



# BISHOP'S CASTLE TOWN COUNCIL



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

HELD UISING ZOOM

ON TUESDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2020 AT 7.30PM

<b>PRESENT</b>	<b>APOLOGIES</b>
Cllr J. Magill Cllr R. Houghton Cllr J. Carroll Cllr J. Dickin Cllr G. Perry Cllr A. Stelman	

<b>IN ATTENDANCE</b>
Mr G. Rippon Mrs C Owen

There were 3 members of the public present.

### Fire Procedure

Minute No.	Agenda Item	
99-20	1	<b><u>APOLOGIES</u></b> All present
100-20	2	<b><u>TO CO-OPT NEW COUNCILLORS</u></b> None at present
101-20	3	<b><u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u></b> a) To declare any disclosable pecuniary interests b) To declare any personal interests.

Name	Agenda Item	Personal	Prejudicial
Cllr Magill	Item 9.2 (Planning)	✓	
	Item 13 (Wintles)	✓	
Cllr J. Carroll	Item 15 (Town Hall Trust)	✓	
Cllr Stelman	Item 15 (Town Hall Trust)	✓	
Cllr Perry	Item 15 (Town Hall Trust)	✓	
All Cllrs	Item 19 (Public Hall)	✓	

102-20 4 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**  
Corrections made to venue and furlough scheme.

### **RESOLVED:**

Approved. Proposed Cllr Stelman; Seconded Cllr Dickin. All in favour.

103.20 8/14 **RESOLVED:** Items 8 and 14 brought forward. Proposed Cllr Stelman; Seconded Cllr Dickin. All in favour.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION**  
**TO DISCUSS DRAFT CLIMATE ACTION PLAN**

Cllr Stelman introduced Steve Hale, Mike Watkins and Bernard Evans, who were representing the BC Sustainability Group.

Cllr Perry commented that the draft Climate Action Plan submitted to the Council in March was well written – thanks to the efforts of the group and apologies for not discussing it sooner.

Mr Hale hoped that the Town Council would approve it and appoint a Councillor to liaise with the group.

**RESOLVED:**

Cllr Stelman volunteered to liaise with the group. All in favour.

A number of residents had also become involved.

An on-line survey, "Marches Grow Local", to determine local resilience, had received 250 responses so far, which was encouraging.

**RESOLVED:**

The Council adopt the drafted Climate Action Plan with slight amendments as discussed in the meeting; that a Climate Action Plan page be added to the Town Council's website and Town Council logo allowed to be used on literature; that Climate Action be put on every agenda and progress reviewed every quarter. Proposed Cllr Carroll; Seconded Cllr Houghton. All in favour.

Mike Watkins will prepare a draft press release and send to the Town Council (Cllr Stelman and the Clerk) for approval before release.

104-20 5 **REPORT FROM THE MAYOR**

Enterprise South West Shropshire. Peter Phillips had resigned as Chair and Tim Russell has been appointed as interim Chair. The focus is now on protecting local services – seeking grants and promoting local regeneration.

Joint BC Festivals Meeting Although most festivals have been cancelled, the festival committees are keen to keep their festival's presence alive in the community and have organised quizzes and competitions, with local BC cash vouchers as prizes. (Only valid in SY9 postcode).

105-20 6 **REPORT FROM THE CLERK**

The Clerk had received an email offering a £200 grant towards extra defibrillators in town. (Currently 1 in chemist, 1 in SpArC and 1 in each school). To be discussed at next meeting, (along with improved signage).

106-20 7 **UNITARY COUNCILLOR**

Cllr Houghton has been busy dealing with Community and Business Grants. So far grants totalling £62,000 had been awarded in the area. The Town Hall Trust and Public Hall had received £10,000 each and £500 each to the Methodist Hall and Church Barn.

There are no more Community Grants available but Community Resilience Grants are still available.

There are roadworks in town and Pennan Heath 21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> June.

Shropshire Council had revealed that 42 Care Homes had been affected with Covid-19, (approximately a third).

The future of the Clive of India Statue in Shrewsbury will be discussed at the July Shropshire Council meeting, which will be partly attended in Chamber and partly virtual to comply with social distancing rules.

There had been criticism that too many planning applications had been devolved to officers to decide rather than decided by committee.

Highways The culvert in the road by the Pines will be replaced, (no date yet). Bollards had been put outside the Coop. Following the meeting with Highways last month the Town Council is expecting a draft report of planned future works, (Disabled space, Spar parking issues etc). Cllr Houghton will contact Kevin Aitken to confirm progress).

107-20 9

**PLANNING**

1. 20/01909/FUL (Erection of single story workshop/Saw Doctors building at Ransfords.

**RESOLVED:** No objection. Proposed Cllr Carroll; Seconded Cllr Magill. All in favour bar 1 abstention.

2. 20/01842/FUL (Conversion of garage to residential annexe 15 Castle Green).

**RESOLVED:**

No objection. Proposed Cllr Carroll; Seconded Cllr Dickin. All in favour bar 1 abstention.

108-20 10

**MONTHLY FINANCES**

i. To note the Bank Reconciliation

**RESOLVED:**

Approved. Proposed Cllr Houghton ; Seconded Cllr Stelman. All in favour.

ii. To approve the following invoices for payment:

Payee	Item	Invoice	Amount £
Shropshire County Pension Fund	Monthly pension payment	June Return	900.26
HMRC	PAYE and NI	June Return	806.44
Staff salaries	4 staff	June Return	2336.38
C. Owen	minute taker	74.	37.56
A. Wallace	Street cleaning	75.	18.04
G. Dudley	Toilet cleaning	76.	336.00
WTT services	Grass cutting at Wintles	77.	50.00
BC Allotment Society	Grant	78.	450.00
BCHRC	Affiliation fee	79.	25.00
TWJ	License fee	80.	1.00
G.J.Rippon	Work from home allowance	81.	24.00
M. Gwilliam	Work from home allowance	82.	24.00
Tina Jackson	Back pay	83.	4.00
Bt	telephone and broad band	84.	372.73
waterplus	Rates	85.	51.35
Shropshire Council	Rates	86.	57.00
Shropshire Council	Rates	87.	141.00
EON	electricity	88.	31.79
	<b>Total</b>		<b>£ 5666.55</b>

Three further invoices had been received:

Andy Evans , (Maintenance) £1286.76

Insurance £4320.93

JP Brayford (Allotments maintenance) £894

**RESOLVED:**

Approved plus the three extra invoices. Proposed Cllr Houghton; Seconded Cllr

Carroll. All in favour.

- 109-20 11 **PURCHASE OF LOCAL HERO MEDALS**  
**RESOLVED:** £300 be put aside to reward local heroes after the pandemic is over.  
Proposed Cllr Magill; Seconded Cllr Stelman. All in favour.
- 110-20 12 **TO DISCUSS THE FREEDOM TO MOVE STRATEGY 2019-2024**  
This strategy encourages people to move away from driving everywhere by providing safer walking and cycling instead. It will be incorporated into the Neighbourhood Plan.  
Cllr Houghton suggested that a pavement/cycle lane should be considered from Colebatch to Bishop's Castle and Lydham to Bishop's Castle to make it safer for children to walk/cycle to school.
- 111-20 13 **TO DISCUSS RUBBISH AT THE WINTLES**  
There had been a complaint made about rubbish. The matter is in hand and progress has been made.
- 112-20 15 **TOWN HALL TRUST**  
Cllr Carroll had appealed against the refusal of the £10,000 grant. Once Shropshire Council realised all the work the Town Hall does, it approved the grant and the money has now been received.  
Staff furloughs have been extended.  
The Farmers' Market will be held in Enterprise House car park in July and August.
- 113-20 16 **COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP**  
The focus is now on how to rebuild the economy and tourism industry after Covid-19.
- 114-20 17 **REPORTS FROM MEETINGS ATTENDED**  
Neighbourhood Plan. At the last meeting it was agreed to search for a development site ourselves. Andrea Pellegram will look at all the sites previously considered by Shropshire Council and the reasons why they were originally rejected and suggest an alternative to bring to the committee. Shropshire Council were being very helpful.  
Community Land Trust. There was a lot of support from the public for redeveloping the Stars Newsagents site.  
SpArC. Trustees met to look at how it may reopen safely, hopefully later this summer.  
Destination Development Partnership. (Tourism groups).  
There was considerable discussion about money being made available for tourist support. Grants are available. The main attractions, e.g. Ludlow and Stokesay Castles, are looking at safe ways to reopen.
- 115-20 18 **ITEMS FOR FACEBOOK / WEBSITE**  
The website is currently down as it has been hacked. This is being rectified and will be back up soon.  
Climate Action Plan adoption; information on accessing money in the pandemic and leaflets about being wary of loan sharks; SpArC funding, Stars petition, Marches Grow Local; Festival Competitions and BC Vouchers – Festival webpage launched.
- 116-20 19 **PUBLIC HALL**  
The public were asked to leave the meeting. The Clerk had given dispensation for this item to be discussed as the Councillors were all Trustees of the Public Hall.  
**RESOLVED**  
That the tenant be allowed to continue a rent freeze on a month by month basis reviewed by the Public Hall Trust, whilst he prepares for reopening within social distancing guidelines. Many changes in operation will be required. Approved.  
Proposed Cllr Carroll; Seconded Cllr Magill. All in favour.

117-20

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**NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2020, 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 8.46pm.