



# BISHOP'S CASTLE TOWN COUNCIL



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

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 16<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2021 AT 7.30PM

<b>PRESENT</b>	<b>APOLOGIES</b>
Cllr G. Perry Cllr J. Dickin Cllr T. Halford Cllr J. Carroll Cllr S. Morris Cllr B. Hawes Cllr J. Magill Cllr R. Houghton Cllr A. Stelman	

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

### Fire Procedure

Minute No.	Agenda Item	
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39-21 1 **APOLOGIES** None received. (Cllr Houghton has another meeting and will arrive later).

40-21 2 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**  
 a) To declare any disclosable pecuniary interests  
 b) To declare any personal interests.

Name	Agenda Item	Personal	Prejudicial
Cllr G. Perry	No. 14 Town Hall Trust	✓	
Cllr J. Carroll	No. 14 Town Hall Trust	✓	
Cllr A. Stelman	No. 14 Town Hall Trust	✓	
Cllr J. Magill	No. 11 Community Land Trust	✓	

41-21 3 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES of 16<sup>th</sup> February 2021**  
**RESOLVED:** Accepted. Proposed Cllr Stelman; Seconded Cllr Dickin. All in favour.

42-21 4 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION**

None present.

43-21 5 **REPORT FROM THE MAYOR**

Election The Publicity campaign has begun. The newsletter will go door to door this time as part of the election information. Cllr Magill is stepping down.

Colebatch Phone Box There is one quote outstanding. There has been 1 objection.

Play Area Equipment. There is one quote outstanding.

SWS Broadband. They will come and talk to the Town Council when they have a firm proposal in place.

44-21 6 **REPORT FROM THE CLERK**

The Clerk will collect the Election Candidate nomination packs on 22<sup>nd</sup>.

There had been some correspondence regarding the proposed Fairy Trail.

45-21 8 **PLANNING**

1. 21/00766/FUL

Application for the erection of storage shed at St John The Baptist Church  
Brampton Road Bishops Castle Shropshire SY9 5AX

**RESOLVED:** No objection. Proposed Cllr Carroll; Seconded Cllr Dickin. All in favour.

2. 21/01041/TC

Application for tree Works to reduce the crown and sides of 1No Ash tree by approximately 3m, and lightly thin the tree to remove any dead/decaying or crossing branches, sever the Ivy on the tree and reduce the height of the two Leylandii hedges at the front side and rear side to approximately 2.5m within Bishops Castle Conservation Area at Yarrow End House Station Street Bishops Castle SY9 5DD

**RESOLVED:** The Tree Warden supports this application. No objection. Proposed Cllr Stelman; Seconded Cllr Morris. All in favour.

3. 21/00772/FUL Application for the installation of external wall insulation, with render finish, to include associated alterations to eaves and verges; relocation of rainwater goods and SVP - relating to property nos. 5, 14, 19 and 42 Corporation Street | Street Record Corporation Street Bishops Castle Shropshire.

When built, these houses were considered a good example of high standard Council Housing. However, the houses need bringing up to standard re energy saving.

**RESOLVED:** The Town Council objects to the external cladding for architectural reasons and asks that cavity wall insulation should be used instead. Proposed Cllr Carroll; Seconded Cllr Magill. All in favour

Two further applications which arrived today will be considered at a Special Council meeting to give Councillors time to study the applications.

46-21 7 **UNITARY COUNCILLOR** (Cllr Houghton joined the meeting)

Consultations. Shropshire Council have a consultation process re access to debt advice. If you have any comments, please let them know.

Similarly another consultation is on access to the countryside/AONB. You can comment on state of footpaths, stiles etc.

The Local Plan consultation has been extended to July.

The North West Relief Road plan is attracting many comments, (environment/ climate change and cost of £90 million).

Shropshire Big Town Plan consultation is now closed but there is concern that the closure of the bus station impacts greatly on the rural bus network. Buses will now terminate at the park and ride car parks.

Roads Cllr Houghton will complain again to Shropshire Council about the poor state of recent road repairs on Kerry Lane and other roads in Bishop's Castle and also about the white lines that have not been painted. (Some have, but not all). Particular concern is at the entrance of the Playing Fields.

However, the system isn't working. Although complaints are registered, little seems to happen. Some roads are patched but not all, and the repairs don't last. This may be partly due to the cuts in the Council's budget.

**RESOLVED:** The Town Council will also write to Shropshire Council in support of the need for the outstanding repairs/white lines to be done, (and to a good standard). Proposed Cllr Carroll; Seconded Cllr Magill. All in favour.

Ox Leasowe. There has been no reply from Connexus about installing street lights.

Business Park. The construction work is out for tender. It is anticipated that work will start this Spring and last about a year. An Ecology Report was undertaken at the planning stage and the trees have/will be removed safely.

47-21

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### **MONTHLY FINANCES**

- i. To note the Bank Reconciliation

**RESOLVED:** Approved. Proposed Cllr Carroll; Seconded Cllr Stelman. All in favour.

- ii. To approve the following invoices for payment:

<b>Payee</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Invoice</b>	<b>Amount £</b>
Shropshire County Pension Fund	Monthly pension payment	March Return	909.37
HMRC	PAYE and NI	March Return	846.86
Staff salaries	4 staff	March Return	2340.31
C. Owen	Minute taker	365.	37.56
G. Dudley	Toilet cleaning	366.	336.00
M. Gwilliam	Work from home allowance	367.	24.00
G.J. Rippon	Work from home allowance	368.	24.00
Viprint	Banner	369.	486.00
Shropshire Council	Rates	370.	484.00
Telescopic window cleaning	Window cleaning	371.	45.00
A. Evans	Grass cutting /maintenance	372.	1209.00
<b>For information</b>			
Water plus	Water rates	373.	54.44
BT	Telephone / Broadband	374.	302.73
BG	Electricity	375.	253.46
Corona	electricity	376.	209.93
	<b>Total</b>		<b>£ 7560.40</b>

**RESOLVED:** The invoices be paid. Proposed Cllr Stelman; Seconded Cllr Dickin. All in favour.

48-21 10 **DOG BIN ON OLD CASTLE LAND TRUST**

Henry Hunter of The Castle Hotel has asked for a dog bin to be sited at the top of town. The Castle Land Trust own the land adjacent to The Castle Hotel and are willing to provide a bin, but Shropshire Council will not empty bins on private land.

**RESOLVED** Cllr Carroll will look for a safe site for a bin. Cllrs Perry and Carroll will talk to David Jones of the Castle Land Trust. There will be an education campaign via social media etc about picking up dog mess. Proposed Cllr Perry; Seconded Cllr Carroll. All in favour.

49-21 11 **APPLICATION FOR GRANTS**

1. To discuss and decide on a grant to produce a video to assist with a lottery grant for the refurbishment of Old Stars Newsagent as a contribution towards regenerating the High Street post Covid.

The property is now owned by the Community Land Trust who will meet the cost of converting the upstairs flats.

A £200,000 bid is being sought for the refurbishment of the ground floor of the old Stars shop and abattoir. A promotional video needs to be made at a cost of £400. The Food bank will sponsor £300 and the Town Council is asked for a further £100.

**RESOLVED** The Council supports this application and will provide the £100. Proposed Cllr Houghton; Seconded Cllr Stelman. All in favour.

2. To discuss and decide on a grant to the conservation charity Caring for God's Acre (CfGA)

CfGA will continue to maintain the graveyard of behalf of the town, but need regular funding.

**RESOLVED** The Council agrees to pay CfGA £500 per year. Proposed Cllr Carroll; Seconded Cllr Magill. All in favour.

3. To discuss and decide on a grant to fund 8 x 3 hour sessions at a cost of £1200 with South Shropshire Youth Forum, (deferred from last month whilst numbers of attendees was clarified).

Cllr Stelman reported that the limit on numbers was defined as the number that can reasonably be managed.

**RESOLVED** The Council supports the proposal and will fund the £1200. Proposed Cllr Stelman; Seconded Cllr Dickin. All in favour

50-21 12. **PLAYING FIELDS**

The fence around the garden on the playing fields is in poor repair.

**RESOLVED** The Council will write to the owner of the fence to see if they still want to maintain that area. Proposed Cllr Perry; Seconded Cllr Carroll. All in favour.

51-21 13. **TO DISCUSS AND DECIDE ON THE MEETING DATE AND FORMAT FOR ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

Current and changing Covid restrictions are making it difficult to plan this meeting.

**RESOLVED** A short Town meeting will be held via Zoom on 27th April with a view to holding a fuller meeting, where people can attend in person, later in the year. Proposed Cllr Carroll; Seconded Cllr Stelman. All in favour.

52-21 14. **TOWN HALL TRUST**

The Farmers' Market was successful. A Book Sale is planned in April and some weddings are booked in later in the year. Staff are still partly furloughed, awaiting

further instructions from The Government.

53-21

15. **COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP**

A presentation will be made to the next meeting.

54-21

16. **REPORTS FROM MEETINGS ATTENDED**

Enterprise South West Shropshire. There are on-going discussions with Shropshire Council re the Muga and theatre at SpArC. Village Outreach will be revamped, including allowing the hire of equipment online.

Shropshire Council want Enterprise House to be the first port of call for IT and business support.

Food Resilience Strategy Group. The Action Plan is almost ready.

55-21

17. **ITEMS FOR FACEBOOK / WEBSITE**

Election and new Councillors.

Education Campaign re dog mess.

56-21

18. **NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2021, 7.30pm.      The meeting closed at 8.42pm.