



BISHOP'S CASTLE TOWN COUNCIL



Gwilym J Rippon Cert. He CEG, PSLCC
Town Clerk
Tel: 01588 638141
Email: townclerk@bishopscastle.co.uk

The Town Hall
Bishop's Castle
Shropshire
SY9 5BG

MINUTES of the MEETING OF BISHOP'S CASTLE TOWN COUNCIL

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL

ON TUESDAY 16TH APRIL 2019 AT 7.30PM

PRESENT	APOLOGIES
Cllr J. Carroll (Mayor) Cllr S. Whittingham Cllr G Perry Cllr J. Magill Cllr R. Houghton	Cllr K. Bance
IN ATTENDANCE	
Mr G. Rippon Mrs C. Owen Sergeant Kapil Pindoria 1 Member of the public	
<u>Fire Procedure</u>	

Minute No.	Agenda Item																	
61-19	1	<p><u>APOLOGIES</u></p> <p>Cllr Bance (delayed train) RESOLVED</p> <p>Apologies accepted. Proposed Cllr Perry; Seconded Cllr Magill. All in favour.</p>																
62-19	2	<p><u>TO CO-OPT NEW COUNCILLORS</u></p> <p>No-one is coming forward. Cllr Perry will liaise with Town Clerk and write an article/advert for the local papers, newsletter, local magazines and website to encourage people to apply to become Councillors.</p>																
63-19	3	<p><u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u></p> <p>a) To declare any disclosable pecuniary interests</p> <p>b) To declare any personal interests.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="415 1740 1406 1902"> <thead> <tr> <th>Name</th> <th>Agenda Item</th> <th>Personal</th> <th>Prejudicial</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Cllr Whittingham</td> <td>Item 12 Michaelmas staging</td> <td style="text-align: center;">✓</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cllr J. Carroll</td> <td>Item 17 Town Hall Trust</td> <td style="text-align: center;">✓</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cllr J. Magill</td> <td>Item 17 Town Hall Trust</td> <td style="text-align: center;">✓</td> <td style="text-align: center;">✓</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Name	Agenda Item	Personal	Prejudicial	Cllr Whittingham	Item 12 Michaelmas staging	✓		Cllr J. Carroll	Item 17 Town Hall Trust	✓		Cllr J. Magill	Item 17 Town Hall Trust	✓	✓
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64-19	4	<p><u>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</u></p>																

To approve the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on Tuesday 19th March 2019. **RESOLVED** The minutes were approved after 2 corrections. Proposed Cllr Perry; Seconded Cllr Houghton. All in favour.

65-19 8 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION**

It was agreed to move this item forward. Proposed: Cllr Perry; Seconded Cllr Whittingham. All in favour.

Sergeant Kapil Pindoria of the Safer Neighbourhood Team gave out a handout showing the current priorities of the team: Child Sexual Exploitation; County Lines; Domestic Abuse and Acquisition Crime (Theft). He stressed the importance of reporting crimes. Crime happens everywhere. He urged the community to keep its eyes and ears open to what is hidden in society and inform the police of any suspicious behaviour.

66-19 5 **REPORT FROM THE MAYOR**

There had been a twinning visit to St Marcel in France. We last visited 7 years ago.

67-19 6 **REPORT FROM THE CLERK**

The Clerk had received Cllr Anne Roberts' resignation. She would be a loss to the Council.

Shropshire Council were going to repair the damaged drain in Salop St on 28th April. There was a request for there to be regular updates put on the website of the status of ongoing issues such as this one to show that efforts were being made to resolve the problem even though nothing seemed to be happening.

68-19 7 **UNITARY COUNCILLOR**

Not present

69-19 9 **PLANNING**

A Planning application received at 7pm will be decided at the next meeting.

70-19 10 **MONTHLY FINANCES**

- i. To note the Bank Reconciliation
- ii. To review and agree the accounts for 2018 – 2019

There was a request for the individual grant amounts to be separated out in the accounts for transparency.

There was a request for the newsletter to be costed separately to assess its profitability.

Some of the costs of the Town Hall Trust had been taken over by the Council.

RESOLVED: The Bank Reconciliation be approved subject to clarification and points taken into account for future years, and also the accounts be accepted. Proposed Cllr Houghton; Seconded Cllr Perry. All in favour.

- iii. To approve the following invoices for payment:

Payee	Item	Invoice	Amount £
Shropshire County	Monthly pension	April	669.82
HMRC	PAYE and NI	April	784.74
Staff salaries	4 staff	April	2,249.07
C. Owen	minute taker	4	37.56
C. Owen	minute taker	5	37.56

A Wallace	street cleaning	6	27.06
G. Dudley	Toilet cleaning	7	336.00
Shropshire Council	Joint Energy	8	621.14
D Cole	Plumb in glass	9	150.00
Andrea Pellegram	NDP	10	233.40
Belvedere lifts	Lift Maintenance	11	1315.70
BCBS	Public Hall	12	61.17
Telescopic window	Town Hall windows	13	45.00
Tony Baker	Roof and gutter	14	520.00
For Information			
Shropshire Council	Rates	15	122.02
Shropshire Council	Rates	16	55.41
BT	Telephone / broadband	17	382.62
E.On	(electricity) Public	18	202.72
Total			7850.99

RESOLVED The invoices be paid. Proposed Cllr Houghton; Seconded Cllr Perry. All in Favour.

71-19 11

TO DISCUSS THE RESPONSE FOR THE BUS CONSULTATION

Shropshire Council were proposing to cut the number of buses from Bishop’s Castle to Shrewsbury from 5 per day to 2 per day. The Town Clerk had written to Shropshire Council on 28th March requesting details of which services were likely to be cut, and for the breakdown of passenger numbers that the decision is being made on. He had had no response.

Cllr Houghton had also written to Shropshire Council to ask if an equality impact assessment had been made to include disability and social inclusion issues. She also had had no response.

If Shropshire Council upholds this decision it would impact on local residents, (particularly low-income residents without cars), tourists, the local economy, and the environment as more people would have to use cars. The proportion of service routes available in the town versus rural routes seems to be disproportionate. The rural routes need protecting with subsidies, as there is no alternative.

Shropshire Council had not produced many leaflets/posters to advertise the consultation but the Town Council was distributing extra posters and leaflets.

RESOLVED

The Town Clerk should write again to Shropshire Council demanding that an equality impact assessment be undertaken and stressing the need for this rural service be preserved, and that posters would be put up at all the local bus stops. Proposed Cllr Houghton; Seconded Cllr Whittingham. All in Favour.

72-19 15

TO DISCUSS ALLOTMENT ISSUES

It was agreed to move this item forward. All in Favour.

A problem had arisen with a birch tree shading a plot.

RESOLVED

The Town Clerk will contact Mr Greg Jones (who has offered to prune back the tree) to discuss exactly what pruning he has in mind. If that proves unacceptable, the Town Clerk will contact the tree warden for their advice. Proposed Cllr Magill; Seconded Cllr Perry. All in favour.

73-19 12 **TO DISCUSS THE MICHAELMAS FAIR TOWN HALL STAGE PROJECT**

The Michaelmas Fair Committee has secured a Leader Grant to buy a flexible stage. In order to erect it outside the Town Hall, the disabled parking signpost will need to be moved. As this post is already damaged and leaning over, it will be removed for the time being and stored until it can be safely re-positioned.. **RESOLVED** Proposed Cllr Carroll; Seconded Cllr Houghton. All in favour.

74-19 13 **TOWN PLAN GROUP**

Their AGM will be on 21st May. The Town Clerk and Mayor had received an email about a proposed beer mat design.

RESOLVED

The Town Clerk should reply to the effect that the Town Council is disappointed that the beer mats do not show the town in a positive light. Perhaps the group would like to discuss the issues at the Annual Town Meeting on 30th April at 7.30pm at the Town Hall, which would be a more appropriate forum for the issues concerned to be discussed.

75-19 14 **TOWN HALL and TOWN HALL TRUST**

The book fair had gone well and raised about £1000. There were currently a lot of wedding enquiries. The accounts were being produced.

76-19 16 **UPDATE ON THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

The Mayor had attended a meeting at Shirehall with Eddie West and Joyce Tetsill from Strategic Planning, along with Andrea Pellegram, Anne-Marie Jackson and the Town Clerk. Shropshire Council agreed to look more closely at the criteria, particularly in relation to the historic town centre and the impact of extra traffic in the conservation area if the development on the North West edge of Bishop's Castle were to go ahead.

They will go back to certain agencies to discuss these impacts following the many responses received from the consultation.

The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group has met again and various members are responsible for a different aspect of the Plan. Progress is being made between meetings although obtaining access to suitable maps from Shropshire Council is proving slow.

Cllrs Magill and Houghton were to attend the Place Plan Meeting at Norbury. The focus will be on Arts, Culture and Leisure, as well as housing. The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group would be informed of developments.

77-19 17 **REPORTS FROM MEETINGS ATTENDED**

There had been a meeting about the Business Park. Delia Yapp will produce a plan of what is being proposed for the Annual Town Meeting.

78-19 18 **ITEMS FOR FACEBOOK / WEBSITE**

Salop St drain repairs 28th April

Bus consultation

Annual Town Meeting 30th April 7.30pm

Update re the Neighbourhood Plan

14th May Mayor-making

79-19

19

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 14th May, 7.30pm