

# **Much Wenlock Town Council**

## **Full Council Meeting**

**3<sup>rd</sup> February 2022**

## **Supporting Papers**

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# MUCH WENLOCK TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the  
**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**  
held at The Guildhall, Much Wenlock  
at 7 pm on Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup> January 2022

**Present:** Cllr David Fenwick, Cllr Mike Grace, Cllr Wilfred Grainger, Cllr John O'Dowd, Cllr Daniel Thomas (in the chair), Cllr Chris Tyler

**Town Clerk:** Trudi Barrett **RFO:** Diane Barlow

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

## 1. Chairman's Welcome

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting and presented the following report:

"Good evening all, and welcome to tonight's Town Council meeting. I hope you all had a lovely Christmas, and I'd like to wish you all a Happy New Year.

I want to start by mentioning the Christmas Fayre; it's a special community event run by a team of volunteers. I've been on the committee before, and it's hard work! The event shows what's best about Much Wenlock, and to take the event on with Covid-19 and the way they mitigated the risk was fantastic. I've asked the Clerk to write a letter of thanks to the committee on behalf of this Council.

I'm pleased to announce that the Town Council has been allocated £5,599 from the Government-funded Welcome Back Fund. This allocation is based on population, and the money can be spent only on support for Christmas events or improvements to the public realm, such as additional street cleaning and repairs to street furniture. The Council intends to spend its allocation on replacing some of the deteriorating Christmas lights and a new planter to replace the damaged one at the end of Sheinton Street.

You will have noticed when coming into this building that the work on the Guildhall Cupola is still ongoing. At last month's meeting, this Council committed to the complete repair of the Guildhall, and it's great to see the Property Working Group getting on with the work at hand, including meeting Shropshire Council's Conservation office in the next few weeks.

Finally, you will have noticed and seen that we are three Council members short tonight as I'm afraid to report I received resignations from Councillors Robert Toft, Mike Atherton and Sam Neal. All three resignations can be summed up by lack of time; it can be hard work being a Councillor, and you have to make sacrifices to do it well. Cllr Toft was part of a range of committees and has been part of community groups in Wenlock for years. Cllr Atherton got involved in climate change initiatives, including the Cemetery, whilst Cllr Neal was part of the very successful Christmas lights switch on. On behalf of this Council, I'd like to thank them for their service and wish them well for the future.

A by-election has been called to fill the vacancies, and if contested, the election will be held on Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> February, and residents will have the opportunity to cast their vote. If there are only three candidates for the vacancies, those candidates will be elected unopposed, and there will be no vote."

## 2. Apologies for Absence

**Members RESOLVED to accept the following apologies: Cllr Marcus Themans – working away, Cllr Duncan White – unwell.**

## 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.

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## 5. Shropshire Council Report

Shropshire Councillor, Daniel Thomas, presented the following report:

“As Shropshire Councillor, I’m looking forward to the Town Council’s advice surgery, with the first one being this Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup> and the next will be 12<sup>th</sup> February at Much Wenlock Museum. Covid precautions will be taken, and we’ll be there from 10:30 until midday. Councillor Marcus Themans will be joining me this Saturday. I’ve managed to arrange a representative from the Police as well and, together, we should be able to help with most issues. Like my predecessor, we will use the back office room to provide a confidential setting for anything you may need to talk to us about.

This month I’m pleased to see visits from both Highways and Parking Enforcement officers to discuss drainage, flooding and parking proposals. The parking proposals will look at issues regarding access for mobility scooters and parts of town that are exacerbated by on-road parking. The proposals were initially looked at in April 2020 but have been shelved due to the pandemic. I’m pleased to be joined by two Town Councillors who will help me scrutinise the work before it’s put to public consultation in the spring, where everyone will have a say.

I have been told that PC Andy Boardman, will be coming over to the Broseley & Much Wenlock policing team but no start date has been agreed yet. He is currently in the Kidderminster team so knows the area fairly well. The Wenlock team also have PC Karanjit Singh, who is a ‘Police Now Officer’, be supporting our team on an interim basis.”

## 6. Police Report

- a. The Local Policing Team had sent their apologies. Members noted the written report provided.
- b. Members noted the notes from the Local Policing Charter Councillor meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

## 7. Public Session

A member of the public asked whether there would be poll cards for the by-election to raise awareness of the election. This matter was considered as part of minute 8b.

## 8. Resignation of Councillors

- a. Members noted that three casual vacancies had arisen following the resignation from the Council of Sam Neal, Mike Atherton and Robert Toft.
- b. Members noted that a by-election had been called and that Shropshire Council would be making the necessary arrangements. It was noted that the cost of poll cards would be in the region of £1,200.  
**It was RESOLVED to request poll cards for the by-election.**

## 9. Minutes

- a. **It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED to approve and adopt the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2021.**
- b. **It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED to adopt the minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021.**

## 10. Town Clerk’s Report

Members **NOTED** the written report from the Town Clerk on outstanding matters and action taken since the last Council meeting. In addition, the Clerk reported that she had attended a meeting of the West Mercia Forest Partnership on 10<sup>th</sup> January organised to discuss a funding bid to Defra for £345,000, led by Shropshire Wildlife Trust, to promote and facilitate tree planting.

## 11. 2022/23 Budget

Councillors expressed thanks to the RFO and other officers for their work on the budget. It was noted that the proposal to increase the precept by 6.58% represented an increase of around 95p per household in a Band D property. The RFO explained that inflation and other expected rises had been taken into consideration in the calculations. The Council was in a fixed price contract for energy and most of the Council’s rental tenants paid their own energy costs. It was noted that over recent years the Town Council had taken on more responsibilities from Shropshire Council, such as funding for the library. Whilst facilities such as the library and public toilets provided a community benefit, the Council was responsible for the ongoing costs. Much Wenlock had a relatively small population from which Council Tax was drawn to cover the cost of these services.

**It was RESOLVED to agree total expenditure of £275,486 and a precept of £221,905.**

The RFO left the meeting.

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**12. Appointment of Members to Finance & Asset Management Committee**

It was RESOLVED to appoint Councillors Fenwick, Grainger and White to the Finance & Asset Management Committee.

**13. Date of next meeting of the Finance & Asset Management Committee**

It was RESOLVED to move the date of the next Finance & Asset Management Committee meeting from 18<sup>th</sup> January to 20<sup>th</sup> January.

**14. Appointment to HR Committee**

It was RESOLVED to appoint Councillor Fenwick to the HR Committee.

**15. Appointment to Working Groups**

It was RESOLVED to defer the appointment of new members to working groups until March, following the election of new Councillors.

**16. Representatives on Outside Bodies**

- a. It was RESOLVED to defer until March the appointment of a representative to the Bridgnorth & Shifnal Area Committee of the Shropshire Association of Local Councils.
- b. It was RESOLVED to appoint Councillor Grace as the Council's representative on the Shropshire Hills Destination Partnership.

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

Members noted that meetings had been arranged with Philip Dunne MP and Shropshire Council's Assistant Director Economy and Place and Planning Area Manager to discuss the development at the Ironbridge Power Station. The Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Clerk would attend the meetings.

Members suggested that the following matters should be discussed with Philip Dunne MP: the Local Plan and the strategic impact of developments in the area and, in view of the MP's role as Chair of the Environmental Audit Committee, how to manage flooding, land management, biodiversity and advice for the community. Planning reforms might also be raised.

It was noted that a meeting of the Town Council's Strategic Flood Working Group would be held shortly before the meeting with Philip Dunne and might generate information to feed into the discussion.

**18. Shropshire Draft Local Plan (2016 - 2038)**

- a. Members noted the response received from Shropshire Council's Planning Policy & Strategy Manager to the Town Council's request that a main modification be made to the proposals for Much Wenlock in the draft Local Plan, in response to the invitation from the Inspectors to consider modifications. Shropshire Council had declined to make a modification for Much Wenlock.

The Town Council would be able to point out to the Planning Inspectors at the Examination in Public that several requests for change had been submitted to Shropshire Council since May but Shropshire Council had refused to make a change.

- b. Members noted that the Transport Working Group was preparing a transport survey. This could be combined with a survey to capture the views of members of the public on wider development matters. Before the next full Council meeting, the Planning & Environment Committee would start to consider what questions might be asked and arrangements for distribution of the survey.

Members noted that there would also soon be consultation from Shropshire Council on the new parking restrictions.

Councillor Themans joined the meeting.

**19. Expression of Interest for Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Funding – Future Working**

Members noted correspondence regarding expressions of interest for CIL funding. It was noted that the current process was not working well and further applications had been put on hold until April 2022.

The Chair of the Transport Working Group advised that they were in discussion with the local Shropshire Council Highways Engineer regarding the possibility of accessing CIL funding for a road crossing on Bridgnorth Road.

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**20. 'Made in Shropshire' Markets**

Members considered a report from the recent meeting with a representative of 'Made in Shropshire' Markets. Thanks were expressed to Councillor White for his work on this initiative.

**It was RESOLVED to approve the arrangements for holding 'Made in Shropshire' markets in the High Street on Saturdays 16<sup>th</sup> April, 18<sup>th</sup> June and 20<sup>th</sup> August as outlined in the report.**

**21. CONSULTATION**

- a. Members noted consultation on the Shropshire Drug and Alcohol Strategy 2021-2023, from 1<sup>st</sup> December 2021 to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022. **It was RESOLVED that Councillor White should respond on behalf of council if he was willing.**
- b. Members noted consultation on the 2022-23 Shropshire Council Budget, from 5<sup>th</sup> January to 16<sup>th</sup> February. **It was RESOLVED that Councillor Thomas should reply on behalf of the Council, including comments that were generally supportive but requesting closer scrutiny of contractors.** It was noted that Shropshire had an ageing population in a large county, with the consequent high costs. The type of housing that would attract more younger people should also be encouraged.

**22. Correspondence**

Members noted the following items, which had been distributed via email between meetings:

- a. SALC information bulletins and other information
- b. NALC newsletters and other information
- c. Press releases from Shropshire Council
- d. Rural Bulletins from the Rural Services Network
- e. Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership Newsletter December 2021
- f. Shropshire Lieutenancy Town Links Newsletter, Issue 2
- g. Draft notes from Helicopter Noise Liaison Group meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2021.
- h. Shropshire Climate Action Partnership Newsletter December 2021.
- i. Shropshire Senior Citizen's Magazine, the Forum, December 2021.

It was noted that the Planning & Environment Committee had received information on a consultation by City Science regarding the production of Shropshire's Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Plan. This could be circulated to other interested Councillors.

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

Members were invited to submit agenda items for the next Town Council meeting.

**24. Date of next meeting**

Members noted that the next meeting would be held at 7.00pm on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2022 at the Guildhall.

The meeting closed at 8.25pm

Signed .....

Town Mayor

Date .....

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# MUCH WENLOCK TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a **Planning & Environment Committee meeting**  
held at 7.00 pm on Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021 at the Guildhall, Much Wenlock

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

**In attendance:** Trudi Barrett – Town Clerk, two members of the public

## 1. Apologies

None – all members were present.

## 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

There had been no requests to speak.

## 5. Minutes

**It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021 be APPROVED and signed as a true record.**

## 6. Planning Applications

The following planning applications were considered:

Councillor Grainger advised that he was a personal friend of the residents of 12 Victoria Road and took no part in the discussion or voting on this application.

21/05133/FUL 12 Victoria Road, Much Wenlock	Erection of two storey rear extension and re-location of boundary wall fronting highway. <b>It was RESOLVED that Councillors had no objection to the development, however, they wished to raise their concerns about the safety of the access onto a busy main road.</b>
21/05437/FUL Cedars House, 13 Victoria Road, Much Wenlock	Erection of single storey side infill extension and associated works including demolition of existing brick store and partial demolition of existing walls to create the new space. <b>It was RESOLVED no objections.</b>
21/04838/LBC 5 Wilmore Street, Much Wenlock	Works to facilitate the replacement of three sash windows to the front elevation; three box sash windows and two full casement windows to the rear elevation; and one set of French doors to the rear of the property; installation of secondary glazing, replacement of existing joinery.  Members noted that there had been some confusion with this proposal which had originally been submitted as a full planning application. Members had raised no objections to that application. The full planning application had now been withdrawn and the required application for Listed Building Consent submitted.  <b>It was RESOLVED no objections.</b>
<b>For information only</b> 21/05582/AGR Woodhouse Fields, Bourton, Much Wenlock	Proposed steel portal frame for housing a sprayer fill up and wash down area to prevent pollution. <b>Noted.</b>

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## 7. Planning Decisions

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

21/04343/LBC 48 High Street, Much Wenlock	Removal of ground paving slabs/tiles and wood chippings to the front of the house, and replacement with stones to improve surface drainage affecting a Grade II* Listed Building, including installation of a flood gates to include installation of brackets to existing front brick wall and resetting of existing brickwork. <b>Decision: Grant Permission</b>
21/04430/LBC 48 High Street, Much Wenlock	Installation of an extraction system for cooker, requires drilling 150mm hole through kitchen wall to outside rear elevation affecting a Grade II* Listed Building. <b>Decision: Grant Permission</b>
20/04837/FUL Proposed dwelling to the east of 25 Homer, Much Wenlock	Erection of a dwellinghouse following demolition of existing buildings. <b>Decision: Refuse</b>
21/04403/FUL Camping Site, Bourton Westwood Farm House, Bourton Westwood, Much Wenlock	Siting of 1n holiday let cabin to include change of use of land. <b>Decision: Grant Permission</b>
21/04565/FUL 63 Oakfield Park, Much Wenlock	Erection of single storey side extension following demolition of existing garage and installation of dormer to front in connection with conversion of roofspace into additional living accommodation (amended to scheme approved under Planning Permission Ref: 20/04358/FUL) <b>Decision: Grant Permission</b>
21/04572/TCA 8 King Street, Much Wenlock	Fell 2no Leylandii within Much Wenlock Conservation Area. <b>Decision: No Objection</b>
21/04859/TCA 50 Sheinton Street, Much Wenlock	Fell 1no Ash (T1), reduce and thin the crown by 50% of 1no Acacia (T2) & 1no Cherry (T3) and fell 1no Cherry (T4) within Much Wenlock Conservation Area <b>Decision: No Objection</b>

## 8. Draft Shropshire Local Plan Review 2016 - 2038

- a. Members considered a report from the group consultation event held on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2021 in preparation for the Examination in Public of the Draft Local Plan. It was noted that the report had been circulated to those who had either attended the meeting or submitted written remarks, with an invitation to forward any comments arising. One minor correction had been received so far.
- b. Members noted that a report on the above with recommendations for next steps would be considered by full Council at the meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> December.

## 9. Flooding issues

- a. Members received a written update from the Flood Group and expressed their thanks.
- b. Members considered the draft terms of reference for the Strategic Flood Working Group. Following minor amendments, it was **RESOLVED to approve the terms of reference for the Strategic Flood Working Group**.
- c. Members received and noted an update from the Strategic Flood Working Group and a report on the recent meeting held with Shropshire Wildlife Trust. The representative from Shropshire Wildlife Trust had been very helpful and engaged with local issues. Members noted the difficulty of involving landowners in nature based solutions to flooding but this was being addressed, including with Government initiatives and funding support.
- d. Members noted that a meeting had been arranged with Shropshire Council's Drainage & Flood Risk Manager and noted information regarding provision of a copy of the McCloy report.

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- e. Members noted that no response had been received from Shropshire Council to concerns raised about the application for additional chalets at Shadwell Quarry or the flood risk associated with the site. It was suggested that the Environment Agency might be more responsive with regard to the flood risk. Councillors agreed to discuss the matter with Shropshire Council's Drainage & Flood Risk Manager at the forthcoming meeting.
- f. It was noted that a copy of the local Flood Action Plan had been requested from the National Flood Forum who had advised that the Flood Action Group was in the process of updating their plan. It was noted that the existing Flood Action Plan had been prepared by a former Councillor in 2010.
- g. A member of the Flood Group advised Members that a flooding problem in a house in Sheinton Street was due to a break in the drains and was being addressed by Severn Trent Water.

#### 10. Transport Working Group

Members considered a report from the Transport Working Group and a report from the meeting held with a Shropshire Council Traffic Engineer on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2021. It was noted that all options for dealing with traffic in the town should be considered, including improvements to public transport, more local employment and a bypass. Members of the working group intended to submit an application to the Police & Crime Commissioner for funding to improve the crossing from Oakfield Park to the primary school.

#### 11. Trees in the Conservation Area

Members noted information received from Shropshire Council's Arboriculturalist regarding the powers available with regard to work to trees or the felling of trees in the Conservation Area, such as the introduction of a Tree Preservation Order. It was noted that when a protected tree was removed because it was dead or dangerous, the law imposed a duty to plant a replacement tree. As a material consideration in planning applications, the retention of trees could also be recommended by tree officers as part of the planning process.

Councillors expressed concern about the perceived progressive loss of trees in the Conservation Area and the wider town and the need to monitor the situation. **It was RESOLVED to contact the Tree Forum to ask for their help to survey the tree cover in the Conservation Area and to work with the Town Council to improve tree coverage in the town.**

#### 12. Proposed Work to Hedge

Members consider information provided by a resident about work proposed to a hedge in Barrow Street. They were pleased to have been notified and expressed their thanks to the resident concerned.

#### 13. Climate Change and Ecological/Nature Emergencies

#### 14. Consultation\*

#### 15. Street Lighting\*

#### 16. Street naming \*

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

#### 18. Footpath Diversion Orders\*

#### 19. Road closures\*

Members noted the following road closures:

- a. Location: B4376 from A458 junction to B4375 junction  
Date/Time: 2<sup>nd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> December 2021, 09.30 – 16.00  
Purpose: Urgent road closure to enable carriageway defects

Members were concerned about the impact this road closure would have on traffic for the Christmas Fayre on 4<sup>th</sup> December. The Clerk was asked to contact Shropshire Council's Highways department to check what could be done to mitigate any adverse effects and to facilitate contact between the Highways department and Christmas Fayre Committee, as appropriate.

- b. Location: High Street, Wilmore Street and Barrow Street, Much Wenlock  
Date/Time: 9<sup>th</sup> January 2022, 07.00 – 18.00  
Purpose: Removal of Christmas lights

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- c. Location: Bourton Road, Much Wenlock  
Date/Time: 14<sup>th</sup> January 2022, 09.30 – 15.30  
Purpose: BT pole testing

**20. Highways matters \***

Members noted an update on the following matters:

- a. Large vehicles mounting the pavement at the junction of Queen Street and Back Lane: the Clerk had provided contact details for Blakemore (Spar) to Shropshire Council with the request that they should liaise on possible measures to address the problem.
- b. Road safety concerns on the A458 at the top of Harley Bank, near to Stokes Barn: Members noted that Councillor Thomas had been pursuing this matter in his capacity as Shropshire Councillor. The vegetation had been cut back and the local Traffic Engineer was dealing with the matter.
- c. The deteriorating condition of the road surface in Sheinton Street, already marked for repair: the Shropshire Council highways officer had advised that the repair product could only be laid in dry conditions and when the air and carriageway temperatures were favourable. Combined with the fact that a full road closure and diversion would be required, Shropshire Council had run out of time to complete the work before Christmas. Sheinton Street would be reassessed and reprogrammed in 2022. In the meantime, Sheinton Street was subject to a routine monthly inspection and any reactive defects identified were issued to Kier for repair.

The Clerk was asked to inform interested parties of the above.

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

**22. Stopping Up Orders\***

**23. Speed Limit Orders\***

**24. Prohibition Orders\***

**25. Date of next meeting**

It was **NOTED** that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> January 2022 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.**

**26. Planning Enforcement**

There were no planning enforcement issues to hand.

The meeting closed at 8.20 pm

Signed.....  
Chairman

Date.....

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# MUCH WENLOCK TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a

## FINANCE & ASSET MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

meeting held at the Guildhall, Much Wenlock  
at 7.00 pm on Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2021

### Present:

Cllrs. John O'Dowd, Marcus Themans, Robert Toft, Daniel Thomas

### In attendance:

Trudi Barrett – Town Clerk, Diane Barlow – Responsible Financial Officer (RFO), Cllr David Fenwick

### 1) Apologies

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the following apology: Cllr Mike Atherton – unwell

### 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) Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of the Finance and Asset Management Committee meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2021 be **APPROVED** and signed as a true record.

### 5) Town Clerk's report

Members received a written report from the Town Clerk on action taken since the last meeting. The Clerk advised that she had met a structural engineer at the Guildhall the previous day and was awaiting further quotations for a structural survey. Despite contacting 13 structural engineers, responses had been slow and limited. A local roofing contractor had inspected the chimney of Linden Lodge in connection with a damp issue but could see no fault with the chimney capping or flashing or any missing tiles. The Clerk would check the file for any recent work to the chimney.

The Clerk and RFO were asked to press on with review and separation of the gas supply for 2 Burgage Way.

Members **NOTED** the report.

### 6) Finance

- a. The RFO presented a written and verbal report. She noted that the grant awards had all been paid and thanks had been received from the Much Wenlock Festival, the First Responders, Scouts, Wenlock Clickers and Wenlock Olympian Live Arts Committee. Thanks had also been received for the donation to the Wenlock Herald. As at the end of October income was at 96.5% of the annual budget with expenditure to the same date 22.4% under budget for the time of year. However, there were significant expenses still to come, including £12,000 towards the Gaskell Recreation Ground, paid on 4<sup>th</sup> November, £18,580 towards the library and £1,939 for eye bolt testing for the Christmas lights. Members **NOTED** the report.
- b. Members **NOTED** the balance sheet as at 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021.
- c. Members **NOTED** the income and expenditure to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021.
- d. Members reviewed the bank reconciliations to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the bank reconciliations to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021.
- e. It was **RESOLVED** to retrospectively approve payments from 20<sup>th</sup> October 2021 to date.

### 7) 2022/23 Budget Setting

Members considered the second draft of the budget, incorporating changes agreed at the last meeting. The budget for grants to community groups had been increased. Costs for 10 High Street were included. The RFO explained that the budget headings for Guildhall income had been changed to better describe the various income streams. Guildhall exhibitions related to sales from the changing, monthly exhibitions.

It was **RESOLVED** to recommend the revised draft budget to full Council.

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**8) Tree pit for Christmas tree in the High Street**

Members considered an approach regarding the installation of a tree pit with an electrical connection for a Christmas tree at the Gaskell corner end of the High Street. It was noted that this year trees had been erected and decorated with lights in the two planters at the end of the High Street.

**It was RESOLVED to consider the matter early in 2022 when Councillors had had an opportunity to review this year's display and the desirability of a new tree pit.**

**9) Date of next meeting**

It was noted that the next meeting of the Finance & Asset Management Committee would be held on Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> January 2022 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.

**10) Mary Webb Room Rental**

Members noted that nothing further had been heard from the prospective tenant despite repeated attempts to contact her.

**It was RESOLVED that if no positive response were received from the prospective tenant by the end of the week it would be assumed that she had no interest in proceeding and officers would re-advertise the Mary Webb room for rental.**

**11) Guildhall Cupola Repairs**

Members noted that the contractor and Conservation Officer had identified that further repairs were necessary to the base of the Guildhall cupola and considered quotations provided.

**It was RESOLVED to accept the quotation from Croft Building & Conservation for option B, repairs to the whole of the base, at a cost of £12,772.42.**

**12) Property Working Group**

Members considered a report from the Property Working Group and work required to Council owned properties.

**It was RESOLVED to make the following recommendations to full Council:**

**a. Guildhall**

That the Council

- i. Commits to the full repair of the Guildhall
- ii. Engages with the Shropshire Council Conservation Officer with regard to renovation work.
- iii. Appoints a professional fund raiser to raise funds for the necessary renovation.
- iv. Checks the VAT position arising from the above.

**b. Corn Exchange**

That the Council commits to the full repair of the Corn Exchange.

**c. Cemetery Chapel**

That the Council obtains a condition report for the building.

**d. 10 High Street**

That the Council approves the recommendations made in the confidential report.

The meeting closed at 8.20pm

Signed.....  
Chairman

Date.....

MONTH	MINUTE NUMBER	RESOLUTION	TASK COMPLETE	COMMENT
May 2021	22	Defer consideration of the Council's policies relating to data protection to a future meeting.	In progress	To be considered at March meeting
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	Ongoing	Trees for Gaskell Ground and Old Cemetery agreed. Planting and other arrangements in hand.
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	Pending	Advice obtained from Holy Trinity Church team.
Sept 2021	10	Approve the Document Retention Policy, subject to the production of and agreement to operational guidelines.	In progress	Operational guidelines to be drawn up. To be considered at March meeting.
	15	Invite community activists to an introductory workshop in order to explore a Council and community-wide approach to climate change.	Pending	
Dec 2021	20	Resolved to approve recommendations from the Property Working Group: a.ii. To engage with SC's Conservation Officer regarding renovation of the Guildhall. a.iii. To engage a professional fund raiser to obtain funding for the renovation of the Guildhall. a.iv. To check the Council's VAT position.  c. To commission a condition report for the Cemetery Chapel.	Yes  In progress  In progress  In progress	Meeting held on 20 <sup>th</sup> January with Cllrs Themans, and O'Dowd. Contact made with Place Plan Officer and a fund raiser recommended by other Clerks. Initial advice obtained from SALC, further advice awaited from NALC Quotations to be obtained.

#### Other Activities

- Meeting with member of Get a Word in Edgeways, the Wenlock Edge Festival of the Spoken Word 19.01.22
- Attended meeting with Tracey Darke and Tim Rogers of SC with Cllrs Thomas and White, 24.01.22
- Meeting with WOS archivist 26.01.22
- Meeting with Philip Dunne MP, with Cllrs Thomas and White, 28.01.22

## **Planning application 19/05560/OUT – development of up to 1,000 dwellings and other associated facilities and infrastructure at Ironbridge Power Station**

### **Notes from meeting with Tracey Darke, Assistant Director for Economy and Place, and Tim Rogers, Planning Officer, held remotely on Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

Present from Much Wenlock Town Council: Cllrs Daniel Thomas and Duncan White, Trudi Barrett – Town Clerk

The meeting was called to discuss the concerns of Much Wenlock Town Council relating to Shropshire Council's consideration of planning application 19/05560/OUT at meetings of the Southern Planning Committee held on 10<sup>th</sup> August 2021 and 20<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

Councillors raised concerns about the following matters:

- Behaviour of Shropshire Councillor Tremellen: late arrival, pre-prepared speech, absence from the room for around 15 minutes during the debate.

TD advised that Councillors were permitted to leave the room during the meeting and that Cllr Tremellen had felt unwell. It was not known what was written on the paper that Cllr Tremellen had brought with him and Members were permitted to bring notes. The Chair had authority to decide on whether Cllr Tremellen should be allowed to vote; he had considered the matter and allowed the vote. The Chair had authority at the meeting and the decision was his responsibility.

- The poor public perception of the whole process.

TD advised that SC had to work within the constraints of the system.

- The reduced affordable housing quota.

TD advised that few developers were prepared to take on a site such as the power station which was expensive and complicated to develop. Homes England would look at ways of delivering additional affordable housing and she was optimistic that more could be delivered.

SC took a whole county view of the provision of affordable housing and it should be noted that some sites delivered a higher quota of housing than specified, raising the level across the county.

- The highways report should have been available online before the meeting.

TD replied that this was a very large application with hundreds of documents and this was an oversight.

- Despite the initial decision to refuse the application, Harworth had been permitted to submit additional information and the application was re-considered.

TD advised that the delay in issuing the formal refusal notice had been caused by a need to take legal advice from a barrister following a complaint from a member of the public. The delay had then given time for Harworth to submit additional information prior to the notice being issued. The decision to refuse permission was formalised when the decision notice was issued, not when the resolution was passed at committee.

- How could the Town Council influence matters associated with highways and the allocation of funds moving forward?

TD advised that a liaison group would be set up and interested parties would be invited to participate. The Clerk could inform the Planning Officer of the Council's interest.

## **Much Wenlock Town Council**

### **Meeting of 4<sup>th</sup> February 2022**

#### **Examination in Public - Draft Shropshire Local Plan: Community Survey, Strategic Flood Management**

##### **Introduction**

This report provides:

- Feedback on a recent meeting of the Strategic Flood Working Group (SFWG) and proposes some actions for endorsement by the Council.
- Suggestions for progressing the Council's case to the forthcoming Examination in Public of the Draft Shropshire Local Plan

#### **Strategic Flood Risk Management – Strategic Flood Working Group meeting 25<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

The Council recently approved the establishment of a Strategic Flood Working Group (SFWG) to consider options for catchment-scale and nature based solutions to Much Wenlock's flooding problems. This group would complement the work of the local flood group [that is associated with the National Flood Forum] and take a long term view of options for the community.

The SFWG met on 25<sup>th</sup> January and discussed a range of options, taking expert advice from Luke Neal of the Shropshire Wildlife Trust and Nick Covarr of Harper Adams University. Luke Neal has been the Catchment Officer for the Corvedale for the past 5 years, working closely with farmers and landowners, Shropshire Council and public agencies such as the Environment Agency to explore nature based solutions. The Corvedale shares similar challenges with Much Wenlock in terms of the flood risk. Nick Covarr is a lecturer in Forestry at HA University and has expert knowledge on forestry and agro-forestry solutions for managing flood risk.

A summary note of the meeting and the advice provided is attached at Appendix 1. The SFWG suggests that the Council endorses the following actions as next steps:

- a) To meet with Shropshire Council, the Environment Agency, the National Flood Forum and representatives of the Local Flood Group to discuss the development of a catchment-wide approach
- b) To ask the Environment Agency and Shropshire Council to consider extending work in Corvedale to include the Much Wenlock catchment

The options for addressing catchment-wide flood risk have an implication for the Council's case at the Examination in Public into the Draft Shropshire Local Plan. This is because Shropshire Council's proposal for the large 120 house development at Hunters Gate (HG2) has been tightly connected to 'solving' the town's flood risk in this area. Shropshire Council's Strategic Planning Manager previously advised the TC that the shift from 80 houses to 120 houses was to ensure commercial viability of the developer's proposal.

The next steps identified above clearly suggest that there are other interventions for reducing the risk to the town. These challenge Shropshire Council's proposal for 120 houses as the only option for new development. The catchment-wide approach using nature based solutions would align with national planning and flood risk management policies as well as the ambition stated by Shropshire Council's own Flood Risk Manager to take a catchment-wide approach. Therefore the TC's case at the EIP should make the Inspectors aware of the potential of a long-term, town and catchment-wide solution for flood risk management.

## Progressing the Council's case at the Examination in Public

In November 2021 the Council hosted a meeting attended by nearly 30 representatives of community organisations. This was to discuss residents' views on the key issues facing the town in the context of Shropshire Council's Draft Local Plan. In December the Council agreed that the feedback from the discussions should help inform the Council's case at the forthcoming Examination in Public. The Council agreed in December the following potential solutions to promote at the EIP:

*It is clear that there is community interest in debating the future of the town and putting forward its own proposals. Several strong ideas came forward at the meeting, that;*

- *We ask the EIP to put development on hold until the later part of the plan period, let the review of the MWNP proceed and have a proper evaluation of these big problems, such as the traffic and wider catchment flood risk*
- *We should develop a longer term vision for the town, to ensure MW continues to be an attractive place, including green routes that connect services and make the town greener*
- *The capacity of the local infrastructure should be addressed and especially that affordable housing should be a priority in order to sustain the community*

The Council also asked that community engagement should be widened and that this might be done through a residents' survey. This survey cannot be a consultation on the Draft Local Plan itself. It is aimed at drawing down further comments using the feedback provided by the community organisations in November as a starting point. In practical terms we may also anticipate that a lengthy survey would not generate many responses. Therefore the proposal is to put 3 survey questions to local residents.

*The Town Council is representing the community at the forthcoming Examination in Public (a public inquiry) of Shropshire Council's Draft Local Plan for Shropshire. The outcome of this inquiry will determine the future of the town to 2038 and beyond. The Council believes that there has been a fundamental lack of public consultation on the Draft Local Plan and that it ignores the community's own ambitions set out in the Neighbourhood Plan. In November, we sought the views of the community through a meeting of local organisations. This has given us a steer for the case the Council should make at the inquiry. The Town Council would like to hear further views from its residents.*

1. *Do you agree that the future proposals for development in Much Wenlock should be informed by further community consultation that will update and refresh the Neighbourhood Plan for the town? **Yes/No***
2. *Do you agree that the town's infrastructure (roads, health facilities, public transport, recreational facilities etc) is sufficient to allow large amounts of new development? **Yes/No***
3. *What should be our priorities for investing in the town? Please tick up to three boxes;*
  - *Affordable housing*
  - *Housing for older people*
  - *Traffic management*
  - *Town-wide flood risk management*
  - *Public transport*
  - *More employment opportunities*
  - *Enhancing the heritage and other tourism attractions*
  - *Improved health facilities (GP surgery)*
  - *Improved footpaths and cycleways*

*Please return your completed response to the Town Council at the Corn Exchange by xxxx DATE. We would like to keep you up to date with our work for the community. If you would like to receive further updates on the Local Plan and the Council's activities please include your email address here xxxxxxxxxxxx.*

The Council has separately agreed that it should undertake a survey of residents to get views on traffic and transport issues in the town. The Transport Working Group should be asked to confirm its suggestions for a number of additional questions for this survey. The most efficient means of managing the survey would likely be through a household delivery of the survey form.

The TC has also agreed that we should work with other community organisations who will attend the EIP to help present a coherent case to the Inspector(s). Three organisations or individuals have said that they will also be represented at the EIP; the Civic Society, the MWNP Refresh Group and a member of the Flood Group. It isn't clear if all have duly made objections and will be able to attend in person. We propose that the PEC contact these persons/groups to discuss the potential for collaboration at the EIP.

### **Recommendations**

That the Town Council agrees;

1. The next steps and options proposed for addressing strategic flood risk management
2. The draft residents survey to inform its case at the Examination in Public and actions relating to traffic management
3. The PEC should meet with other organisations and people who will be represented at the EIP to discuss collaborative approaches in respect of Much Wenlock.

**Appendix 1: Summary notes of the meeting of the Strategic Flood Working Group held on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at 18.00 to 20.00hrs.**

**Attendees:** Cllrs. Chris Tyler (Chair), David Fenwick, Marcus Themans, John O’Dowd and Mike Grace. Luke Neal (Shropshire Wildlife Trust) and Dr. Nick Covarr (Harper Adams University).

**Apologies:** Cllrs. Wilf Grainger, Daniel Thomas and Duncan White.

The meeting covered a range of issues and possible options that would be relevant for Much Wenlock:

**Effectiveness and feasibility of tree planting and other nature based solutions?**

- ❖ Tree planting would be an effective intervention in the MW catchment and probably best as part of a combination of nature based solutions. A combined approach would almost certainly have a positive impact on reducing flood risk for the whole town. However, no approach will remove all flood risk.
- ❖ There is a strong and evolving evidence base for the effectiveness and value for money of natural flood management schemes. The Environment Agency is currently refreshing its ‘Working with natural processes - Evidence Review’, due for publication shortly.
- ❖ Substantial funding exists for new tree planting through the England Woodland Creation Offer; this covers the costs of planting and management with additional bonuses for public benefits such as improved water quality and other services, including locations close to settlements. These could provide approximately £2000/ha. Landowners could increase this through exploiting the woodland carbon code to draw in up to a further £4000/ha.
- ❖ Tree planting solutions need not exclude other agricultural practices and uses; agro-forestry approaches can combine to generate mutual benefits for woodlands and livestock.
- ❖ Much Wenlock’s catchment has thin soils over a relatively impermeable limestone base. Tree planting can help protect and decompact soils, improve infiltration through soils and the underlying rock, pump water to the atmosphere through evaporation and slow rain falling to the ground through its leaf layer.
- ❖ Pickering in North Yorkshire was cited as a comparable location and the work in Corvedale (funded by the EA and Shropshire Council) allows us learn lessons that may be effective locally. These have highlighted some cost effective interventions with solutions such as ‘leaky dams’, hedgerow planting and attenuation ponds.
- ❖ However, it is difficult to directly transfer evidence and experience from other catchments to Much Wenlock as each area has unique characteristics and opportunities. A detail study and modelling of the MW catchment to apply nature based approaches would likely be a substantial (PhD level) task.

### Potential Approaches for Much Wenlock

- We have a fair amount of knowledge about the MW catchment and a future approach needs to take into consideration real-world opportunities alongside this understanding
- Woodland and tree planting is well funded and often well-supported by landowners. It must be recognised as a long term commitment that will have implications for current and future land management and farming practices. Initiatives such as funding through the 'carbon code' may be more complicated and involve other liabilities.
- There are potential multi-use and economic benefits that could arise from new interventions such as shooting, fishing, shelter benefits, woodland egg production. Other funding such as the AONB's 'Framing in Protected Landscapes Fund' and the 'Woodland Planning Fund' can help support economic activity and improve the resilience of farm businesses.
- The commitment and support of landowners and farmers will be vital to any successful schemes. The advice was to put in place a 'Catchment Officer' who would work in collaboration with landowners, farmers, community organisations and funding agencies. This role would identify potential solutions and options across the catchment.
- The opportunity exists to align current activity by Shropshire Council and the Environment Agency with Much Wenlock's needs. For example, EA is about to commission work on specific proposals for natural flood management in the Corvedale; this work could be extended to include Much Wenlock. New evidence from the EA is likely to shift funding away from expensive site specific 'grey infrastructure' to more cost-effective nature based interventions.
- We recognised that Shropshire Council's Flood Risk Management Officer supports catchment and nature based approaches. SC's strategic solutions for the town appear to be twofold; solving the risk caused to residents at Hunters Gate by a 120 house development (HG2) and the Dept of Transport funded study suggesting attenuation ponds associated with main roads. The NFF endorsed 'Local Flood Group' has recently widened its membership and is active in addressing issues with local drainage.
- Noting the connection between development and flood management made by SC in the Draft Local Plan, we recognised (a) that the potential for involving landowners extends well beyond the owner of the HG2 site and (b) the town-wide flood risk needs to be part of the case the TC will make at the EIP
- The Town Council has the opportunity to work with SC, EA and as part of a joint approach with the Local Flood Group to take the lead in promoting catchment-wide work.

Monday, January 17, 2022 at 12:51:01 PM Greenwich Mean Time

**Subject:** RE: Email to T&PCs: New wheelie bin for recycling cans, glass and plastic  
**Date:** Thursday, 13 January 2022 at 15:17:22 Greenwich Mean Time  
**From:** Gail Power  
**Attachments:** Recycling bin poster A4.pdf

Forwarded to Shropshire Town and Parish Councils on behalf of Shropshire Council.  
cc: SALC Executive Committee

Dear town/parish council

**New wheelie bin for recycling cans, glass and plastic**

All householders in the Shropshire Council area can now request an additional wheelie bin for recycling cans, glass and plastic after today’s meeting of the full Shropshire Council approved an investment of almost £3m to fund the extra bin.

The bin – which is optional and free for householders- can be requested online at

<https://shropshire.gov.uk/requestmixedrecyclingbin>

We hope you can help to notify your councillors and residents, using the information in this email and the attached poster – which you may also like to print and display, or distribute.

The first bins are set to be delivered from May this year, starting in the south Shropshire area, before being rolled out across the county.

The bin will replace the existing black recycling boxes, and help to increase the amount of waste recycled by providing households with a larger container.

It will also reduce the amount of waste lost to the recycling process after being blown out of the boxes on windy days,

It will make the storage of recycling more convenient for residents, and reduce the amount of bending and lifting for residents and waste and recycling crews.

Some households may not want a bin due to housing layout or the lack of storage space for the bin. These residents would be able to continue to use their existing waste containers, as will those residents who simply prefer to use boxes.

People will also be able to use their new bin as well as their recycling boxes.

Those who longer need their recycling boxes will be encouraged to retain and reuse them for different purposes – or take them to a recycling centre to be recycled.

For more information go to [www.shropshire.gov.uk/waste](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/waste).

Yours

Paul Beard

Contracts Manager (Waste Management)

Shropshire Council

[For information about Coronavirus click here/image below](#)

\*\*\*\*\*

If you are not the intended recipient of this email please do not send it on to others, open any attachments or file the email locally.

Please inform the sender of the error and then delete the original email.

\*\*\*\*\*

# Important information about your recycling service

## You can now order a new bin to replace your black recycling boxes.

The new bin – which is optional – will make it easier for you to recycle your plastic, cans and glass. **But it is not for paper and cardboard, please continue to use your blue sack for these materials.**

The bin which will have a purple lid is being introduced following requests from residents and will help us all to recycle more.



### How to order your new bin

Visit [www.shropshire.gov.uk/waste](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/waste)

Please only call us if you cannot access the online request form as we anticipate that our phone lines will be very busy.

The number to call is **0345 678 9007**.

## When will I get my new bin?

Deliveries will start from **Spring** and will gradually be rolled out across the county over a number of months.

## What do I do with my black boxes?

Please keep them – Veolia's collection crews will collect the mixed recycling from both boxes and bins.

Use them for other purposes - for example for storage or planters for the garden. Be imaginative with them!

If you don't want to hang onto your black boxes, please return them to your nearest Household Recycling Centre to be recycled.

Thanks for recycling



To find out more information about recycling please visit:

[www.shropshire.gov.uk/waste](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/waste)

[customerfirst@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:customerfirst@shropshire.gov.uk) [0345 678 9007](tel:03456789007)

follow Shropshire Recycles on [@shroprecycles](https://twitter.com/shroprecycles) [@shropshirerecycles](https://www.facebook.com/shropshirerecycles) [@shroprecycles](https://www.instagram.com/shroprecycles)

Working in partnership

# What can go in your purple lidded bin



## ✓ Yes please

Please put items directly into the container, **do not** use carrier bags.



✓ Aerosols



✓ Cans and tins



✓ Bottles and jars



✓ Bleach, cleaning, shampoo and shower gel



✓ Milk, drinks bottles and plastic bottles



✓ Tubs and trays



✓ Pots



✓ Foil



More information on your recycling service please visit:  
[www.shropshire.gov.uk/recycling-and-rubbish](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/recycling-and-rubbish)

## ✗ No thanks

Please **do not** put these items into your purple top bin.



✗ General waste (nappies, black bags)



✗ Plant pots & trays



✗ Carrier bags



✗ Food waste



✗ Plastic film



✗ Crisp packets



✗ Take away containers



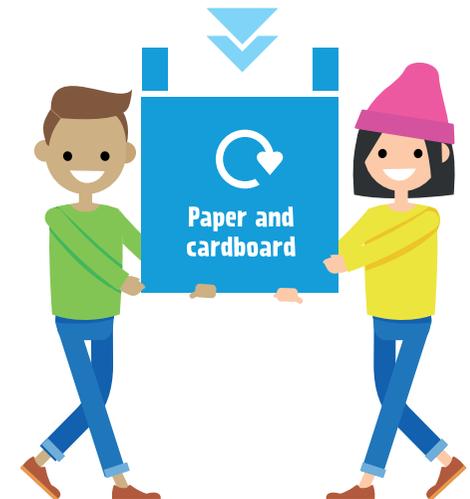
✗ Black plastic, e.g. food trays

## REMEMBER

Paper and card can be recycled by using your blue bag, please **don't** put it in your new recycling bin



Cardboard and paper



## Help us to shape our future

Shropshire Council is asking residents, businesses and community organisations to help shape their local area and the services that they receive as part of a new three-year plan.

The Shropshire Plan sets out the council's vision, purpose and high-level priorities for Shropshire and for the people who live in, work in and visit the county for the next three years (2022 to 2025).



It seeks to build on the resilience and achievements of recent years, despite the enormous challenges created by the pandemic. It recognises that success will depend on a healthy population, a healthy economy and a healthy environment, underpinned by Shropshire Council as a healthy organisation.

Lezley Picton, Shropshire Council's Leader, said:-

"I'm really excited to share with you our proposed plan for the next three years.

**"There's no doubt that the last two years have been enormously challenging. We've all had to adapt quickly and change the way we work and go about our day-to-day lives to learn to live alongside the virus, as well as feeling the impacts of some the worst floods our county has seen for many years.**

**"But despite these challenges, our communities remain resilient. We've seen communities pull together to look after themselves and each other, and our staff have dedicated themselves to continuing to deliver essential services to those who need them most. It makes me incredibly proud to live in and serve Shropshire.**

**"Our plan intends to build on the successes we've seen and enable us to continue to change the way we do things for the better. A key part of it is also about putting our beautiful county centre stage as the place to live in, work in and visit.**

**"We want to hear your thoughts on our proposals and have your input into improving Shropshire for the future."**

The draft Shropshire Plan can be viewed on the council's Get Involved consultation page – [click here](#).

Every response will be considered.