O'Dowd, Cllr. Sam Neal, Cllr. Marcus Themans, Cllr. Daniel Thomas (in the chair), Cllr Robert Toft, Cllr Chris Tyler, Cllr. Duncan White

**Town Clerk:** Trudi Barrett

**In attendance:** Several members of the public

## 1. Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and reported as follows:

He had enjoyed the musical entertainment recently provided by musicians in the Square and advised that anyone wishing to play music or busk in the Square should contact the Town Council.

The Mayor had been pleased to join a private group tour of Wenlock Abbey and expressed thanks to the owner. It was understood that further tours could be arranged for organised historical or art groups.

The Wenlock Olympian Games were due to go ahead over the weekend of 24<sup>th</sup> September and the Mayor had been invited to award medals. The Wenlock Olympian Society had done some great work recently in promoting the town's Olympian connection to an international audience during the Olympics.

The town had been the location for a short film during the summer and local people had volunteered as extras or helpers to support the event.

The Mayor also drew attention to the decision of the South Shropshire Planning Committee in rejecting the Buildwas Power Station application. This was in part due to the hard work of this Council, Councillors past and present, and different community members and groups, who all contributed to getting a good result for Much Wenlock.

The Chairman issued a reminder that Hymns on the Green would take place on 12<sup>th</sup> September at 4.30pm and encouraged people to attend.

## 2. Apologies for Absence

None – all Members were present.

## 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.

## 4. Dispensations

None requested.

## 5. Shropshire Council Report

Shropshire Councillor Daniel Thomas gave a verbal report:

The remaining Ironbridge Power Station chimney was scheduled for demolition between 10am and 1pm on 3<sup>rd</sup> September and roads around the area would be closed from 9am to 6pm.

The application for the development of the Power Station site had been refused by Shropshire Council. Councillor Thomas had spoken on the inadequacies of the plans for the Gaskell corner and the dangers of rat running. Concerns had also been expressed about the 5% of affordable homes proposed, considerably lower than the 20% policy requirement of Shropshire Council. Surprisingly, the applicant, Harworth, had submitted an amended proposal which was to be considered by Shropshire Council on 20<sup>th</sup> September. The application was to be reconsidered as the formal refusal notice had not been issued. This had been delayed due to a challenge from the applicant to the decision on procedural grounds, which had now been dismissed.

Councillor Thomas was pleased to report that Shadwell Quarry's lawful development application had been refused, as the increase from 55 to 130 chalets was considered too much of a material change. The owners had the right to appeal. Some tree clearance work had been carried out at the entrance to the site but this had not been sufficient to warrant action by Shropshire Council.

The previous week Councillor Thomas had met Steve Charmley, Deputy Leader of Shropshire Council and Portfolio Holder for Highways. They had considered rat running, drainage, electric charging points and bicycle racks for the town, some of which had been delayed due to Covid-19.

**6. Police Report**

Members of the local policing team had sent their apologies. Councillors noted the written report.

**7. Public Session**

There had been no requests to speak.

**8. Minutes**

- a. **It was RESOLVED to approve and adopt the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2021.**
- b. **It was RESOLVED to adopt the minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee meetings held on 1<sup>st</sup> June and 6<sup>th</sup> July 2021.**

**9. Town Clerk's Report**

Members **NOTED** the written report from the Town Clerk on outstanding matters and action taken since the last Council meeting.

The Clerk was asked to obtain written information from Locality on funding opportunities for a review of the Neighbourhood Plan.

**10. Document Retention Policy**

Members reviewed a Document Retention Policy, as recommended by DM Payroll Services during the GDPR consultation on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2021.

Councillors requested that a procedure for the review and disposal of sensitive documents be drawn up.

**It was RESOLVED to approve the Document Retention Policy, subject to the production of and agreement to operational guidelines.**

**11. Welcome Back Fund**

- a. Members noted that Shropshire Council had been awarded £288,000 by the Government through the Welcome Back Fund to encourage visitors and residents to return to town centres and that Much Wenlock had been allocated £5,999, based on population.
- b. Members noted that the scheme recognised the importance of town events in promoting and enhancing the town and that proposals had been submitted to Shropshire Council for funding for Christmas events. A response was awaited.

**12. Highways Matters**

- a. Members noted a verbal report from the meeting between members of the Transport Working Group and the Sheinton Street residents' group regarding highways matters. The Sheinton Street residents would like to expand to become a town wide group and were keen to undertake a traffic survey. CSO Mal Goddard had explained that if a survey were undertaken, this would need to operate within GDPR rules, for example, with regard to logging registration numbers.  
The residents' group had been advised to apply for Town Council recognition if they wanted to become a town-wide organisation. It was recommended that the group draw up terms of reference that all members should sign up to.
- b. Members noted the results of speed surveys carried out by the local policing team on 19<sup>th</sup> July in Sheinton Street, Farley Road and Bridgnorth Road. The speeds recorded were all under 30mph but this might have been due to the presence of a uniformed police officer. It was not known in which part of Sheinton Street the surveys had been conducted and it was noted that the measurement was for traffic coming into town, rather than going out when speeds might be higher.

Members considered what might be done to slow traffic generally. It was noted that Shropshire Council was introducing a policy for 20mph speed limits outside schools.

**It was RESOLVED that the Transport Working Group should consider the survey information in detail.**

- c. Members considered information from Sgt Kate Øen regarding the PCC Road Safety Fund. Options for Much Wenlock might include white picket fences at the entrance to the town, automatic smiley face speed signs and number plate recognition cameras. A balance was needed so that traffic restrictions did not deter shoppers and tourists. It was suggested that the town might offer to be a trial location for innovative traffic calming measures.

**It was RESOLVED that the Transport Working Group should explore road safety options that might be supported by funding from the PCC Road Safety Fund and report back to the Town Council for approval prior to submitting an application.**

20/21

**13. Transport Working Group Reporting Arrangements**

Members considered a proposal from members of the Planning & Environment Committee that the Transport Working Group report to that committee, rather than to full Council.

**It was RESOLVED to revise the Terms of Reference of the Transport Working Group to allow the Planning & Environment Committee to oversee the day to day work of the Transport Working Group but to ensure that significant or strategy decisions would come to full Council for approval.**

**14. Ironbridge Power Station Planning Application (ref. 19/05560/OUT)**

- a. Members noted that the planning application for the Ironbridge Power Station was refused by Shropshire Council's Southern Planning Committee on 10<sup>th</sup> August 2021.
- b. With regard to the 'call in' request made by the Town Council, Members noted that the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government had advised that as Shropshire Council had refused planning permission, the Secretary of State had no involvement unless the applicant subsequently appealed against the council's decision.
- c. It was noted that the application was to be re-considered by Shropshire Council on 20<sup>th</sup> September. The funding proposed in the application for the feasibility study for the Gaskell corner had been increased from £250k to £350k and, via association with others, the affordable housing quota proposed had been increased to 10%. However, the situation had not really changed for Much Wenlock; there might be more money for a study, but there was still no solution. Further representations could be made at the forthcoming meeting.

**It was RESOLVED to inform the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government that the application had not been refused and would be reconsidered by Shropshire Council on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2021.**

**15. Climate Change**

Members considered a discussion paper entitled "The Council's role in addressing twin emergencies of Climate Change and Nature" and a recommendation from the Planning & Environment Committee that the proposals be approved.

**It was RESOLVED to:**

- a. **Sign the Zero Carbon Shropshire pledge.**
- b. **Invite nominations for a volunteer from members of the Council to 'champion' our approach.**
- c. **Invite community activists to an introductory workshop in order to explore a Council and community-wide approach.**

**It was RESOLVED that Mike Atherton be the Council's climate and nature champion.**

**16. Shropshire Council Local Plan Review**

- a. Members noted that on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2021 Shropshire Council had approved the Regulation 19 Draft Local Plan 2016 to 2038 for submission to the Planning Inspectorate.
- b. Members considered a report prepared by Councillor Mike Grace on next steps and preparation for examination in public.

**On the recommendation of the Planning & Environment Committee, it was RESOLVED**

1. **To undertake community consultation to prepare the case for the Examination in Public.**
2. **To use a combination of options for engagement.**
3. **To establish a working group under the Planning & Environment Committee to invite community members to help the Town Council to organise the consultation and prepare a case for agreement by the Town Council.**

**It was RESOLVED that the working group should be called the Shropshire Local Plan Review Working Group, the membership should be formed of members of the Planning & Environment Committee and invited members of the community, the Group should be chaired by Councillor Mike Grace and should report to the Town Council. Terms of reference would be drawn up for approval.**

**17. The Friendly Bus**

- a. Members noted that the AGM of the Friendly Transport Service (Shropshire) would be held on Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> September at 2pm at the Birchmeadow Centre, Broseley.
- b. Members noted that the Friendly Bus was seeking members for the Management Committee, particularly from Much Wenlock. **It was RESOLVED to publicise the AGM and to encourage members of the community to put themselves forward for election to the Management Committee.**

**18. Consultation**

Members noted the following consultation and considered a response from the Town Council:

- a. Shropshire County Pension Fund consultation on Climate Change Strategy and Climate Stewardship Plan – response required by 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021 (extension to deadline)  
**It was RESOLVED to welcome the fact that the Shropshire County Pension Fund was considering the Fund’s approach to addressing the risks and opportunities related to climate change. Councillors endorsed and supported the direction of travel to ensure that investments were contributing positively to mitigate climate change. They urged the Fund to investigate opportunities for investment in areas that would benefit the county, for example, green finance for flood mitigation.**
- b. West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner’s draft Safer West Mercia Plan 2021-2025 – closing date 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021.  
**It was RESOLVED that Councillor Robert Toft would prepare a draft response on behalf of the Town Council for consideration at the next meeting.**
- c. Shropshire Council survey on bus services to support a bid to the Government’s ‘Bus Back Better’ fund – closing date 10<sup>th</sup> September.  
 Members agreed that this should be supported to benefit those members of the community who relied on public transport.  
**It was RESOLVED that Councillor White would respond on behalf of the Town Council.**  
 The survey would be publicised and Councillors were urged to respond individually.
- d. Shropshire Council Gambling Act Policy Consultation – closing date 19<sup>th</sup> September 2021.  
 Noted.

**19. Correspondence**

Members **NOTED** the following:

- a. SALC information bulletin and other information.
- b. Friendly Bus Newsletter September 2021
- c. Rural Bulletins from the Rural Services Network
- d. Community Reassurance update 09.07.21
- e. Police SNT update 01.07.21 – 01.08.21
- f. Invitation to Telford Samaritans AGM on 27<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm
- g. Connecting Shropshire Update August 2021
- h. NALC 2021 election survey

**20. Agenda Items for Next Town Council Meeting**

Members suggested the following item for inclusion on the agenda for the next meeting:

Local Plan

**21. Date of next meeting**

Members noted that the next meeting would be held at 7.00pm on Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> October 2021 at the Guildhall.

**Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960**

Pursuant to Section 1(2) of the above Act it was **RESOLVED** that, due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and press should not be present.

**It was RESOLVED to suspend standing orders to allow the meeting to continue past 9.00 pm**

**22. Complaint**

Councillors considered a complaint from a member of the public.

**It was RESOLVED to respond directly and to await a response before taking any further action.**

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm.

Signed ..... Date .....  
 Town Mayor

09/21

# MUCH WENLOCK TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a **Planning & Environment Committee meeting**  
held at 7.00 pm on Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at the Guildhall, Much Wenlock

**Present:** Councillors David Fenwick, Mike Grace (in the chair), Chris Tyler

**In attendance:** Trudi Barrett – Town Clerk, Councillor Daniel Thomas, six members of the public

## 1. Apologies

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the following apologies: Councillor Duncan White – holiday, Councillor Wilfred Grainger – work commitment

## 2. 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.

## 3. Dispensations

None requested.

## 4. Public Session

Members of the public were invited to speak on agenda items at the relevant point during the meeting.

## 5. Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2021 be **APPROVED** and signed as a true record.

It was **RESOLVED** to re-order the agenda to consider agenda item 17a next.

## 6. Highways Matters: Cycleway at Oakfield Park

A member of the public outlined his concerns about the compliance of the footway at Oakfield Park with the planning consent in terms of dimensions. The footpath and road regularly flooded as the surface water drain was not connected. He also noted that the 30mph signs were due to be moved and a developer contribution of £10,000 had been provided for this. The signs had not been moved, but one had been raised. It was reported that the developer's financial contribution had been retained by Shropshire Council and had not been spent on this project. Contradictory statements had been provided by Shropshire Council about whether the path and verge had been adopted or not.

Councillors advised that the Town Council had no statutory responsibility for highways and could take no direct action but could raise the issues with Shropshire Council.

It was **RESOLVED** to write to Shropshire Council to request clarification of the situation and a response to the points made by the member of the public.

## 7. Planning Applications

a. The following planning applications were considered:

<p>21/03060/FUL Wheatland Garage, Bridgnorth Road, Much Wenlock</p>	<p>Raising of the petrol forecourt canopy roof by 0.6m to allow higher vehicles to access the service.</p> <p>It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to submit no objections, but to request the installation of low carbon lighting and that Planning officers ensure there would be no detriment to neighbours from any increased height and splay of lighting.</p>
<p>21/03154/FUL Withies Campsite, Stretton Road, Much Wenlock</p>	<p>To replace existing fence with new brick wall enclosure and gate entrance.</p> <p>It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to object to the application:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the development would be detrimental to the visual quality of the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and would result in urbanisation of a strongly rural area.</li> </ul>

10/21

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Councillors suggested native hedge planting in addition to the existing fence to improve security. Some formality around the entrance, in the form of brick pillars, would be acceptable.</b></li> <li>• <b>the surface water drainage at the entrance to the Withies site was inadequate and there was serious risk of flooding from the site.</b></li> </ul>
21/02523/FUL and 21/02524/LBC 7 St Milburgha Row, Barrow Street, Much Wenlock	Erection of an oak framed, open-sided gazebo to rear decking area affecting a Grade II Listed Building.  <b>It was RESOLVED to submit no objections.</b>
21/03299/FUL Land Adj 6 Bridge Road, Much Wenlock	Erection of a detached dwelling.  <b>It was RESOLVED that Councillors had no objection in principle, however, they would ask that consideration be given to reducing the height of the two storey element of the dwelling to provide a better fit with the surrounding buildings. There should also be appropriate boundary treatment with the green space behind the site, which was designated green space in the Much Wenlock Neighbourhood Plan.</b>
21/03295/VAR Grange Fencing Limited, Coates Works, Stretton Westwood, Much Wenlock	Variation of Condition No.2 (approved plans) attached to planning permissions 20/02367/FUL dated 10/11/2020 and 20/04960/VAR dated 28/01/21 to allow for increase in size of approved building.  <b>It was RESOLVED to submit no objections.</b>
21/03340/LBC Much Wenlock Town Council, Guildhall, Wilmore Street, Much Wenlock	Repair or replacement of the cupola on the roof affecting a Grade II* Listed Building.  <b>It was RESOLVED to note this application, as the Town Council was the applicant.</b>

- b. **It was RESOLVED to retrospectively approve the following response, agreed between meetings due to the timescale for response:**

21/02781/TCA 8-9 Milburgha Road	Fell 1no. fir.  Response: Councillors agreed to defer to the opinion of the tree officer. They noted that the application lacked any detail on the tree or any justification for its felling. If the tree is to be felled, Councillors would support the planting of a replacement tree, preferably a native species with ecological value.
------------------------------------	--

- c. Members noted that application 21/02986/LBC, for works to facilitate the installation of 1no. electric car charger and replace a broken metal gate with a solid wooden low gate affecting a Grade II Listed Building at Brook House Farm, 1 Sheinton Street, Much Wenlock, was re-submitted as a full application, number 21/02986/FUL.  
**It was RESOLVED to retrospectively approve submission of the Planning & Environment Committee's response for 21/02986/LBC under the new application number, 21/02986/FUL.**

## 8. Planning Decisions

**It was RESOLVED to note the following planning decisions:**

21/02462/FUL 8 Mardol Terrace, Smithfield Road, Much Wenlock	Erection of single storey glazed rear extension Decision: <b>Grant Permission</b>
21/02781/TCA 8-9 St Milburgha Road, Barrow Street, Much Wenlock	Fell 1no Fir within Much Wenlock Conservation Area Decision: <b>No objection</b>

11/21

**9. Local Plan Review and Much Wenlock Neighbourhood Plan**

- a. Members noted that Shropshire Council approved submission of the draft Local Plan 2016 – 2038 to the Secretary of State for independent examination by the Planning Inspectorate at the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2021.
- b. Members considered the Town Council's response to Shropshire Council's decision to proceed with the draft Local Plan.

**It was RESOLVED to express disappointment to Shropshire Council that the draft Local Plan had not been changed, as requested, and to maintain the Town Council's position that the Local Plan should be changed. The Town Council's position with regard to the development of the strategic site at the former Ironbridge Power Station should also be maintained.**

Preparations should be made for presenting the Town Council's case at the examination in public. The date of this was not yet known. It would be valuable to undertake consultation with the community between now and Christmas to gauge local opinion.

Committee members agreed to bring proposals to the next Planning & Environment Committee meeting on 31<sup>st</sup> August for further consideration at full Council on 2<sup>nd</sup> September.

Members noted the report provided by Mr Paul Hanafin with regard to highways matters, particularly with reference to the implications of the draft Local Plan and proposed developments at the Ironbridge Power Station site and elsewhere on traffic in Much Wenlock. The inadequate traffic assessment from the applicant for the Power Station was particularly worrying. Reference was made to a promise from the former leader of Shropshire Council, Peter Nutting, of a separate S106 agreement with the Power Station developer to fund a traffic study. The Clerk was asked to pass on this point to Shropshire Council highways.

Mr Hanafin noted Shropshire Council's proposed revisions to the town's parking regulations, which had been put on hold, and the desirability of conducting a town-wide survey on transport issues.

Councillors were supportive of a transport survey in the town. Questions could be drafted by the Transport Working Group for consideration by Council.

It was noted that the Transport Working Group currently reported to full Council and suggested that it would be beneficial for the Group to report to the Planning & Environment Committee instead. The Clerk was asked to add this item to the agenda of the full Council meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> September for consideration.

Mr Hanafin was thanked for his report.

- c. Councillors noted the summary, compiled by the Town Clerk, of decisions and comments regarding the Local Plan and the Neighbourhood Plan taken by the Town Council at full Council and Planning & Environment Committee meetings between January 2016 and April 2021. Further discussion was deferred to confidential session.

**10. Flooding issues**

- a. Members noted that Shropshire Council's Drainage and Flood Risk Manager had responded positively regarding a meeting to discuss a whole catchment-based drainage approach for Much Wenlock with himself and a representative from the Environment Agency. A meeting was being arranged.
- b. Members of the Flood Group provided information and an update on flooding matters. They welcomed the meeting with Shropshire Council's Drainage and Flood Risk Manager and advised that there was already a whole catchment based drainage scheme in place. There were five elements to this plan and two of these, the attenuation ponds at Stretton Road and the Sytche, had already been completed. Outstanding elements of the scheme were remediation of problems at Callaughtons Ash/Oakfield Park and also around Havelock Crescent. A fifth element would be attenuation for the Hunters Gate area, although this would be privately funded through development and might not go ahead without the development. It was hoped that clarity on the situation would be provided at the forthcoming meeting.

It was noted that there were ongoing problems with flooding at Oakfield Park, where the drainage was inadequate and there was uncontrolled flooding off fields and onto the road. This needed to be addressed by Shropshire Council.

It was noted that there was insufficient drainage at The Withies camp site and this caused problems along the road, particularly with ice during the winter. This concern was included in the Council's response to the planning application for the site.

12/21

Further problems with drainage were noted from properties along the Stretton Road. Some of the issues were being addressed by the installation of a larger pipe under the road to force water into the attenuation pond, however, problems remained to be resolved with land around Grange Fencing.

It was noted that there had been no sight of plans for drainage associated with development at Scoltocks Yard in Station Road and management of the brook and culvert. As the application for housing had been approved, plans must have been produced. The Clerk was asked to request drainage plans from Shropshire Council.

The project to install a new sewage screen by the Bullring was progressing and was on target to be completed in 2022.

- c. There were no further flooding issues to consider.

#### 11. Climate Change and Sustainability

- a. The Chairman invited a member of the Holy Trinity Church Environmental Group to speak regarding this agenda item.

Information was provided about the initiative to remove single use plastics from the town and membership of 'Surfers against Sewage'. The Town Council was supporting this initiative and had undertaken a single use plastic audit of the office as well as promoting the initiative through its communication channels. The primary school had taken part in a competition for Plastic Free July, the entries had been judged by the Mayor, and the winning posters were on display on the Town Council's noticeboard. The pupils had also produced a video, which had been widely circulated.

Three businesses in the town were required to support the plastic free town initiative and two had committed so far. Steady progress was being made. Councillor White was attending meetings of the Steering Group and would liaise between the group and the Town Council.

Members thanked the speaker for her report and ongoing efforts.

- b. Members considered a discussion paper from Councillor Grace entitled "The Council's role in addressing twin emergencies of Climate Change and Nature" and the recommendations made in the paper.

**It was RESOLVED to put the three recommendations in the paper to full Council at the meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> September.**

- c. Members noted a report from Councillor White on the meeting he attended on 15<sup>th</sup> July regarding Plastic Free Much Wenlock.

#### 12. Consultation

None.

#### 13. Street Lighting

#### 14. Street naming \*

#### 15. Footpath/Bridleway Creation Orders\*

#### 16. Footpath Diversion Orders\*

#### 17. Road closures\*

#### 18. Highways matters \*

Members noted and considered the following highways matters:

- a. Considered above, minute 6.
- b. Members noted that further information and a request to meet had been forwarded to the Shropshire Council Highways Officer regarding review of the junction of Southfield Road and Victoria Road. A response was awaited.
- c. Members noted that a request for a meeting to discuss parking on pavements in the town had been forwarded to the local policing team and a response was awaited.
- d. Members considered information regarding the closure of Shropshire Council's Bridgnorth highways depot. It was **RESOLVED to write to Shropshire Council expressing concern about the change of operational arrangements, particularly due to the massively high levels of development proposed for East Shropshire, for which a depot in Bridgnorth would be more relevant.**

13/21

- e. Members noted an open letter to Town and Parish Councils from Councillor Steve Charmley, Cabinet member with responsibility for highways at Shropshire Council.

**19. Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs)\***

**20. Stopping Up Orders\***

**21. Speed Limit Orders\***

**22. Prohibition Orders\***

**23. Date of next meeting**

It was **NOTED** that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday, 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021 at 7.00pm at the Guildhall, Much Wenlock.

**PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960**

**Pursuant to Section 1(2) of the above Act and due to the confidential nature of the following business to be transacted it was RESOLVED that the public and press should not be present.**

**24. Planning Enforcement**

Members noted enforcement issue 21/07951/ENF.

**25. Local Plan Review and Much Wenlock Neighbourhood Plan**

Councillors considered further issues connected with minute 9c above and potential funding available for a review of the Neighbourhood Plan. The Clerk was asked to write to the Planning Policy & Strategy Manager at Shropshire Council to request details of meetings with Shropshire Council (dates, participants, minutes) at which the Town Council indicated their agreement to Shropshire Council identifying sites and development for Much Wenlock as part of the Local Plan review, rather than this being undertaken as part of a formal review of the Neighbourhood Plan.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.

Signed.....  
Chairman

Date.....

01/21

# MUCH WENLOCK TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a  
**FINANCE & ASSET MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**  
meeting held at the Guildhall, Much Wenlock  
at 7.00 pm on Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> July 2021

**Present:**

Cllr. Mike Atherton, Cllr. Sam Neal, Cllr. John O'Dowd, Cllr. Marcus Themans, Cllr. Daniel Thomas, Cllr. Robert Toft

**In attendance:**

Trudi Barrett – Town Clerk, Diane Barlow – Responsible Financial Officer (RFO), Councillors David Fenwick and Duncan White.

**1) Election of Chairman**

It was **PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED** to elect Councillor Daniel Thomas as Chairman of the committee.

**2) Election of Deputy Chairman**

It was **PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED** to elect Councillor Marcus Themans as Deputy Chairman of the committee.

**3) Apologies**

It was **PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED** to approve the following apologies: Councillor Sam Neal – holiday  
Councillor Mike Atherton had advised that he would be late to the meeting.

**4) 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.

**5) Dispensations**

None requested.

**6) Minutes**

It was **PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of the Finance, Asset Management & HR Committee meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2021 be **APPROVED** and signed as a true record.

**7) Town Clerk's report**

Members received a written and verbal report from the Town Clerk on action taken since the last meeting.

It was **PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED** that the Town Clerk's report be **NOTED**.

**8) Finance**

- a. The RFO presented a written and verbal report. She advised that the markets were being well supported with some new traders. Business rates on public conveniences had recently been abolished, with effect from April 2020, and a refund of £3,680.92 had been received for the financial year 2020/21 and the early part of 2021/22. 'Wenlock's Covid Chronicles' had been launched on 3<sup>rd</sup> July with income of £1,055 to date, including a donation of £125, and expenses of £969. A VAT refund of £2,240.94 had been received for the fourth quarter of 2020/21. Bank mandates had been updated with previous councillors having been removed and new councillors added.  
Members **NOTED** the report.
- b. Members **NOTED** the balance sheet as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021.
- c. Members **NOTED** the income and expenditure to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021.
- d. The RFO gave an overview of the Council's different bank accounts and Members reviewed the bank reconciliations to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021. It was **PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED** to approve the bank reconciliations to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021.
- e. It was **PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED** to retrospectively approve payments from 15<sup>th</sup> May 2021 to date.

Councillor Mike Atherton joined the meeting.

02/21

**9) Community Infrastructure Levy Neighbourhood Fund**

- a. Members noted the 2020/21 Neighbourhood Fund allocation of £5,746.16 to Much Wenlock and the total allocation between 1<sup>st</sup> January 2012 and 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020 of £24,190.66.
- b. Members noted that, including the 2020/21 payment, the Council was currently holding £18,589 in the Neighbourhood Fund budget.

**10) Guildhall Cupola**

Members noted that the application for Listed Building Consent for work to the cupola had been submitted to Shropshire Council. The Clerk advised that the work could not be scheduled with the contractor until consent had been obtained.

**11) Cemetery Grass Cutting and Grounds Maintenance**

Members considered correspondence received from a member of the Friends of the Old Cemetery regarding the grass cutting regime in the cemetery. They noted the need to balance the expectations of members of the public with regard to the appearance of the cemetery with the promotion of more environmentally friendly site management. It was noted that wildflower areas were already being encouraged on the Gaskell Recreation Ground

**It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED that members of the Friends of the Cemetery working group should meet with the correspondent to discuss grounds management.**

**12) Busking in The Square**

**It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED to suspend standing orders to allow Councillor White to contribute to the discussion.**

Members noted requests to busk in the Square from individuals and voluntary groups and considered how to deal with these. Issues included insurance, power, noise levels and collections. Members concurred that music in the Square could improve the ambience in the town centre and entertain visitors.

**It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED to support the principle of busking in the Square, on the following conditions:**

- **Buskers would be permitted between 10am and 2pm on Saturdays**
- **A booking must be made with the Council office**
- **Public liability insurance would be required**
- **Buskers would need to fit in with any market stalls**
- **A collection could be made for the busker or a charity if desired**
- **Buskers must be respectful of the community in terms of noise levels and other potential nuisance.**

Councillor White agreed to liaise with buskers, if required.

The Clerk was asked to investigate separate public liability insurance for the Council which would cover buskers.

**It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED to reinvoke standing orders.**

**13) Review of Property Holdings**

**It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED to set up a working group to review the Town Council's property holdings. Members of the group would be drawn from the whole Council as well as suitably qualified or skilled members of the public, when appropriate.**

The group would identify priorities for building management of Town Council owned properties and make recommendations for action. The Clerk would draft terms of reference for approval.

Councillors Mike Atherton, David Fenwick, John O'Dowd, Marcus Themans and Duncan White put themselves forward for the group.

It was noted that Councillor O'Dowd had distributed an English Heritage style of report for old buildings which could be helpful to use as a base document. Members of the group would arrange to visit the Council's properties.

**14) Date of next meeting**

It was noted that the next meeting of the Finance, Asset Management & HR Committee would be held on Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> September 2021 at 7.00pm.

**PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960**

**Pursuant to Section 1(2) of the above Act it was PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED that, due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and press should not be present.**

03/21

Councillors Fenwick and White left the meeting.

**15) Linden Lodge Inspection Report**

Members considered the most recent periodic inspection report for Linden Lodge from March 2021. It was noted that the Clerk was seeking quotations for several minor works.

**16) Office Photocopier**

Members noted that the lease on the office photocopier expired at the end of June and considered quotations for a new lease copier.

**It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED to accept the quotation from Sharp for a 5 year rental.**

**17) Floral Displays**

**It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED to retrospectively approve the contract for the town’s summer floral displays at a cost of £1,206.**

**18) Fire Safety Audit**

Members noted the Fire Safety Audit of the Corn Exchange, carried out on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

**It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED that administrative staff should work through the report, implement recommendations which could be achieved at little or no cost and seek quotations for higher value measures.**

The meeting closed at 20.55 pm

Signed.....  
Chairman

Date.....

MONTH	MINUTE NUMBER	RESOLUTION	TASK COMPLETE	COMMENT
April 2021	23	To award the contract for renovation of the Guildhall cupola to Croft Building & Conservation Ltd	Yes	Croft Building & Conservation advised. Listed Building Consent obtained. Work scheduled to begin 6 <sup>th</sup> October.
May 2021	22	Defer consideration of the Council's policies relating to data protection to a future meeting.	In progress	
3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2021	9b	That the Town Clerk explores options for grants and funding to undertake a review of the MW Neighbourhood Plan	Yes	Information obtained from Locality
24 <sup>th</sup> June 2021	18	Support the 'Queen's Green Canopy' initiative, raise public awareness and ask relevant committees to consider where trees might be planted	In progress	
July 2021	10	Arrange a workshop of all Councillors to brainstorm ideas and start the process before the summer break	Pending	Not possible before the summer break. Date and arrangements to be agreed
	14	Finance & Asset Management Committee to consider the practicalities of flying the Union flag at the Guildhall	In progress	Advice obtained from Holy Trinity Church team
Sept 2021	9	Obtain written information from Locality on funding opportunities for a review of the Neighbourhood Plan.	Yes	
	10	Approve the Document Retention Policy, subject to the production of and agreement to operational guidelines.	In progress	Operational guidelines to be drawn up
	13	Revise the Terms of Reference of the Transport Working Group	Yes	
	14c	Inform the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Govt that the application for the Ironbridge Power Station had been refused and would be reconsidered by SC on 20 <sup>th</sup> September.	Yes	
	15	Sign the Zero Carbon Shropshire Pledge Invite community activities to an introductory workshop in order to explore a Council and community-wide approach.	Yes Pending	
	16	Draw up terms of reference for the Shropshire Local Plan Review Working Group	Yes	On agenda for 7 <sup>th</sup> October
	17b	Publicise the Friendly Bus AGM and encourage members of the community to put themselves forward for election to the Management Committee.	Yes	
	18a	Respond as per resolution to Shropshire County Pension Fund consultation.	Yes	
	22	Respond directly to the complain and await a response before taking any further action.	Yes	

#### Other Activities

- Attendance at SC meeting re London Bridge Protocol
- Meeting with SC Place Plan officer re Welcome Back fund

### Section 3 – External Auditor Report and Certificate 2020/21

In respect of **MUCH WENLOCK TOWN COUNCIL – SH0123**

#### 1 Respective responsibilities of the body and the auditor

This authority is responsible for ensuring that its financial management is adequate and effective and that it has a sound system of internal control. The authority prepares an Annual Governance and Accountability Return in accordance with *Proper Practices* which:

- summarises the accounting records for the year ended 31 March 2021; and
- confirms and provides assurance on those matters that are relevant to our duties and responsibilities as external auditors.

Our responsibility is to review Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return in accordance with guidance issued by the National Audit Office (NAO) on behalf of the Comptroller and Auditor General (see note below). Our work **does not** constitute an audit carried out in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK & Ireland) and **does not** provide the same level of assurance that such an audit would do.

#### 2 External auditor report 2020/21

On the basis of our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR), in our opinion the information in Sections 1 and 2 of the AGAR is in accordance with Proper Practices and no other matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.

Other matters not affecting our opinion which we draw to the attention of the authority:

None.

#### 3 External auditor certificate 2020/21

We certify that we have completed our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return, and discharged our responsibilities under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, for the year ended 31 March 2021.

External Auditor Name

**PKF LITTLEJOHN LLP**

External Auditor Signature

*PKF Littlejohn LLP*

Date

25/09/2021

\* Note: the NAO issued guidance applicable to external auditors' work on limited assurance reviews in Auditor Guidance Note AGN/02. The AGN is available from the NAO website ([www.nao.org.uk](http://www.nao.org.uk))

Thursday, September 30, 2021 at 4:20:47 PM British Summer Time

---

**Subject:** RE: Call-in Request - Ironbridge Power Station, Shropshire  
**Date:** Wednesday, 29 September 2021 at 12:31:01 British Summer Time  
**From:** Astrid Chaplin  
**To:** Town Clerk  
**CC:** Daniel Thomas  
**Attachments:** image002.jpg, image003.jpg, image004.jpg, image005.png, image006.jpg, image007.png, image021.jpg, 121026\_Written\_Ministerial\_Statement\_Call\_in.pdf

Dear Trudi

Thanks for your email.

There is no formal consultation period but as this matter is currently under consideration, any representations should be sent to us as soon as possible. There is no form for doing so but you should set out clear planning reasons for requesting call-in. Applications are considered against the call-in policy set out in the *Written Ministerial Statement* made on the 26 October 2012 by Nick Boles (attached for information). This policy gives examples of the types of issues which may lead to an application being called in, however, in general this will only happen if planning issues of more than local importance are involved. May I also explain that in deciding whether to call-in, we are unable to take into account matters relating to alleged errors in law, procedural failings or maladministration. These are for the Courts and/or the Local Government & Social Care Ombudsman.

Regards  
Astrid

Astrid Chaplin  
Planning Casework Officer  
Planning Casework Unit  
Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities  
Tel: 0303 444 8032

---

**From:** Town Clerk <townclerk@muchwenlock-tc.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 29 September 2021 09:46  
**To:** Astrid Chaplin <Astrid.Chaplin@communities.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** Daniel Thomas <daniel.thomas@muchwenlock-tc.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** Re: Call-in Request - Ironbridge Power Station, Shropshire

Dear Astrid

Sorry to come back to you again. It's not clear to me if there is a timescale for representations at this stage and, if so, what that is. I am not familiar with the call-in process and would be grateful if you would clarify what is required and when. Is there a specific form any further representation should take and any particular element of the planning application or planning process to which reference should or should not be made? The Town Council's previous call-in request was fairly brief.

Thank you for your help.

Regards

Trudi M Barrett  
Town Clerk

**Written Ministerial Statement**

**Friday 26 October 2012**

**COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

**Planning Applications**

**The Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government (Nick Boles):** The Localism Act has put the power to plan back in the hands of communities, but with this power comes responsibility: a responsibility to meet their needs for development and growth, and to deal quickly and effectively with proposals that will deliver homes, jobs and facilities.

The Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government has the power to “call in” planning applications for his own consideration. There will be occasions where he considers it necessary to call in a planning application for determination, rather than leave the determination to the local planning authority.

The policy is to continue to be very selective about calling in planning applications. We consider it only right that as Parliament has entrusted local planning authorities with the responsibility for day-to-day planning control in their areas, they should, in general, be free to carry out their duties responsibly, with the minimum of interference.

In the written ministerial statement of 6 September 2012, *Official Report*, column 29WS, Ministers noted that the recovery criteria already include large residential developments. To align this with the call-in process, we stated we would consider carefully the use of call-in for major new settlements with larger than local impact. Consequently, we have resolved to amend the existing call-in indicators (the “Caborn” principles, 16 June 1999, *Official Report*, column 138W).

The Secretary of State will, in general, only consider the use of his call-in powers if planning issues of more than local importance are involved. Such cases may include, for example, those which in his opinion:

may conflict with national policies on important matters;

may have significant long-term impact on economic growth and meeting housing needs across a wider area than a single local authority;

could have significant effects beyond their immediate locality;

give rise to substantial cross-boundary or national controversy;

raise significant architectural and urban design issues; or

may involve the interests of national security or of foreign Governments.

However, each case will continue to be considered on its individual merits.

**MUCH WENLOCK TOWN COUNCIL**TOWN COUNCIL 7<sup>th</sup> October 2021**DRAFT SHROPSHIRE LOCAL PLAN and MUCH WENLOCK NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN****Introduction**

This paper reports on the meeting between the Mayor and members of the Planning & Environment Committee (PEC) – Cllrs David Fenwick, Mike Grace, Wilfred Grainger, Chris Tyler and Duncan White, with Eddie West (EW), Strategic Planning Manager of Shropshire Council, on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2021. It considers the implications for the Town Council's work with the community in presenting a case to the Examination in Public [into the Draft Local Plan] in 2022 and any future review of the Much Wenlock Neighbourhood Plan (MWNP).

The meeting was held virtually on 15<sup>th</sup> September and was attended by all members of the PEC and the Mayor. An agenda was agreed as:

1. To review the success of the current Neighbourhood Plan.
2. To consider the relationship between the Neighbourhood Plan and the Local Plan.
3. To consider the implications for the Neighbourhood Plan if the Local Plan is adopted as it stands.

Councillors were appreciative of Eddie West attending the meeting and thanked him for his time and responses. We must note that there was a limited amount of time available for the discussion and all issues could not be addressed. A summary note of the key points of the discussion is appended and below some comments and reflections are set out here are for further discussion.

**Commentary and questions**

**Housing** – Shropshire Council's (SC) figures show permissions for an annual windfall of delivery of dwellings to be around 10 per year. The MWNP (to 2026) assumed an average of 7-8 per year. Setting aside permissions already given, on this basis the windfall delivery from 2020/21 to 2038 could be a further 120-180 dwellings. Whilst a rate of 7-10 per year may not be always achievable, the assumption that *only* 27 will be built in this way by 2038 through this means looks extremely unrealistic. The implication might be that Much Wenlock could exceed the 200 dwelling target for 2038 by 40-50%.

**Employment** – The offer by EW to follow up on bringing forward the employment site at Stretton Road is to be welcomed. However, it seems contrary to his statement that SC is focussing its effort on the larger towns. This issue was raised previously with the Local Enterprise Partnership when the MWNP was being developed and subsequently with SC. No action has been forthcoming. The Draft Local Plan has no proposals for the delivery of the employment site. This remains an issue if the Local Plan objective of delivering employment opportunities, reducing the need for travel and securing sustainable development is to be achieved.

**Development site allocation** - It is obvious that SC has been committed to the development scheme at HG2 from the beginning of the local plan review process.

1. This is evidenced by EW's comments on enlarging the site to meet the developers concerns about viability.
2. It has also been motivated by trying to secure developer contributions to solve existing flood risks to this part of the town.

This is in the knowledge that HG2 is on a very flood prone site and the flood problem partly arises because of the inadequacies of the previous scheme at Hunters Gate. Alternative approaches to future development in the town are recognised but these have not been considered to date.

**Public consultation** – There is clearly a difference of view on the meaning and importance of public consultation. EW clarified that SC has relied almost entirely on its formal consultation processes and communication with the former Town Council. It has noted but seemingly not taken into account views from other parts of the community. This wasn't explained. We can observe that this hardly meets the standard of 'meaningful consultation' set out in and required by SC's Statement of Community Involvement. A key question that remained unanswered was '*Given Shropshire Council's reliance on the views of the then Town Council to support its preferred option, why did it not change its mind and alter the Draft Plan when requested by the newly elected Town Council in June?*'

### **Preparation for the Examination in Public**

We now understand that two Inspectors have been appointed to hold the EIP and a Programme Officer is now in post to support its administration. The date has yet to be confirmed.

At its previous meetings, the PEC and Town Council agreed to establish a consultation process with all interested local groups to help assemble its case at the EIP. An advert has been sent for inclusion in the Wenlock Herald and a list of potential attendees has been drawn up. It's proposed to invite their representatives to a working discussion in the last week of October. The meeting will explain the background, the Town Council's stance since the election and the forthcoming EIP process. The discussion will allow all these groups to share their views and invite them to contribute to a community-wide statement. The Council's Transport working group may have relevant comments on traffic and access issues and the Climate/Nature Emergencies group may wish to comment on options for achieving net zero. The outcomes will be fed back to the PEC and Town Council for any appropriate resolutions.

### **Recommendations**

That the Town Council;

1. Notes the report on the meeting with Eddie West on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2021
2. Agrees to write to Shropshire Council and ask '*Why Shropshire Council did not change its mind and alter the Draft Local Plan when requested by the newly elected Town Council in June this year?*'

*Report drafted by Councillor Mike Grace*

**Appendix: DRAFT SHROPSHIRE LOCAL PLAN and MUCH WENLOCK NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

**Notes of the meeting of Planning & Environment Committee members with Eddie West, Strategic Planning Manager of Shropshire Council.**

Attendees: All members of the PEC (Cllrs David Fenwick, Mike Grace, Wilfred Grainger, Chris Tyler and Duncan White), Mayor Dan Thomas and Eddie West.

Held by Zoom, 4.30pm to 5.30pm on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

Agenda:

1. To review the success of the current Neighbourhood Plan.
2. To consider the relationship between the Neighbourhood Plan and the Local Plan.
3. To consider the implications for the Neighbourhood Plan if the Local Plan is adopted as it stands.

**1. Success of the current Neighbourhood Plan.**

**Housing:** Eddie West (EW) circulated Shropshire Council’s monitoring of housing development. These were only received by the PEC as the meeting started so we did not have time to assess the implications. They are;

- Number of dwellings completed in Much Wenlock between 2016/17 – 2019/20: **34 dwellings.**
- Number of dwellings committed with Planning Permission or Prior Approval as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020: **19 dwellings.**
- Number of dwellings proposed on proposed allocations within the draft Shropshire Local Plan (2016 – 2038): **120 dwellings.**
- Proposed ‘windfall’ allowance to achieve the proposed residential guideline within the draft Shropshire Local Plan (2016 – 2038): **27 dwellings.**

**Employment:** Councillors asked EW about the delivery of employment sites and jobs in the town. The site allocated in the Core Strategy and the MWNP was also previously identified in the Bridgnorth District Plan and has still not been brought forward. We noted that there are no proposals for Much Wenlock in the SC strategy for business parks. EW commented that delivering employment land is more difficult than housing and this problem is shared across all the key centres. He said that SC’s approach is to concentrate its efforts on delivering employment at the larger principal towns in the county. He offered to raise this challenge with SC’s economic growth team.

**2. The relationship between the Neighbourhood Plan and the Local Plan.**

**Development policy:** Councillors asked why the MWNP policy approach of ‘limited development to meet local needs’ with a focus on smaller sites hadn’t been adopted by SC for the draft local plan. EW said that local needs would still be delivered as affordable housing would be built. He was of the opinion that the total of 200 dwellings by 2038 was a reasonable target and comparable with the targets for other ‘key centres’. It wasn’t explained why the original target for Much Wenlock of 150 dwellings had been set aside, though EW said the extra 40 houses (increased from 80 to 120) for the proposed site at Hunters Gate (HG2) was to ensure ‘viability’ for the developer. EW didn’t think this single site was a ‘massive’ allocation.

**Public consultation:** Councillors asked why there had been virtually no public consultation with the community on the draft local plan whilst the MWNP had been commended for its extended

engagement with the community. EW defended SC's level of consultation through its notifications at the Regulation 18 and 19 stages of the plan. He said that it wasn't necessary to hold public meetings to ensure consultation with the community. EW noted that SC had received comments at the Regulation 18/19 stages and acknowledged that the change of Town Council has meant there is now an alternative policy towards the draft local plan. He didn't explain why these had not led to changes in the draft plan. Councillors noted that at the only public meeting (in January 2019) SC was made aware of substantial local objection to the 'preferred option'. He emphasised that SC had taken its cue from the previous Town Council and considered this as the community's perspective. EW was aware that, prior to 2019, SC had been provided a steer by then town councillors and would ask his predecessor in post (Adrian Cooper) for details of SC's discussions.

EW reassured the PEC that the Council had a 'duly made' objection and would be able to put forward its stance at the forthcoming Examination in Public (EIP). SC had advised the Inspectorate of the Council's change of position. The Inspector is empowered to make 'major modifications' to the Draft Local Plan.

**Development and Infrastructure:** Councillors suggested that the weaknesses in the town's infrastructure which had been identified in the MWNP and more recently by SC's Place Plan (e.g. health facilities, traffic, Gaskell Corner) were not being addressed. EW said he was aware of the issues of traffic at the Gaskell Corner arising from the Buildwas proposals. EW said that the development at Hunters Gate would help solve flood risk in this part of the town and that the proposed roundabout would be a benefit. We didn't discuss how the Draft Local Plan would resolve traffic or the other weaknesses though EW suggested that a future revision of the MWNP could have this as a focus.

### **3. The implications for the Neighbourhood Plan if the Local Plan is adopted as it stands.**

Councillors asked EW for his opinion of the potential priorities and purpose of a future version of the MWNP if the Draft Local Plan and its development site are endorsed by the EIP Inspector. Would it be worth doing at all given the key decisions had been taken out of the community's hands?

EW thought there would be value but the Town Council would need to decide why the review should be undertaken. He mentioned solutions to the infrastructure gaps and potentially the employment site. He suggested that if we were to progress the LPR without the allocation at Hunters Gate, the risk would be that local decisions would be to resist development at all. Councillors made the point that at the MWNP assessment hearing, it had been the landowner and Persimmon that had withdrawn the development site proposed by the community in the MWNP.

Councillors suggested that the needs of the town are a little more sophisticated than SC assumes and alternative approaches could be required and are possible. For example, a 'development strategy' to make best use of land and their opportunities to deliver a mix of uses, housing close to services etc. EW was of the view that this could be done in addition to HG2, rather than as an alternative. This is a helpful recognition that alternative approaches are feasible for the town.

***Councillors thanked Eddie West for his time and responses.***

**SHROPSHIRE LOCAL PLAN REVIEW WORKING GROUP****DRAFT**

<b>TERMS OF REFERENCE</b>	
<b>Membership</b>	Members of the Planning & Environment Committee Invited members of the community with relevant interest and expertise, approved by the Town Council
<b>Authority</b>	Local Government Act 1972, Sections 101 – 106
<b>Conditions</b>	<p>The working group is appointed by the Town Council and will function within the conditions outlined in these Terms of Reference.</p> <p>The working group will elect its own Chair, who will be a Town Councillor, and set its own meeting dates and will report to the Town Council at regular intervals.</p> <p>The working group may be disbanded or reformed by the Town Council at any time.</p> <p>The existence, composition and Terms of Reference of the working group will be reviewed annually at the Annual Town Council meeting.</p> <p>Day to day operations of the working group will be overseen by the Planning &amp; Environment Committee but any significant or strategic decisions must be approved by the full Town Council.</p>
<b>Restrictions</b>	The working group has delegated authority to work within the responsibilities outlined below.

	<b>Responsibilities</b>	<b>Power</b>
1	To plan and undertake community consultation to inform preparation of the Town Council's case for the Examination in Public of the Draft Shropshire Local Plan (2016 – 2038).	Group to have the power to delegate to the Town Clerk.
2	To liaise with organisations or individuals with knowledge or expertise relevant to the activities of the working group.	
4	To prepare a case for presentation to the Examination in Public which will be brought to the Town Council for consideration.	
3	To report regularly to the Town Council on progress and matters arising.	



# Stakeholder survey

## Improving Health and Wellbeing in Shropshire

### Please give your views!

Shropshire’s Health and Wellbeing Board has drafted a Joint 2022-2027 Health and Wellbeing Strategy which describes priorities based on local evidence and data and explains how the Board will work together to action these.

We want to create opportunities to improve health and wellbeing for all residents and communities in Shropshire, while reducing inequalities in health.

This strategy is in draft form and is for everyone. Your views really matter, and we would appreciate your time to complete this **short survey for stakeholders**. This should take around 10 minutes to complete. You will find it helpful to take a look at the strategy first which is on the Shropshire Council website under the Health and Wellbeing Board page.

There is also a **survey for the public** which you are welcome to complete as an alternative if you wish.

The survey runs for 9 weeks from the 9th September to the 8th November 2021

The findings from the survey will be published on the Shropshire Council website under the Health and Wellbeing Board page, and the new strategy will be published early next year. This final strategy will be based on feedback received from Shropshire people and our stakeholders. Your voice really does count.

If you would prefer to contribute in a different way, such as email or letter, please email [consultation@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:consultation@shropshire.gov.uk) A large text version of this survey is available on request. Please contact [consultation@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:consultation@shropshire.gov.uk)

### Strategic Priorities

Long-term aims and how we will achieve them

Joined up working	Working with and building strong and vibrant communities
Improving population health	
	Reduce inequalities

### Key Priorities

Specific areas of health and wellbeing need in Shropshire, identified through careful analysis of data and evidence

Workforce	Healthy Weight and Physical Activity
Children and Young People	
	Mental Health

### Other Key Issues

Although these are listed, they should not be considered as ‘separate’ priorities and will form part of the key and strategic priorities above.

Social Prescribing	County Lines	Smoking in Pregnancy
Killed and Seriously Injured (KSI) on Roads	Alcohol	Food Insecurity
Air Quality	Suicide Prevention	Domestic Abuse



**1. Are you answering as? (please tick)**

- A member of the public
- As an individual in a professional capacity
- On behalf of an organisation who provides health and wellbeing services and/or support
- Other

Please state your organisations name:

**2. The vision for the strategy is “For Shropshire people to be the healthiest and most fulfilled in England” Do you like this statement?**

- Yes
- No
- Maybe

**3. If you answered No or Maybe, would you like to say why? (Optional)**

**4. Thinking about the Strategic Priorities, please provide any comments you would like to make on each of these priorities.**

**Reducing Inequalities**

*Please provide any comments on this priority (optional)*

**Improving Population Health**

*Please provide any comments on this priority (optional)*

**Joined up Working**

*Please provide any comments on this priority (optional)*

**Working with and building strong and vibrant communities**

*Please provide any comments on this priority (optional)*



**5. Please rank in order from 1 – 4 with 1 being the most important, what is most important to help you and/or Shropshire people to live happier healthier lives?**

- Reducing Inequalities
- Improving Population Health
- Joined up Working
- Working with and building strong and vibrant communities

**6. Thinking about the key areas of focus, please provide any comments you would like to make on each of these priorities.**

**Healthy Weight and Physical Activity**

*Please provide any comments on this priority (optional)*

**Mental Health**

*Please provide any comments on this priority (optional)*

**Workforce**

*Please provide any comments on this priority (optional)*

**Children and Young People**

*Please provide any comments on this priority (optional)*

**7. Please rank in order with 1 being the most important what is most important to help you and/or Shropshire people to live happier healthier lives?**

- Healthy Weight and Physical Activity
- Mental Health
- Workforce
- Children and Young People

**8. Could your organisation contribute to any of the areas of focus? If so, could you explain how a little more? (Optional)**

**9. Other key issues in the draft strategy include alcohol, air quality, food insecurity, smoking in pregnancy, county lines, Social Prescribing, domestic abuse, suicide prevention and killed and seriously injured on roads. Are there any gaps you feel are missing?**

- Yes
- No

**10. If you answered ‘yes’ would you like to add any comments? (Optional)**

**11. Thinking about the ‘Enablers’ (what will help us achieve our priorities) on pages 9 and 10 of the strategy, what do you think will enable the strategy to be delivered effectively?**

**12. Do you have any other comments to add about the Strategy? If so, please add in the box below (Optional)**

## About you

We use this information to see if the feedback we receive is representative of the wider community. You do not have to complete this section if you don’t want to, but it will help us to understand the feedback we receive and improve our engagement work if you do.

**13. How do you self-identify?**

- Female
- Male
- Non-Binary
- Prefer to self-describe
- Prefer not to say

**14. What is your current age?**

- Under 18
- 18-24
- 25-34
- 35-44
- 45-54
- 55-64
- 65-74
- 75-84
- 85+
- Prefer not to say

**15. What is your ethnic group? (Optional)**

- White English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British
- White Irish
- White Gypsy, Roma or Irish Traveller
- Any other White background e.g. Bulgarian, French, Lithuanian, Polish, Portuguese, White South African, etc.
- Asian (Asian British; Bangladeshi, Chinese; Indian; Japanese; Pakistani; any other Asian background)
- Black (Black African; Black British; Black Caribbean; any other Black background)
- Mixed (White and Asian; White and Black African; White and Black Caribbean; any other mixed background)
- Arab
- Other Ethnic Group
- Prefer not to say or don't know

**16. Economic status. Are you**

- Employed
- Retired
- Seeking employment
- Student in part-time/full-time education
- An unpaid carer for family member/friend
- On a Government Training Scheme
- Not employed, and not looking for work
- Unable to work through illness/disability
- Other
- Prefer not to say

- 17. What is the first part of your postcode e.g. SY12?**  
**If responding on behalf of an organisation, please use that postcode**

Prefer not to say

- 18. Shropshire Council works to meet the Equalities Duty and consider social inclusion and impact within all policy and service changes. If you have any comments on diversity, equality or social impact that you would like us to consider in the work to deliver the Health and Wellbeing Strategy, please provide your feedback below.**

## Privacy Statement

By submitting this survey, you are agreeing for the information to be used in line with the Information Governance/GDPR statement below:

The information you have provided will be used by Shropshire Council to inform the final 2022-2027 Shropshire Health and Wellbeing Strategy. We will only publish anonymised responses, parts of responses, or a summarised version of responses and will ensure individual survey respondents cannot be identified. Your response will be stored electronically and kept in line with Shropshire Council's Retention Schedule.

Your information may be shared with Health and Wellbeing Board members. We will not share your information with any other external third parties. Your information will be held securely, and if shared it will be shared securely.

We work to comply with data protection laws concerning the protection of personal information, including the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). For more information on how information is held by Shropshire Council and your rights to gain access to the information we hold on you please see our corporate privacy policy at [www.shropshire.gov.uk/privacy](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/privacy)

Thank you for your contribution