



BISHOP'S CASTLE TOWN COUNCIL



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MINUTES of the MEETING OF BISHOP'S CASTLE TOWN COUNCIL

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL

ON TUESDAY 21st JANUARY 2020 AT 7.30PM

PRESENT		APOLOGIES
Cllr G. Perry	Cllr N. Morris	Cllr J. Magill (Cllr Perry chaired the meeting). Cllr K. Bance
Cllr R. Houghton	Cllr A. Stelman	
Cllr J. Carroll	Cllr J. Dickin	
Cllr Whittingham		

IN ATTENDANCE	
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Mr G. Rippon Mrs C Owen

There were 2 members of the public present.

Fire Procedure

Minute No.	Agenda Item	
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01-20 11 **TO DISCUSS THE APPOINTMENT OF A BISHOP'S CASTLE FESTIVALS COORDINATOR** (brought forward)

Mr Keith Whiddon presented his report in favour of appointing a Festivals Coordinator to work across the Festivals facilitating elements of the process that are common to all, e.g. admin, street closures, finance matters. Many of the various festival committee members will be leaving this year after several years' work. New volunteers are needed, but maybe having a paid Festivals Coordinator would remove some of the burden from the volunteers. The continuation of the Festivals is vital for the economy of the town. A position with an estimated cost of £6,420 is proposed, based on 2 days' work per week pro rata. The Michaelmas Fair Committee are keen to pursue employment this year.

RESOLVED

Given the benefit to the town, the Town Council agrees in principal to contract a Festivals Coordinator, and will meet any shortfall from £6,420 from the grant pot. The Town Clerk will ask for details from other Town Councils who already employ a coordinator. An appeal would be made for festival volunteers generally, as well as the position of coordinator, in the newsletter and social media. Proposed Cllr Houghton; seconded Cllr Stelman. All in favour.

02-20 1 **APOLOGIES**

Cllrs Magill and Bance.

03-20 2 **TO CO-OPT NEW COUNCILLORS**

None

04-20 3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

a) To declare any disclosable pecuniary interests

b) To declare any personal interests.

Name	Agenda Item	Personal	Prejudicial
Cllr Houghton	Item 11 iii Finances	✓	
Cllr Perry	Item 14 Town Hall Trust	✓	
Cllr Carroll	Item 14 Town Hall Trust	✓	

05-20 4 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Slight amendment made to Item 11: Allotments. **RESOLVED:** The minutes were altered accordingly and accepted. Proposed Cllr Carroll; Seconded Cllr Dickin. All in Favour.

06-20 5 **REPORT FROM THE MAYOR**

Not in attendance.

07-20 6 **REPORT FROM THE CLERK**

A letter of thanks had been received from the Gwythers family.

A resident had appealed for the white lines on the roads to be repainted. The Town Clerk will remind Shropshire Council again.

A resident had appealed to the Council for help with a derelict building adjacent to their property that was causing water damage, woodworm and rot problems to their own property. The owners were not responding. The adjacent property was listed, so Shropshire Council should be able to enforce it is kept in good repair. The Town Clerk and Unitary Cllr will both write to Shropshire Council to ask them to take action against the owners on behalf of the resident.

The Clerk was looking into two letters in regard to bus routes being changed and the wide buses project.

08-20 7 **UNITARY COUNCILLOR**

- Shropshire Council budget shortfall for this year will be met from reserves. 2020/2021 budget still to be agreed.
- 20mph zones proposed outside all schools.
- Shropshire Council's Climate Change Strategy had been adopted. Workshop 10th February inviting local people to attend.
- Shropshire Council was supporting Marches Energy "Keep Shropshire Warm".
- Cllr Houghton had reminded Shropshire Council that the Disabled spaces need re-marking. (The position of the disabled space by the Town Hall will be put on the agenda for the next meeting).

09-20 8 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION**

Already spoken.

10-20 9 **PLANNING**

1. 19/05476/DIS (reference only)

2. 19/05474/TCA The tree warden has recommended the trees should be felled.

Other Planning received subsequent to the circulated agenda:

3. Insulation & PV Panels at Abbeyfield (reference only).

4. Erection of an Estate Maintenance Workshop and Community Building at the Wintles.

RESOLVED:

No objection. Proposed Cllr Carroll; Seconded Cllr Whittingham. All in favour.

11-20 10 **TO DISCUSS AND DECIDE TO FUND THE 'SMARTWATER INITIATIVE'**

800 homes x £8.90 = £7,120 (with discount). Connexus would be approached for a contribution. **RESOLVED** Agreed. Cllr Carroll; Seconded Cllr Dickin. All in Favour.

12-20 11 **MONTHLY FINANCES**

i. To note the Bank Reconciliation.

RESOLVED:

Noted. Proposed Cllr Houghton; Seconded Cllr Carroll. All in favour.

ii. To discuss and decide the budget for 2020/2021 and the resultant precept demand.

RESOLVED:

That the budget for 2020/2021 would be £154000 with the precept demand of £150000 proposed Cllr Carroll; Seconded Cllr Houghton. All in favour.

iii. To note the payment to SpArC and SpArC theatre of grant £25k and £5k

RESOLVED:

Confirmed. Proposed Cllr Carroll; Seconded Cllr Whittingham. All in favour.

iv. To approve the following invoices for payment:

Payee	Item	Invoice	Amount £
Shropshire County Pension Fund	Monthly pension payment	January Return	669.82
HMRC	PAYE and NI	January Return	784.74
Staff salaries	4 staff	January Return	2249.08
C. Owen	minute taker	319.	37.56
G. Dudley	Toilet cleaning	320.	420.00
A. Wallace	Street cleaning	321.	45.10
Blanchere	Christmas lights	322.	879.60
ESWS	IT solutions	323.	63.00
Exemplum	printing	324.	227.17
Sign Direct	signs	325.	466.74
Viking	stationery	326.	136.79
G.J. Rippon	Expenses	327.	25.00
Town Hall Trust	Vprint	328.	30.00
Bt	Telephone+broadband	329.	356.43
waterplus	Rates	330.	19.00
waterplus	Rates	331.	31.46
BG	electricity	332.	142.91
Shropshire Council	Rates	333.	121.00
EON	electricity	334.	28.53

EON	electricity	335.	82.75
	Total		£6816.68

The amount paid to Town Hall Trust was corrected to £30. Two further invoices were added: Highline (street lighting) for £332.10 and Gavin Cooke (manhole maintenance) for £216.00.

RESOLVED:

The amendment was noted, and all the above invoices paid. Proposed Cllr Whittingham; Seconded Cllr Dickin. All in favour.

13-20 12 **TOWN HALL TRUST**

Clun Jazz event was sold out. The finances were healthy.

14-20 13 **COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP**

Meeting is next week.

15-20 14 **REPORTS FROM MEETINGS ATTENDED**

PACT Meeting. Looking at Business Forums.

Development of Business Park - progress but still some technical difficulties to be sorted.

Christmas Lights Follow up meeting. Festival went well. Positive feedback.

Tourism meeting. Town Maps renewed and Everything you need to know about Bishop's Castle leaflets available from the Town Hall.

16-20 15 **ITEMS FOR FACEBOOK / WEBSITE**

Housing needs

Budget

Festival volunteers & Coordinator

17-20 16 **NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 18th February 2020, 7.30pm. The meeting closed at 8.46pm.