



BISHOP'S CASTLE TOWN COUNCIL



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The Town Hall
Bishop's Castle
Shropshire
SY9 5BG

MINUTES of the VIRTUAL MEETING OF BISHOP'S CASTLE TOWN COUNCIL

HELD USING ZOOM

ON TUESDAY 19th JANUARY 2021 AT 7.30PM

PRESENT	APOLOGIES
Cllr G. Perry Cllr J. Dickin Cllr T. Halford Cllr J. Carroll Cllr S. Morris Cllr B. Hawes Cllr J. Magill Cllr. R Houghton	

IN ATTENDANCE
Mr G. Rippon Mrs C. Owen Mrs M. Gwilliam

Fire Procedure

Minute No.	Agenda Item	
1-21	1	<u>APOLOGIES</u> None received
2-21	2	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u> a) To declare any disclosable pecuniary interests b) To declare any personal interests.

Name	Agenda Item	Personal	Prejudicial
Cllr G. Perry	No. 15 Town Hall Trust	✓	
Cllr J. Carroll	No. 15 Town Hall Trust	✓	

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| 3-21 | 3 | <u>APPROVAL OF MINUTES of 15th December 2020</u>
RESOLVED: Accepted. Proposed Cllr Perry; Seconded Cllr Dickin. All in favour. |
| 4-21 | 4 | <u>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION</u>
None present. |

- 5-21 5 **REPORT FROM THE MAYOR**
 The Mayor had thanked those involved with organising the virtual “Christmas Lights”. (Sheep trail, Grotto, Advent Calendar). The feedback had been positive.
 The next BC Newsletter would not be delivered door-to-door because of COVID restrictions but would be available from the Town Hall, shops and other central locations in the town and on-line.
 The vaccines are beginning to be rolled out, but please check on neighbours. They may be ill or self-isolating and may need supplies.
 Staff have refused the delivery of 4 planters designed to prevent people parking on the pavement outside SPAR because the oil tanker needs the space to manoeuvre into position. Other semi-permanent barriers will be investigated and discussed with staff.
- 6-21 6 **REPORT FROM THE CLERK**
 Shropshire Council had settled over the pointing and have paid £30,000 plus solicitor’s fees and disbursements. The Town Council will need to pay the VAT on the costs and reclaim it back.
- 7-21 8 **PLANNING** (This item was brought forward while Cllr Houghton logged in).
 1. 20/05232/LBC and 20/05231/FUL
 Application for the removal of pergola and erection of external staircase to form fire escape from first floor flat at The Three Tuns Inn Salop Street Bishops Castle SY9 5BW
RESOLVED: No objection. Proposed Cllr Perry; Seconded Cllr Dickin. All in favour.
- 8-21 7 **UNITARY COUNCILLOR**
 Next Shropshire Council meeting is on 25th February. Only the first 6 questions will be tabled so please let Cllr Houghton have any questions by 9th February.
 SpArC is closed to the Public but some maintenance/improvement work has continued. COVID-19 Vaccinations will be rolled out in the next 2 weeks.
 Business Grants are available again. Contact Shropshire Council if you haven’t already applied. Also Hardship Grants.
 Cllr Houghton had done a litter pick and filled one bag in 45 minutes. Owners of a holiday cottage have donated some grabbers for future picks.
 Ox Leasowe – there is 1 bungalow left to rent and some still for sale, but otherwise occupied now. There is a still a housing need locally for rented accommodation.
 Please let Cllr Houghton know any potholes or road repairs that need doing.
- 9-21 9 **MONTHLY FINANCES**
 i. To note the Bank Reconciliation
 The figures showed that the target of having 40% in reserves would likely be met. The playground underspend could be put in the reserves but earmarked for the playground.
RESOLVED: Approved. Proposed Cllr Dickin; Seconded Cllr Houghton. All in favour.
 ii. To discuss and decide on a Grant received from the Children’s Hope House Hospice
RESOLVED: Rejected as it was outside the area. Proposed Cllr Dickin; Seconded Cllr Halford. All in favour.
 iii. To discuss and decide on joining the Rural Services Network
RESOLVED: Agreed to join. Proposed Cllr Carroll; Seconded Cllr Dickin.

All in favour.

iv. To approve the following invoices for payment:

Payee	Item	Invoice	Amount £
Shropshire County Pension Fund	Monthly pension payment	January Return	909.37
HMRC	PAYE and NI	January Return	846.86
Staff salaries	4 staff	January Return	2340.31
C. Owen	Minute taker	292.	37.56
G. Dudley	Toilet cleaning	293.	336.00
M. Gwilliam	Work from home allowance	294.	24.00
G.J. Rippon	Work from home allowance	295.	23.00
Mailroom	Franking machine	296.	119.40
Blachere	Christmas lights	297.	552.00
Blachere	Christmas lights	298.	930.00
Blachere	Christmas lights	299.	370.00
Belvidre lifts	Lift Maintenance	300.	139.20
Imprint	Leaflets (elephant trail)	301.	158.00
Telescopic WC	Window Cleaning	302.	45.00
BCBS	Materials	303.	52.90
Exemplum	printing	304.	91.08
Shropshire Council	Rates	305.	304.00
Halls SMS	Toilet supplies	306.	148.08
Mark One	Fire Safety	307.	167.93
For information			
ICO	Data protection registration	308.	35.00
Shropshire Council	rates	309.	141.00
BG	Electricity	310.	30.20
Water Plus	Rates	311.	33.73
BT (Nov)	Telephone / Broadband	312.	304.39
BT (Dec)	Telephone / Broadband	313.	303.36
Corona	electricity	314.	163.80
	Total		£ 8697.18

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RESOLVED:

The invoices be paid. Proposed Cllr Dickin; Seconded Cllr Carroll. All in favour.

10-21 10

TREE PLANTING INITIATIVE

To discuss and decide in supporting of a BBC Countryfile and woodland trust 2-year project to plant 150,000 trees to form community woodlands.

Finding a site was difficult. The current green areas all have purposes and the land behind SpArC does not belong to the Town Council.

Shropshire Council is also awarding trees to be planted in Shropshire.

It was agreed to do an article in the next newsletter asking private landowners if they have space to plant trees.

11-21 11

OLD MARKET SQUARE REFURBISHMENTS

A resident had volunteered to undertake the consultation and grant application for £600. This process would be overseen and managed by Sue Cooper.

RESOLVED:

The Town Council agrees in principle to spend £600 on a consultation process to be ratified by the Council following a zoom meeting with the resident and Sue to confirm the details. Proposed Cllr Carroll; Seconded Cllr Magill. All in favour.

12-21 12

VISIT SHROPSHIRE TOURISM GROUP

To discuss and decide to join the Visit Shropshire Tourism Group at a cost of £250.00p per annum

RESOLVED: It was agreed to join so as to benefit from more promotion of the local area. Proposed Cllr Houghton; Seconded Cllr Carroll. All in favour.

13-21 13

SOUTH SHROPSHIRE YOUTH FORUM

Adjourned until next meeting

14-21 14

TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT GROUP

An article had been written for the BC Newsletter asking for feedback. However, it was decided to defer this to the following BC Newsletter which would hopefully be delivered to every household.

15-21 15

TOWN HALL TRUST

The Town Hall is closed.

Farmers' Market on Enterprise House Carpark- a gazebo blew over damaging a stallholder's stock. It was not covered by insurance through the Town Hall, Enterprise House or the stallholder. Therefore, the Farmers' Market will return to the Town Hall when permitted to be within the terms of their insurance. Enterprise House will also review their insurance policies and stallholders encouraged to take out Stock Insurance as well as Public Liability Insurance. A £200 ex-gratia payment was made to the stallholder.

An application had been made to Shropshire Council for funding because the Town Hall cannot currently trade.

16-21 16

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

The Community Partnership Response to the SC Draft Local Plan had been received and Shropshire Council has agreed to let Bishop's Castle identify its own plan of housing need.

17-21 17

REPORTS FROM MEETINGS ATTENDED

Enterprise South West Shropshire. Cllrs Perry, Houghton and Carroll had attended a meeting. There was a focus on Business regeneration.

Community Lands Trust were pursuing buying Stars Newsagents.
Cllr Houghton will enquire as to the position re the Methodist Chapel.

18-21 18

ITEMS FOR FACEBOOK / WEBSITE

The BC Newsletter would be put on-line and on Facebook.

19-21 19

UPDATE OF THE COURT CASE

Members of the public were asked to leave the room at 8.32pm.

RESOLVED: It was agreed to pay Sam Hines £5000 in recognition of the hard work she had put in supporting the Town Council over the last 6 years. Proposed Cllr Carroll; Seconded Cllr Houghton. All in favour

20-21 20

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 16th February 2021, 7.30pm. The meeting closed at 8.38pm.