



# **Much Wenlock Town Council**

## **Full Council Meeting**

**7<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

## **Supporting Papers**

# MUCH WENLOCK TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the  
**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**  
 held at The Guildhall, Much Wenlock  
 at 7 pm on Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2022

**Present:** Cllr William Benbow, Cllr David Fenwick, Cllr Mike Grace, Cllr Wilfred Grainger, Cllr Marcus Themans, Cllr Daniel Thomas (in the chair), Cllr Christian Toon, Cllr Chris Tyler, Cllr Linda West, Cllr Duncan White

**Town Clerk:** Trudi Barrett

**In attendance:** Three members of the public, two PCSOs.

## 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.

Firstly I'd like to congratulate Linda West, Christian Toon and William Benbow on their successful elections and welcome them to their first Council meeting.

When our current Council took up office in May, we promised to do more community engagement and consultation, and we certainly have. Inside all Wenlock Heralds and online, we're consulting on the Neighbourhood Plan and looking at Transport in the town. I urge all residents to take part and let their views be known. The deadline for replies is Saturday the 12<sup>th</sup> of March, so please don't delay.

This Council also takes its Civic role in the community very seriously. We're delighted to be planting some trees as part of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in our Cemetery. I thank the Wenlock Tree Forum for sourcing these trees for us and look forward to seeing them on the official map, which is being given to the Queen in June.

In a week, it's the date that every Mayor dreads. The Annual Town Meeting! It's an important time where this Council gives reports on its activities, including finance, planning and the Gaskell Recreation Ground. I will take questions from the floor, and refreshments will be served afterwards.

On Saturday, former Town Councillors Matt and Natalie Park opened a new shop, ChocTilly. A handmade chocolate shop and a café serving crepes and waffles make for an excellent addition to our fabulous High Street. ChocTilly takes over from a former clothing shop, which belonged to Carol Wilkinson. Carol has traded on our High Street for over 20 years, and on behalf of this Council, I would like to thank her for her time and wish her well in her retirement.

Speaking of retirement, Alastair Humphries retired this week after 36 years as an on-call firefighter. He's been an excellent Watch Manager, a post he'd held for over 20 years. Over this time Much Wenlock Fire Station has been redeveloped and been a lifeline for many people in the parish. The crew get called out around 120 times a year. On behalf of this Council, I'd like to thank him for his service and wish him well in his retirement.

Finally, I hope you'll have noticed that last Wednesday was Shropshire Day, a special day, the feast day of St Milburga, who was abbess of Wenlock Priory and needs no introduction here. My thanks go to Reverend Matthew Stafford and the Ryan family for marking the feast day with a special pie. I've sampled the pie, and it's delicious; Reverend Matthew, I'm sure, can confirm it's a Godly pie that tastes heavenly!

## 2. Apologies for Absence

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the following apology: Councillor John O'Dowd – 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.

## 5. Shropshire Council Report

Shropshire Councillor, Daniel Thomas, presented the following report:

Flooding has well and truly ravaged the county, but I'm pleased to say that Much Wenlock held up relatively well and didn't experience flooding on the scale that towns around the river Severn experienced.

I'm increasingly aware that Much Wenlock's roads and pavements are in a terrible state. This is not a reflection of myself or this Council's ability to influence getting potholes fixed, it is far more complicated than that with weather and resignations in the highways team.

You can help the situation by using the site 'Fix My Street' to report potholes and other problems, including street lights, fly tipping, etc. An extra £59 m has been added to Shropshire Council's highways budget in the next four years as the Council's financial strategy was approved at Full Council last month.

Last month's surgery wasn't as busy as January's but was worthwhile with two issues raised to me, Cllr White and PCSO Steven Breese. One issue raised was the signage at the allotments, and I've chased the contractor Kier to get the work done.

The next surgery is on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> March at 10:30 am in the Museum, where I'll be joined by Cllr David Fenwick and our new Police officer, Andrew Boardman. Andrew comes from the police team in Kidderminster, so he has some broad knowledge of our area.

On a personal note, I'm sure the Chair will allow me: I had my first policy through Shropshire Council last week, and now all Shropshire Councillors will be entitled to paternity and maternity leave, eliminating a difficult barrier to young people's participation in local politics.

Also, I've been made Vice-Chair of the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee. Care takes up 85% of Shropshire's budget, so I'm keen that we can support officers and get value for money, making Shropshire better for those who live, work and visit here.

## 6. Police Report

Members noted the written report provided and responses to questions raised at the previous meeting. Councillors had been advised that details of the location and vehicles involved in road traffic collisions could be provided in the police reports. The local team regularly patrolled areas where there had been recent reports of anti-social behaviour as well as historic activity. 133 people had signed up to Neighbourhood Matters in the Broseley and Much Wenlock area, a higher than average take-up of the service in Shropshire.

PCSO Steven Breese advised that PC Andy Boardman would be joining the Broseley & Much Wenlock policing team on 11<sup>th</sup> March and would make himself known to the community. PCSO Breese talked through the written report. He asked for any intelligence on thefts or drugs to be passed to the police. He advised that he and PCSO Mal Goddard were able to undertake speed surveys within 30/40 mph speed limits.

In response to questions from Councillors, it was stated that the police were in contact with staff at the Priory with regard to anti-social behaviour on the car park. The policing team would follow up a report of items associated with drug taking being found. The number of safeguarding issues in the town was relatively low.

## 7. Public Session

There had been no requests to speak.

## 8. Minutes

- a. **It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED to approve and adopt the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2022.**
- b. **It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED to adopt the minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2022.**
- c. **It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED to adopt the minutes of HR Committee meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 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. It was noted that contact had been made with the office of Philip Dunne MP but that his diary was very full at present and a date for a further meeting would be agreed in due course.

## 10. Nominations for Mayor 2022/2023

Councillor Fenwick proposed the nomination of Councillor Duncan White as Mayor. Councillor White had shown himself to be an outstanding Councillor, and had become involved in much of the Council's business and many projects.

The proposal was seconded by Councillor Themans.

**It was unanimously RESOLVED to nominate Councillor Duncan White as Mayor for the civic year May 2022 to May 2023.**

**11. Nominations for Deputy Mayor 2022/2023**

Councillor White proposed the nomination of Councillor David Fenwick as Deputy Mayor. Councillor Fenwick had gained experience since joining the Council, had indicated a willingness to serve in this role and would be a capable support for the Mayor.

The proposal was seconded by Councillor Toon.

**It was unanimously RESOLVED to nominate Councillor David Fenwick as Deputy Mayor for the civic year May 2022 to May 2023.**

**12. Annual Town Meeting**

Members noted the agenda and reviewed arrangements for the Annual Town Meeting to be held at 7.00pm on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at the Priory Hall. Light refreshments (tea, coffee, biscuits) would be served at the end of the meeting. It was noted that this was a meeting of the electors of the parish, not a Town Council meeting.

**13. Code of Conduct**

- a. Members noted that Shropshire Council had adopted the new Local Government Association Code of Conduct and that it was recommended by Shropshire Council and NALC that town and parish councils also adopt the new code.
- b. Members considered the adoption of the new Code of Conduct for Much Wenlock Town Council. Concerns were expressed about the role of the Shropshire Council Monitoring Officer in dealing with complaints about Councillors.

**It was RESOLVED to adopt the new Code of Conduct for Much Wenlock Town Council, following deletion of paragraph 5 of Appendix A, which was not relevant to the Town Council.**

**It was RESOLVED to review the Town Council's complaints procedure.**

**14. Appointments to Working Groups**

- a. **It was RESOLVED to appoint Councillor Linda West to the Friends of the Cemetery Working Group.**
- b. **It was RESOLVED to appoint Councillors Benbow and Toon to the History Working Group.**
- c. **It was RESOLVED to appoint Councillors Toon, West and White to the Communications, Markets and Tourism Working Group.**
- d. **It was RESOLVED to appoint Councillor Benbow to the Transport Working Group.**
- e. **It was RESOLVED to appoint Councillors Benbow and Toon to the Property Working Group.**

**15. Representative on Bridgnorth & Shifnal Area Committee of the Shropshire Association of Local Councils (SALC)**

**It was RESOLVED to appoint Councillor West to represent the Council on the Bridgnorth & Shifnal Area Committee of the Shropshire Association of Local Councils and to appoint Councillor White as reserve.**

**16. Shropshire Draft Local Plan (2016 - 2038) – Examination in Public**

Members noted that the residents' survey on Planning and Traffic had been issued with the Wenlock Herald and was also available for completion online, with a deadline for responses of 12<sup>th</sup> March. Thanks were expressed to all those involved.

There was still no published date for the Examination in Public and exchanges were continuing between the Inspectors and Shropshire Council. The Town Council's case would be based upon the proposition agreed in the summer and submitted to Shropshire Council as part of the Regulation 19 consultation.

**17. Community Governance Review Update**

Members considered correspondence from Shropshire Council regarding the above. It was noted that boundary reviews were under way for Shropshire Council divisions and town and parish council areas. Housing development in some parts of Shropshire had led to inequalities in numbers represented by Shropshire Councillors. A review of town and parish council boundaries had not been undertaken since 2009.

**It was RESOLVED that Councillors were content with the current town boundary and did not wish to request any changes.**

The Clerk was also asked to clarify with Shropshire Council the rationale for the current Place Plan boundaries.

**18. Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust**

Members considered correspondence from the Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust concerning community engagement. **It was RESOLVED to highlight the opportunities for public engagement and links provided to members of the public.**

**19. 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. Details of webinar on the 'Shropshire Good Food Charter' on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2022
- f. 'Local Health Champions want to hear about NHS psychological services' 8<sup>th</sup> February 2022
- g. West Mercia Police Fraud and Scam Bulletin February 2022
- h. Zero Carbon Shropshire newsletter February 2022
- i. Healthwatch Press Release: Children & young People's mental health in Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin
- j. Friendly Bus newsletter March 2022
- k. Notice of road closures at Bourton and Brockton for rock face work.

**20. Agenda items for next Town Council meeting**

Members are invited to suggest items for inclusion on the agenda for the next meeting.

- New 'Climate Champion' for the Council

**21. Date of next meeting**

Members noted that the next meeting would be held at 7.00pm on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at the Guildhall.

**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.

**22. Property Matters**

- a. Members noted an update from the Property Working Group.

**2 Burgage Way**

In line with the decision taken at the meeting of the Finance & Asset Management Committee on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2022, notice to quit had been given to the tenant of 2 Burgage Way, expiring at the end of May, to enable the sale of the property. The sale was intended to raise funds for the renovation of other Council property, in particular, the Guildhall.

**It was RESOLVED to contact the Council's solicitor, Lanyon Bowdler, with regard to the conveyancing and change needed to the title deed.**

**10 High Street**

So far, the Clerk had been unable to obtain a specification for electrical work required to the former bank premises but had been provided with details of another possible contractor who might undertake this task. A group interested in the use of the bank premises would be presenting their proposal at the next meeting of the Finance & Asset Management Committee.

**Guildhall**

Members of the Property Working Group had met with one fund finding specialist and meetings were being arranged with two further consultancies.

- b. **It was RESOLVED to defer consideration of the engagement of a professional fund raiser for the renovation of the Guildhall pending receipt of further quotations.**

The meeting closed at 8.40pm

Signed .....

Date .....

Town Mayor

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# MUCH WENLOCK TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a **Planning & Environment Committee meeting**  
held at 7.00 pm on Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup> February 2022 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, Councillor John O’Dowd, five 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 11<sup>th</sup> January 2022 be **APPROVED** and signed as a true record.

## 6. Planning Applications

The following planning applications were considered:

21/06001/VAR Bourton Manor, Bourton, Much Wenlock, TF13 6QE	Variation of Condition No. 2 attached to planning permission 19/04926/FUL to allow for an amendment to the garage roof Condition Number(s): 2 Conditions(s) Removal: Amend the roof to the garage to reduce the impact. <b>It was RESOLVED no objections.</b>
22/00115/FUL The Dell, Homer, Much Wenlock	Erection of replacement single storey front porch. <b>It was RESOLVED no objections.</b>
21/05911/FUL Site Of Burnetts, Callaughton, Much Wenlock	Renovation and reinstatement of dwelling to include single storey rear extension. <b>It was RESOLVED no objections. Members supported the recommendation by SC Archaeology (Historic Environment) that a programme of archaeological work be undertaken on the site.</b>
21/05717/LBC The Corn Exchange, 62 High Street, Much Wenlock	Replace 2no windows to rear elevation. <b>As this application had been submitted by the Town Council, it was RESOLVED to note.</b>
21/05023/OUT Proposed Residential and Commercial Development Land, Tasley, Bridgnorth	Hybrid application for phased development for: Outline planning permission (access only for consideration) for mixed use development of up to 550 dwellings, foodstore, neighbourhood centre, B2/B8 business use, 'sui generis' uses to include hotel, public house, petrol filling and electric vehicle charging station, livestock market, lairage and ancillary uses, green infrastructure and associated ancillary works, demolition of the existing livestock market; Full planning permission for five arm roundabout, spine road south of A458 and north of A458 with associated footway/cycleways and landscape verges, formation of junction with the spine road and Church Lane, upgrading of existing Livestock Market, drainage, associated earthworks, infrastructure and ancillary works.

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Councillors noted the expected impact of traffic generated from the development on Much Wenlock, as well as the lack of information on traffic matters in the application.

**It was RESOLVED to object to the application, as per the draft response provided by the Transport Working Group, and to additionally raise concerns about the impact of the retail proposals, as follows:**

1. Much Wenlock Town Council is concerned about what appear to be serious omissions from the Transport Assessment reports associated with this application and we ask for these concerns to be taken into consideration and properly addressed.
2. Five months ago, in connection with planning application 19/05560/OUT (Buildwas Power Station), Shropshire Council Highways department produced a Highways Briefing Note for Members to consider at the upcoming planning committee meeting (10<sup>th</sup> August 2021), which was held to determine the aforementioned application. Section 8 of the Highways Briefing Note refers to *this* Tasley application and states:- *'Any application will need to be supported by a Transport Assessment which will fully assess the likely impact on the surrounding network to include the A458. This will inform any highway contributions that will be required to make the development acceptable from a highways perspective.'*
3. The Note goes on to say:- *'Any significant development in the Bridgnorth area is likely to have an impact on the Gaskell Arms junction.'*
4. That section of the Technical Note was written to assure Members of both Shropshire Council and Much Wenlock Town Council that their concerns about the impact of developments on the Gaskell Arms junction were being addressed.
5. Unfortunately, contrary to the assurance given in the Highways Briefing Note, Much Wenlock Town Council can find no reference at all to the Gaskell Corner junction in any of the Transport Assessment reports that accompany the Tasley application, *including the Scoping reports*. Neither can we find any distribution diagrams that clearly indicate the percentage distribution of development traffic; nor turning-movement diagrams that distribute development traffic through the local junctions. There appears to be a lot of output demonstrating the results of the junction traffic modelling, but we are unable to locate any clear description of the input data.
6. At the very end of Appendix J there are some turning movement diagrams that relate to Saturday traffic flows, but even these do not include development traffic.
7. Consequently, Much Wenlock Town Council cannot find out from these documents exactly how much newly-generated or attracted traffic, associated with the Tasley development, will be using the Gaskell Arms junction. This is not acceptable. And if, as it appears at the moment, the Tasley developer was not instructed to carry out a full assessment of the Gaskell Arms junction, how will Shropshire Council successfully demand a contribution to improve a junction that the developer has not even considered?
8. Much Wenlock Town Council has expressed concern before about what appears to be a disjointed Shropshire Council approach to the provision of necessary infrastructure to accommodate all the developments that are being proposed and that will detrimentally impact the Gaskell Arms junction. We still have no solution, even in outline, to the problems at the junction and now, it appears that developers are not even being told to include it in their analysis.

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	<p>9. It is vitally important to the town that Much Wenlock Town Council is fully aware of how much additional traffic will be using the Gaskell Corner junction should these proposals go ahead. This information is not available in the current application documentation. Consequently, Much Wenlock Town Council will maintain an OBJECTION until the information is available and an appropriate contribution is agreed, as outlined in the Shropshire Council Highways Briefing Note.</p> <p>10. Shropshire Council's Core Strategy and SAMDEV policies only allow for a convenience store as part of a neighbourhood centre for the Tasley area. The current application proposes a much larger, discount store. The impact of the retail proposals is not clear and Much Wenlock Town Councillors are concerned that the proposals could draw trade away from Much Wenlock, impacting adversely on the town's retailers (Objective 2, Policy EJ4 of the MWNP). This has potential wider implications for the town. These include the likelihood of additional traffic movements associated with drawing trade from Much Wenlock (Objective 4 of the MWNP). There are no suggestions being put forward for improving public transport links. The threat of undermining existing retail may also affect community facilities in Much Wenlock, for example the Post Office is now integrated into the Spar; should the Spar be affected, then the Post Office facility will be under threat (Objective 5; Policy CW2 of the MWNP). If the developers' retail and traffic assessment cannot categorically assure Shropshire Council and its communities that these impacts will not arise, the application should be refused.</p>
<p>21/04033/FUL Wenlock Edge Inn, Easthope, Much Wenlock TF13 6DJ</p>	<p>Stationing of 3no holiday letting units, supporting infrastructure and installation of package treatment plant and associated works (amended description).</p> <p>Members noted that the application would be considered by Shropshire Council's Southern Planning Committee on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2022, with the recommendation Grant Permission.</p> <p>When Councillors had considered the application in October 2021, it had been resolved to object due to lack of information. Additional information had subsequently been added to the Shropshire Council website.</p> <p><b>It was RESOLVED that Councillor White would represent the Town Council at the Planning Committee meeting and present the Council's objections.</b></p> <p>Members agreed to reiterate the comments of the National Trust and Easthope, Shipton and Stanton Long Parish Council. The information presented in the application was still not clear, particularly with regard to the future of the pub. In this regard, Councillors considered that any approval needed to connect the three holiday lets with the continued use of the pub. The Much Wenlock Neighbourhood Plan encouraged existing uses and commercial uses but any development needed to minimise the impact on the landscape and ecology.</p>

## 7. Planning Decisions

It was RESOLVED to note the following planning decision:

<p>20/01751/EIA Farley Quarry, Farley, Much Wenlock, TF13 6NX</p>	<p>The recycling of construction, demolition and excavation wastes and the construction of a development platform in the quarry by means of the placement of materials and soils that cannot be recycled, together with ancillary activities and improvements to the site access.</p> <p>Decision: <b>Refuse</b></p>
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**8. Planning Appeal**

Members noted that a planning appeal had been made to the Secretary of State against the decision of Shropshire Council to refuse to grant planning permission for application 20/04580/FUL, Erection of two detached dwellings following demolition of existing buildings; formation of parking area; to include removal of several trees, at land adjoining The Old Vicarage, Victoria Road, Much Wenlock.

**It was RESOLVED to maintain the Council's previous objections.**

**9. Draft Shropshire Local Plan Review 2016 - 2038**

- a. Members noted that no date had been set for the Examination in Public. A paper updating Members on preparations would be presented to full Council for consideration on 3<sup>rd</sup> February. It was noted that the Inspectors would like local groups to collaborate, rather than present the same issues several times.
- b. Councillors considered a deposition received from a member of the public concerning issues associated with the operation of Travis Perkins. This had been submitted to the Town Council for possible inclusion in preparations for the Council's case for the Examination in Public.

**It was RESOLVED to write to Travis Perkins to request that they consider reducing the size of the vehicles delivering to the site, as the extremely large lorries were causing significant issues for other users of highway.**

A discussion could be held with Shropshire Council about the specifics of the situation and included in consideration of the overall traffic management for the town.

**10. Flooding issues**

- a. Members noted a written update from the Flood Group. It was clarified that members of the Flood Group were updating the contact list in the Flood Action Plan, not the Plan itself, which was covered by copyright.
- b. Members received a report from the meeting of members of the Strategic Flood Working Group held on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2022. Councillor Tyler advised that the meeting, in fact, had not been a meeting of the Strategic Flood Working Group but an opportunity for members of the Planning & Environment Committee to meet representatives from Shropshire Wildlife Trust and Harper Adams, who could act in an advisory capacity. It was noted that membership of the Strategic Flood Working Group, in addition to Town Councillors, had yet to be determined.
- c. Members noted that despite repeated requests to Shropshire Council and an officer at the Environment Agency for information connected both with the flood risk from Shadwell Quarry and its proposed development, no response had been received.

**It was RESOLVED raise the concerns with Shropshire Councillor Daniel Thomas with the request that he follow these up and to ask whether the Town Council should escalate the matters further within Shropshire Council.**

**It was RESOLVED to also raise the concerns about flooding and development with the National Flood Forum.**

- d. Members noted that at the meeting held with Shropshire Council's Drainage & Flood Risk Manager in November 2021 it had been agreed to hold regular meetings between the Town Council and Shropshire Council. The Clerk was asked to arrange a further meeting to discuss flooding matters.

**11. Tree Planting**

- a. The Chair welcomed to the meeting Mrs Lesley Durbin and Mr John Tuer, members of Much Wenlock Tree Forum.

Mrs Durbin noted that the Tree Forum had submitted a report to the last meeting of the Planning & Environment Committee on tree cover in the Conservation Area. She reported that, since then, the Town Council's Finance & Asset Management Committee had agreed to a tree planting scheme in the old part of Much Wenlock Cemetery. It had been agreed that the Council would underwrite the cost of the trees and donations would be sought from the local community. Several donations had already been made or promised. The planting would take place on Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> March.

Mr Tuer outlined a scheme to plant an avenue of 6 – 8 trees on the approach roads to the town. This might be possible on the Farley Road and was certainly possible on the Bridgnorth Road, although due to the width of the verge it was probable that this could only be done on one side. The trees could be planted on the opposite side to the cemetery, working towards Bridgnorth from the existing oak, with a distance of around 10 yards between the new trees. Members suggested planting into the hedge or in the field on the cemetery side of the road, however, planting into the hedge would be difficult due to the existing roots and planting in the field would require permission from the landowner.

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Members raised concerns about the impact of proposed development adjacent to the Bridgnorth Road but agreed that this should not stop the tree planting from going ahead.

It was noted that Shropshire Council's Tree Officer was supportive of the idea in principle, although the highways department would need to consider the scheme. Shropshire Highways had been copied into the email exchange but had made no response so far.

**It was RESOLVED to strongly support the idea of planting trees along the approach to the town on Bridgnorth Road and to write to Shropshire Council's Highways Department concerning the initiative.**

- b. Members of the Tree Forum had also initiated discussions with Shropshire Council and Star Housing regarding tree planting on Star Housing land. After consultation with the residents, who had responded very positively, four trees had already been planted by the Southfield Road/High Causeway bungalows. Star Housing had some budget and limited areas of land in the town and were considering further tree planting alongside Southfield Road.

**It was RESOLVED to write a letter to Star Housing supporting further tree planting on their land in Much Wenlock.**

In connection with the Town Council's planning application for new windows at the Corn Exchange, Mrs Durbin suggested that the Town Council might install swift boxes at the rear of the building at the time the work was carried out. She also drew attention to the presence of slow worms at the cemetery, and the need to look carefully at the management of the site to ensure their wellbeing, as a protected species.

## 12. Transport Working Group

Members considered a report from the Transport Working Group:

- A meeting had been held to review the parking proposals with a Shropshire Council officer.
- Members of the working group had discussed ways of improving safety at the crossing from Oakfield Park to the primary school with the local Shropshire Council highways engineer. Costings had been obtained for the extension of the pavement to Oakfield Park and railings on both sides of Bridgnorth Road to stop pedestrians cutting across the road at places other than the crossing point. The highways engineer had advised that CIL funding was available to cover the cost of the work, at no cost to the Town Council. Members of the working group were also drafting an application to the Police & Crime Commissioner for funding for signage associated with the crossing point.

There was uncertainty about the process for accessing CIL funding as Shropshire Council had recently informed town and parish councils that consideration of all future Expressions of Interest for CIL funding was 'on pause' until April 2022. Councillor Tyler undertook to request contact details for the appropriate officer/department at Shropshire Council and the Clerk would check whether the request to access CIL funding required full Council authority.

- Members were advised of difficulties between residents of Southfield Park and Wheatland Care Home over workers and/or visitors to the care home parking on the road and residents blocking access to the care home. As this was a highways safety issue, members of the working group would make further enquiries about the situation and then suggest recommendations to Shropshire Council.

## 13. Litter

Concerns about litter on the Priory Car Park had been raised by English Heritage staff at the Priory. The local policing team patrolled the area regularly with regard to anti-social behaviour and the town's volunteer litter pickers included the car park on their monthly litter pick. However, due to frequent littering, English Heritage staff were having to clear the car park on a daily basis.

**It was RESOLVED to write to the English Heritage area manager, sharing the concerns of the local staff and asking what action English Heritage might take, including consideration of CCTV.**

Members also noted frequent fly tipping at the end of the unofficial footpath onto Merrywell Lane, as well as at Farley Quarry.

## 14. Climate Change and Ecological/Nature Emergencies

In response to the suggestions made by Mrs Durbin earlier in the meeting, it was **RESOLVED to recommend the installation of swift boxes at the Corn Exchange to the Finance & Asset Management Committee.**

The Clerk was asked to seek advice and explore options for protection of the slow worms at the cemetery.

## 15. Consultation\*

- a. Members considered a further response to consultation regarding Shropshire's Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Plan. **It was RESOLVED to submit no additional comments.**

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- b. Members noted information regarding the Government's response to the Independent Landscapes Review carried out in 2019 (the Glover Review) and proposals for support for Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Councillor Grace offered to review the documentation and report back to the next meeting of the Planning & Environment Committee, if appropriate.

#### 16. Street Lighting\*

Members noted information regarding the upgrade of Shropshire Council's heritage street lighting in the town.

#### 17. Street naming \*

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

#### 19. Footpath Diversion Orders\*

#### 20. Road closures\*

Members noted the following road closure:

Location: B4378, Bourton

Date/Time: 21st to 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2022, Monday - Friday 09:30 - 16:00

Agency: Kier on behalf of Shropshire Council

Purpose: Rockface inspection

#### 21. Highways matters \*

- a. Members considered information from Shropshire Council regarding the provision of grit bins in the town and the disappointing response to the Town Council's requests for additional bins. However, Shropshire Council had offered to provide a grit bin for Station Road and **it was RESOLVED to recommend that the additional grit bin be located near to the coach drop-off point in Station Road.**

**It was RESOLVED to suspend standing orders to allow the meeting to continue past 9 pm.**

- b. Members noted an update on highways matters:

- No update had been provided by Shropshire Council regarding the matter of lorries mounting the pavement at the junction of Queen Street and Back Lane.
- With regard to parking proposals for the town, the bus drop off point in St Mary's Lane had been removed and would be considered in conjunction with proposals for the Gaskell corner.
- The parking proposals would also incorporate a break in the parking restrictions for the layby in Farley Road.
- The first parking space next to the alleyway from the High Street to Falcons Court car park was to be removed as this was a right of way to the old Barclays Bank and should not be a parking space.

#### 22. Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs)\*

#### 23. Stopping Up Orders\*

#### 24. Speed Limit Orders\*

#### 25. Prohibition Orders\*

#### 26. Date of next meeting

It was **NOTED** that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup> March 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.

#### 27. Planning Enforcement

Members noted enforcement issue 22/08474/ENF and the resolution of 21/08422/ENF.

The Clerk was asked to check whether any enforcement action was being taken in connection with tipping at Farley Quarry, now that planning permission for the site had been refused.

The meeting closed at 9.08 pm.

Signed.....(Chairman)

Date.....

12/21

# MUCH WENLOCK TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a  
**FINANCE & ASSET MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**  
meeting held at the Guildhall, Much Wenlock  
at 7.00 pm on Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> January 2022

**Present:**

Clr. John O'Dowd, David Fenwick, Marcus Themans, Daniel Thomas

**In attendance:**

Trudi Barrett – Town Clerk, Diane Barlow – Responsible Financial Officer (RFO), one member of the public

**1) Apologies**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following apologies: Councillor Wilf Grainger – work, Councillor Duncan White – family 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) Minutes**

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

**5) 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**.

**6) Finance**

- a. The RFO presented a written and verbal report. She advised that the interim internal audit had been carried out the previous week and had gone well, confirming that all financial systems and internal controls were managed properly. Overall income was 0.4% above budget for the 2021/22 financial year with expenditure 16.87% under budget for the time of year. However large invoices for the library, Christmas lights removal and cupola were still to come. The RFO advised that there was a significant amount remaining in the Councillor training budget for the year. Members **NOTED** the report.
- b. Members **NOTED** the balance sheet as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021.
- c. Members **NOTED** the income and expenditure to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021.
- d. Members reviewed the bank reconciliations to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the bank reconciliations to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021.
- e. It was **RESOLVED** to approve payments from 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2021 to date.

**7) Tree pit for Christmas Tree in High Street**

Councillors reviewed the Christmas lights display, in particular, at the end of the High Street. A fixing tube had been installed in each of the two planters at the Gaskell corner junction and Christmas trees had been erected and decorated with lights powered by batteries on a timer. This had created a gateway to the High Street. Additional lights might brighten the display.

Members considered the desirability of installing a tree pit on the corner to allow a single tree to be erected and decorated with lights powered by an electrical connection. The cost of this would be around £3,000 and permission would be required from Shropshire Council highways.

It was **RESOLVED** to maintain this year's arrangement of installing trees in the existing planters but to consider the acquisition of additional lights.

**8) Tree Planting at the Cemetery**

Mrs Durbin was invited to speak on behalf of the Friends of the Old Cemetery. She outlined tree planting that had been undertaken in the old part of the cemetery over recent years and the current proposal. It was proposed to plant 7 x sorbus (rowan) along the grass path running across the cemetery, from the chapel towards the town, and 3 x crataegus prunifolia (hawthorn) along the central path running from the chapel towards the road.

Comparative prices for 10 trees of around 200cm in height had been obtained, as well as stakes and planting compost.

**It was RESOLVED to support the planting of 10 trees in the old cemetery, to be obtained from Harley Nursery at a cost of £521.00.**

**It was RESOLVED that the Town Council would provide the funds to purchase the trees but would invite contributions from members of the public to offset the cost and encourage community participation.**

Members considered a request to plant a memorial weeping lime in the old cemetery. Councillors were concerned about the final size of the tree and the exposure at the cemetery. It was therefore **RESOLVED not to approve the planting of a memorial weeping lime.**

Members were advised that volunteers from Caring for God's Acre had visited the cemetery the previous week and had created new areas for wildflowers, which would be seeded in the spring. The turf removed had been laid along the edges of the path from the steps, which had grown too wide. Members also noted concern about slow worms in the cemetery, to be followed up by the Clerk.

**9) Guildhall Cupola and Window Repairs**

Members noted that the additional work on the base of the cupola was scheduled to start the following Monday.

**10) Date of next meeting**

It was noted that the next meeting of the Finance, Asset Management Committee would be held on Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> March 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.**

**11) Welcome Back Fund**

Members considered quotations for items to be purchased using the Welcome Back Fund:

**It was RESOLVED to approve the purchase of a planter to replace the damaged one at the end of Sheinton Street, as well as removal of the damaged planter, at a total cost of £396.68 + VAT from Gordon Ellis & Co.**

**It was RESOLVED to purchase the following Christmas lights from LITE: simulated green pine garland with warm white twinkling lights and red and gold shatterproof baubles for The Square; simulated green pine garland with warm white twinkling lights and four 3D diamond stars for the Corn Exchange at a total cost of £5,380 + VAT.**

Councillors agreed to consider the purchase of additional artificial Christmas trees and street light mounted decorations for the Gaskell corner at a later date.

**12) Structural Engineer's Report for Guildhall**

Members considered quotations for the production of a structural engineer's report on the damaged beam on the Guildhall.

**It was RESOLVED to appoint Thomas Consulting to produce the report at a cost of £640 + VAT + disbursements.**

**13) Property Working Group**

**It was RESOLVED to suspend standing orders to allow the meeting to continue past 9pm.**

Members considered a report from the Property Working Group.

**10 High Street**

**It was RESOLVED to commission a local electrician to produce a specification for electrical work required inside 10 High Street to make good.** Once a specification was to hand, quotations could be sought for the work.

Members noted difficulties associated with splitting the gas supply to 10 High Street and 2 Burgage Way, as both properties currently shared one supply. The RFO was exploring ways of separating the supply.

**The Guildhall**

Members of the Property Working Group and the Clerk had met earlier in the day with the Shropshire Council Conservation Officer to discuss the renovation of the Guildhall. The Conservation Officer had been supportive and positive about improvements to insulation, heating, double glazing, improved displays and interpretation and alterations to access. However, further clarification of the proposals would be required.

**It was RESOLVED to arrange a meeting regarding the Guildhall renovation with a recommended fund finder and project manager.**

**It was RESOLVED to approve recommendations 2a and 3a of the Confidential Recommendations proposed by members of the Property Working Group in the report dated 20<sup>th</sup> January 2022.**

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm

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	Due to attendance of guest at April meeting, deferred to May 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.	Yes	Trees planted at the Cemetery on 19 <sup>th</sup> March and 'pinned' on the Queen's Green Canopy map.
July 2021	10	Arrange a workshop of all Councillors to brainstorm ideas and start the process of developing a strategic plan before the summer break.	Pending	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. New flag to be purchased.
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. Deferred to May meeting due to attendance of guest at April 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.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.	In progress  Pending  In progress	Meetings held with three potential fund raisers, proposals awaited. Advice obtained from NALC – clarity on proposals for Guildhall needed to determine VAT implications. Quotations for reports requested, responses awaited.
Feb 2022	11b	Arrange a date for the return visit of Philip Dunne MP.	Yes	Meeting held on 5 <sup>th</sup> April.
March 2022	13b	Review the Town Council's complaints procedure.	In progress	To be considered at meeting on 12 <sup>th</sup> May.
	17	Clarify with Shropshire Council the rationale for the Place Plan boundaries.	In progress	Response awaited.
	18	Highlight opportunities to public for community engagement with Shrewsbury and Telford & Wrekin NHS Trust.	Yes	
	22a	Contact Lanyon Bowdler with regard to conveyancing in connection with the sale of 2 Burgage Way.	Yes	Quotation obtained, comparative requested.

#### Other Activities

- Town Council news for April Wenlock Herald written and submitted
- Attendance at Annual Town Meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> March
- Attendance at Zoom conference 'The Beautiful Burial Ground' organized by Caring for God's Acre on 15<sup>th</sup> March
- Participation in tree planting at Cemetery on 19<sup>th</sup> March
- Attendance at CIL Funding presentation held by Zoom on 23<sup>rd</sup> March

## Much Wenlock Town Council - The 'Mayor Making' Ceremony

The annual 'Mayor Making' ceremony takes place at 7 p.m. in the Council Chamber at the Guildhall. Although it is a civic occasion the ceremony is still held in accordance with the law and procedure for local councils. The ceremony is essentially the annual meeting of the Town Council except that, apart from appointing the Mayor and Deputy Mayor, and the Mayor's Chaplain, all other council business is deferred to a later date.

### 1) Dressing for the occasion

At 6.30 p.m. the Mayor, the Mayor Elect, the Deputy Mayor Elect, their partners, the mace-bearers, and the Mayor's Chaplain meet in the Town Clerk's office. The Mayor will put on the Mayor's robes, jabot, hat, and chain of office; the Deputy Mayor will put on the chain of office. The Mayor's consort will put on the chain of office. The mace-bearer will be given the mace to carry. The mace should be carried with the crown of the mace resting on the right shoulder.

Other Councillors and invited guests should go directly to the Guildhall to be seated.

### 2) Procession to the Guildhall

At 6.55 p.m. the Mayoral party, led by the mace-bearer, will leave the Corn Exchange and make their way to the Guildhall in the following order:

- Mace-bearer
- Mayor's Chaplain
- Mayor and Mayoress/consort
- The Town Clerk
- The Mayor Elect and partner

### 3) Arrival at the Guildhall

Invited guests will stand at the arrival of the Mayoral party. The mace-bearers will lead the Mayoral party into the Council Chamber where they will turn right and proceed to the Mayor's table and take the seats allocated to them.

The mace-bearer will place the mace horizontally on the Mayor's table, in front of the Mayor's Chair, with the crown of the mace to the Mayor's right hand.

### 4) The ceremony – election of Mayor

The Town Clerk will announce the arrival of the Mayor.

The Mayor will ask the Mayor's Chaplain to say prayers, after which the Town Clerk will ask councillors and guests to be seated.

The Annual Meeting of the Town Council will proceed in accordance with the agenda.

### 5) After the ceremony

The Town Clerk will inform councillors and guests that the formal proceedings have concluded and that it is the Mayor's pleasure to invite them to join him/her to a civic reception at the Priory Hall.

The Town Clerk will ask everyone to rise and remain in place until the Mayoral party has left the Council Chamber.

The mace-bearer will retrieve the mace from the Mayor's table after which the Mayoral Party will leave the Council Chamber in the following order:

- Chaplain
- Mace-bearer
- Mayor
- Mayoress/consort
- Town Clerk
- Ex-Mayor and partner

The Mayor, fellow councillors, the Town Clerk and invited guests will proceed to the rear of the Guildhall for photographs before proceeding to the Priory Hall for the Civic Reception.

Much Wenlock Town Council

Planning & Environment Committee meeting of 5<sup>th</sup> April 2022

Town Council meeting of 7<sup>th</sup> April 2022

## Shropshire Local Plan – Examination in Public

### Note of Meeting with other objectors to the Draft Plan – The Guildhall, 19.00hrs to 20.30hrs, 28<sup>th</sup> March 2022

**Attendees:** Sue O’Dowd, Lesley Durbin, Jim Orves, Elizabeth Sutherland, Viv Bellamy, Howard Horsley, Paul Hanafin, David Turner, Robert Toft, Mary Philips, John O’Dowd. Councillors D White (Chair), D Fenwick, C Tyler, W Grainger and M Grace.

#### Welcome and Introductions

Duncan White welcomed attendees and outlined the purpose of the meeting. This would be an informal conversation to explore whether there is the basis for local objectors to the Plan to co-operate in making a stronger case for Much Wenlock at the EIP.

All attendees introduced themselves and identified their representative role for a local organisation as appropriate. Attendees also set out their interests or potential conflicts of interest.

Mike Grace outlined the Town Council’s (TC) stance on the Draft Local Plan. The TC had asked Shropshire Council (SC) to change the plan so that the community of Much Wenlock could decide future best planning options. This was particularly relevant as the town’s Neighbourhood Plan (MWNP) gave a clear steer as to the style of development it considered appropriate. However, it was clear that the MWNP had been essentially set aside by SC.

MG explained that SC had refused to alter the draft plan and had consistently said this should be debated at the EIP. This meant that the town now needed to make a case which demonstrated the SC’s proposals were unsound in policy and its practical impacts on the ground.

MG invited attendees to share their concerns and any evidence that supported these issues.

#### Discussion of common concerns

The following headlines arose from the discussion:

**Water resources and management** – supply/demand, disposal and flood risk were all raised. Clear evidence of water having to be imported to the town on numerous occasions. Additional development would only exacerbate the problem. Sewage disposal capacity is similarly a problem; a suggestion that major additional foul sewage pipe work would be required if HG2 proceeded, with unknown impacts on viability. Plus, potentially severe impacts of below ground construction on the town’s historic environment. Flood risk and its management; no evidence that SC had undertaken a sequential test and understood MW’s status as rapid response catchment or recognised their chosen site as the most flood prone. Deep suspicion that SC’s negotiations with the landowner would generate an effective scheme given past record; viability likely to mean requests for increase of housing numbers, reduced affordable housing contributions etc.

**Consultation deficit** – there had been minimal public engagement and, if comments had been submitted, these had been ignored. The previous TC had effectively just accepted SC’s proposals without any critical appraisal. Both SC and the previous TC had marginalised the community’s views as set out in the MWNP.

**Strategic development corridor and traffic** – this policy is broad and undetermined with clear likelihood of increasing development pressures and negative impacts of more traffic. From Buildwas proposals we know have a major pinch point at the Gaskell Corner with no solutions;

local plan proposals will add to it. Significant implications for whole town and its character. HG2 proposals for a roundabout not necessary and will add to environmental degradation.

**Quality of the historic place and needs of the town** – local plan needs to take a long view of town’s future, its housing/employment needs and best options for future development. Considering the SC site assessments, clear that better alternatives are available if consider proximity to services/centre, accessibility, traffic and design quality. Character and historic quality of the town are critical assets.

**Infrastructure and viability** – understanding the scope of SC’s viability assessments for MW and their proposed site. Given the scale of the proposed development targets, the lack of any infrastructure investment plan for MW is serious. The relationship between the place plan and the local plan proposals is unclear and is an omission for discussion at the EIP.

### **Actions and Next Steps**

- The attendees agreed to co-operate further in developing these concerns.
- MWTC to analyse the recent residents survey and report results [if possible to the upcoming Planning & Environment Committee and TC meetings]
- We would gather as much as evidence as possible (e.g. no. of days water had to be shipped in to the town, flood events/impacts, incidences of vulnerability to historic environment etc) to help build the case, and
- All to share information/copies of submissions, other relevant documents/reports
- MWTC to suggest date for a follow-on meeting after Easter [has been suggested as 20<sup>th</sup> April]

**THE SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL  
(OFF-STREET PARKING PLACES) ORDER 2011  
(AMENDMENT NO. ) ORDER**

1. Shropshire Council proposes to make the following changes to the charges in some of its car parks:

Town	Car Park	Days	Current Charges (per hour – unless otherwise stated)	Proposed Charges (per hour – unless otherwise stated)
<u>Band 2 Car Parks</u>				
Shrewsbury	Quarry swimming & fitness centre	Every day (except Sundays and Bank and Public Holidays)	£1.80	£2.00
	Bridge Street	Sundays and Bank and Public Holidays (not Raven Meadows)	£0.90	£1.00
	St Austin's			
	Raven Meadows Multi-Storey	Sundays and Bank and Public Holidays (Raven Meadows) up to 24 hours	£1.50 per day	£2.00 per day
<u>Band 3 Car Parks</u>				
Bridgnorth	Listley Street (North & South)	Every day (except Sundays and Bank and Public Holidays)	£1.00	£1.20
	Sainsburys			
Ludlow	Castle Street	Sundays and Bank and Public Holidays (not Raven Meadows)	£0.50	£0.60
Oswestry	Festival Square	12 month residents permit (St Julian's Friars only)	£448 per year	£512 per year
Shrewsbury	St Julian's Friars			
<u>Band 4 Car Parks</u>				
Bridgnorth	Riverside	Every day (except Sundays and Bank and Public Holidays when parking remains free)	£0.70	£0.80
Much Wenlock	Back Lane	Weekly ticket	£24 for 7 days	£27 for 7 days
Shrewsbury	Frankwell Main, Frankwell Quay, and Riverside	One month season ticket	£82 for 1 month	£94 for 1 month
		Three months season ticket	£210 for 3 months	£240 for 3 months
		Six months season ticket	£350 for 6 months	£400 for 6 months
		Twelve months season ticket	£560 for 12 months	£640 for 12 months
		Twelve months residents permit	£448 for 12 months	£512 for 12 months

<u>Band 5 Car Parks</u>				
Church Stretton	Easthope Road	Every day (except Sundays and Bank and Public Holidays when parking remains free)	£0.50	£0.60
Ludlow	Galdeford (Zone A)		Weekly ticket	£17 for 7 days
Market Drayton	Frogmore Road	One month season ticket		£58 for 1 month
	Queen Street		Three months season ticket	£150 for 3 months
Much Wenlock	Falcons Court	Six months season ticket		£250 for 6 months
	St Mary's Lane		Twelve months season ticket	£400 for 12 months
Shrewsbury	Abbey Foregate	Twelve months residents permit		£320 for 12 months
Whitchurch	Castle Hill		Twelve months residents permit	£320 for 12 months
	Pepper Street			

<u>Band 6 Car Parks</u>				
Bridgnorth	Innage Lane	Every day (except Sundays and Bank and Public Holidays when parking remains free)	£0.30	£0.40
	Severn Street		Weekly ticket	£10 for 7 days
Church Stretton	Crossways	One month season ticket		£35 for 1 month
Ellesmere	Talbot, Cross, Spar Bridge		Three months season ticket	£90 for 3 months
Ludlow	Galdeford (Zone B)	Six months season ticket		£150 for 6 months
	Smithfield		Twelve months season ticket	£240 for 12 months
Market Drayton	Towers Lawn 1 & 2	Twelve months residents permit		£192 for 12 months
Much Wenlock	New Road		Twelve months residents permit	
Oswestry	Beatrice Street	Twelve months residents permit		
	Oak Street			
	Oswald Road			
Wem	High Street	Twelve months residents permit		
	Leek Street			
	Mill Street			
Whitchurch	Brownlow Street	Twelve months residents permit		
	Newtown			

	St John's Street			
Band "Other" Car Parks				
Bridgnorth	Severn Park Car Park	Twelve months season ticket	£66 for 12 months	£146 for 12 months
		Twelve months residents permit	£27.50 for 12 months	£64 for 12 months
Ellesmere	The Moors	Every day (including Sundays and Bank and Public Holidays)	£2.30	£2.50
	Castlefields		£2.30	£2.50

2. Shropshire Council proposes to make the following changes to its off-street parking legal order:

i. Article 15A shall be re-written to read:

“15A. Where there is a Parking Place in a car park reserved for an Electric Vehicle to re-charge, the Driver of the said Electric Vehicle must pay the appropriate Daily Charge, and any additional fee relating directly to the Electric Vehicle Charging point.”

ii. A new Article 15B shall be added, to read as follows:

“15B No person shall cause or permit a Vehicle to be Parked in a Parking Bay marked for an Electric Vehicle unless the vehicle is an Electric Vehicle and only for the purpose of actively charging its batteries.”

iii. All references to Smithfield car park in Bridgnorth, and Severn Centre car park in Highley, shall be removed.

iv. All references to “St Austin’s Car Park” shall be re-written to read: “St Austin’s Street Car Park”.

Documents relating to this consultation can be viewed at [www.shropshire.gov.uk/traffic](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/traffic). Alternatively, you may request copies by:

- E-mailing: [traffic.engineering@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:traffic.engineering@shropshire.gov.uk)
- writing to: Traffic Engineering Team, Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury SY2 6ND
- or by calling 0345 678 9006.

If you wish to raise an objection, express support, or make any other comments about these proposals, please send us an e-mail or letter by 14 April 2022 (contact details as above). You may also ring the above phone number for more information.

Please note that, for legal reasons, objections must be made in writing or by e-mail, and should state the grounds on which the objection is made. **Objections cannot be accepted over the phone.**

**Re: Proposed Changes to Shropshire Council Parking Charges – Much Wenlock**

**Current valid parking permits**

The following details were provided by the Shropshire Council Parking Enforcement Supervisor on 25.03.22:

St Marys CP = 1 resident permit (from 19 available)

Falcons Court CP = 5 resident permits (from 19 available) & 2 season tickets

New Road CP = 1 resident permit (from 10 available)

Back lane CP = 1 resident permit (from 3 available)

## Off-street car parking charges proposal

I object to the increases, and emphatically so in respect of residents' permits. The residential streets of Much Wenlock are lined with parked cars and, in some cases, parking takes place on the footway and grassed areas causing obstruction and creating mud. Footways and grassed areas are not designed to bear the weight of vehicles and this practise causes distortion of the surface which inconveniences pedestrians and, in due course, the need for the Local Authority to make repairs.

I understand that Shropshire Council is intent on generating more income through increasing the charges but, surely, it would be better to contain - or even reduce - them by encouraging more motorists to use them? Greater use of the car parks, especially under residents' permits, would free up the streets for shoppers and visitors. Greater use of the car parks would generate more income for Shropshire Council.

My understanding is that, on Shropshire Council off-street car parks in Much Wenlock there are currently only eight residents' permits. The car parks can accommodate 122 vehicles in total. I see no promotion (posters, flyers, parish magazines etc.) and I suggest that only a very small proportion of residents are aware of this facility. If these eight are annual permits I suggest that the gross income is £2,560, which may rise to £3,072 after the proposed increase. The increase, however, is likely to result in non-renewal. If just two residents failed to renew, the income would fall below the proposed increase - the proposal would be self-defeating, and more vehicles would be on the streets.

Far better, surely, to promote use at the current (or lower rate) and generate more income in that manner.

Turning to hourly charges, the route on foot from the High Street to the car parks is not evident to visitors, and there is no vehicular signage to the car parks for those cruising the streets looking for a space. Despite the 'pop and shop' facility being available for the many who crash-park their vehicles on the footway or on yellow lines, it is not publicised in the locations where prohibited parking takes place. The Council's web pages setting out details of the car park locations and charges is good, but unlikely to be accessed by a driver in the town looking for a space. Once again, promotion of those car parks that are rarely anywhere near half-full (Falcons Court and New Road) by both pricing and increased awareness will generate more income.

So, coupled with my objections set out above, I suggest:

1. Standstill or reduction in residents' parking permit charges.
2. Repeated vigorous promotion of residents' parking permits through local publicity - posters, flyers, retailers, the hospitality sector, local websites, parish magazines, social media, town and parish councils.
3. No increase in hourly charges.
4. Signage indicating pedestrian routes from the shopping area to the car parks.
5. Repeated vigorous promotion of the various methods of payment to park hourly, especially the MiPermit app.
6. Promotion of 'pop and shop' as at (2) and especially in those locations where vehicles are frequently parked either inconsiderately or in contravention of regulations.
7. Regularly ensuring that directional signage at the entrance to car parks is not obscured by foliage during the growing season.

Tuesday, March 22, 2022 at 11:41:28 AM Greenwich Mean Time

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**Subject:** Community Speed Watch Scheme - Bourton Road  
**Date:** Monday, 21 March 2022 at 08:53:54 Greenwich Mean Time  
**From:** Robert Toft  
**To:** Trudi Barrett  
**CC:** Daniel Thomas, duncan.white@muchwenlock-tc.gov.uk, 'Marcus Themans', David Fenwick, Mike Grace, Chris Tyler, Wilf Grainger, John O'Dowd, william.benbow@muchwenlock-tc.gov.uk, christian.toon@muchwenlock-tc.gov.uk, linda.west@muchwenlock-tc.gov.uk, malcolm.goddard@westmercia.pnn.police.uk, Breese,Steven

Dear Trudi

I am writing to seek the support of the Town Council for a Community Speed Watch scheme in the area subject to 30mph speed limit in Bourton Road, Much Wenlock.

Speeding traffic is a major concern in Bourton Road (B4378). Many motorists completely disregard the 30mph speed limit, especially on leaving the town, and speeds of over 50mph have been often seen. Several pets have been killed or injured in the last few years and the elderly and vulnerable are at considerable risk, particularly where there are no pavements and at the narrow bend by no 6 Bourton Road (the former toll-house). Concerns have previously been expressed on several occasions to Shropshire Council and West Mercia Police. The number of dwellings in the lower part of Bourton Road has increased considerably over the last few years adding to the resident population and the volume of traffic using the road.

I understand that Police Road Safety Team monitoring of speed takes place at three sites currently in Much Wenlock (A4169 Farley Road, A458 Bridgnorth Road and B4371 Stretton Road). However, their resources are not currently sufficient to allow further monitoring of sites and we would thus like to establish a Community Speed Watch scheme. This is a road safety initiative, encouraged and coordinated by West Mercia Police but managed and run by volunteers in the community. It involves trained volunteers from the community monitoring the speeds of vehicles with approved, hand-held speed measurement devices. Where vehicle speeds are found to be inappropriate, a letter is sent to the registered keeper by the police with the aim of encouraging them to reduce their speed when driving in the future. Further details of the scheme can be found at <https://www.westmercia.police.uk/news/west-mercia/news/2022/february/could-you-make-a-difference-to-the-safety-of-the-roads-in-your-community/>.

To proceed the scheme must meet the following criteria:

- The scheme must have the support of the community.
- The area must have a 30mph or 40mph speed restriction.
- Speed data collected by West Mercia Police must show that speed levels in the area do not meet the national industry requirements for police enforcement (The Safer Neighbourhood Team would collect this data).
- No other enforcement activity is currently in place.
- There must be at least six volunteers in each Community Speed Watch scheme.
- Speed checks must be conducted by at least three volunteers at any one time.

We have consulted both verbally and in writing with residents of Bourton Road and all have expressed their

support for the scheme. We have ten volunteers who are willing to take an active part in speed checks:

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

We thus have strong support and a willing body of volunteers.

To proceed we need the agreement of the Town Council that the speed of traffic in Bourton Road is of concern. The Town Council would then need to approach the Safer Neighbourhood Team to request that an assessment be conducted to see if the area is suitable for a Community Speed Watch Scheme.

I am thus writing to request that this matter be considered by the Town Council at a future meeting. I am copying this email to town councillors and to PCSOs Mal Goddard and Steven Breese.

Kind regards

Robert

Robert Toft

[REDACTED]

Much Wenlock

[REDACTED]

Subject: Ambulance Emergency in South Shropshire your support is needed

Date: Tuesday, 1 March 2022 at 20:07:02 Greenwich Mean Time

From: D C

Good Evening

My name is Darren Childs I live in Ludlow and you may have seen in the press and on TV recently that in January our 12 month old little girl stopped breathing and had a seizure. It took 47 minutes for an ambulance to get to us on blue lights as Shropshire had no available ambulances.

Luckily we managed to get her breathing again and after a few days and a stay in hospital she was back to her normal self but it could of been so much worse.

If this had been a stroke or cardiac arrest they would of died.

I have since learnt this is not unusual and average time for an ambulance in South Shropshire is between 45 minutes to 1 hour 30 minutes, this simply is unacceptable and this must change.

Your postcode should not decide if you live or die in Shropshire.

We have a petition with over 4000 signatures and the full backing and support from Shropshire Council asking West Midlands Ambulance service to reopen the ambulance hubs they closed across South Shropshire and also to return the rapid response vehicles they got rid of.

I would like to ask if you could speak to your parish council /groups /councils etc and vote to support our Campaign

If you would like to join our many supporters please let me know

Kind regards  
Darren Childs



t: 020 7637 1865  
e: [nalc@nalc.gov.uk](mailto:nalc@nalc.gov.uk)

w: [www.nalc.gov.uk](http://www.nalc.gov.uk)  
a: 109 Great Russell Street,  
London WC1B 3LD

11 MARCH 2022

All smaller local councils

Dear chairs and councillors of smaller councils

The National Association of Local Councils (NALC) has a committee specifically dedicated to smaller local (parish and town) councils – these are defined as those councils with an electorate under 6,000. The members who serve on the committee all come from small local councils themselves.

We would like to hear from you on the issues you would like us to address that are specific to small councils and to invite you to tell us what services NALC could consider offering to meet your needs. For instance, are there any specific issues you would like us to feed into NALC's online events, committee meetings or national network sessions which you would find particularly useful and/or is there a particular issue you think we should be lobbying government about which we aren't currently?

In case you might find it useful, the committee has been considering the following subjects:

- practice regarding planning consultations
- carbon literacy
- identifying future membership needs for advice/guidance and providing feedback/input on NALC services
- practical issues arising from small councils having limited capacity
- sharing good practice, supporting NALC campaigns/big themes and helping develop the evidence base including through surveys
- improving good governance
- increasing take-up of the Local Council Award Scheme and CILCA

We hope you will consider this request as an agenda item at your next local council meeting.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Please reply to [policycomms@nalc.gov.uk](mailto:policycomms@nalc.gov.uk) by 30 April 2022.

Yours sincerely,

Cllr Graham Ford  
Chair  
NALC Smaller Councils Committee