



BISHOP'S CASTLE TOWN COUNCIL



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

HELD USING ZOOM

ON TUESDAY 15th June 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 R. Houghton Cllr A. Stelman Cllr D. Du Cros	

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr G. Rippon Mrs C. Owen Mrs. M. Gwilliam
1 member of the public.

Fire Procedure

Minute No.	Agenda Item	
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106-21 1 **APOLOGIES** None

107-21 2 **CO-OPTION**

RESOLVED Daphne Du Cros was co-opted onto the Council. Thank you. Proposed Cllr Stelman; Seconded Cllr Hawes. All in Favour.

108-21 3 **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. 13 Town Hall Trust	✓	
Cllr J. Carroll	No. 13 Town Hall Trust	✓	
Cllr A. Stelman	No. 13 Town Hall Trust	✓	

- 109-21 4 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES of 18th May 2021**
RESOLVED: Accepted. Proposed Cllr Houghton; Seconded Cllr Dickin. All in favour.
- 110-21 5 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION**
Mr Luckhurst gave an update on the Electric Vehicle Charge Points for the town.
2 (double) charging points would be installed in Harley Jenkins Street car park allowing 4 bays to be used for overnight charging, in about 6-8 weeks' time. The abandoned cars need removing.
Two other sites are not suitable because access is needed for the auction.
OVO Energy may provide 6 free electric cars to Shropshire, one of which may be dedicated to Bishop's Castle.
The Business Park development will include the larger type of charging points for business users and 1 for public use, but will be sourced differently.
The Mayor thanked Mr Luckhurst for his work on this.
- 111-21 6 **REPORT FROM THE MAYOR**
The Mayor had met with Phillip Dunne MP. He visited the school and Enterprise House also. The Business Improvement Districts, (currently restricted to larger towns) may be extended to smaller Market towns including Bishop's Castle. This would mean towns could band together to make bids for funding.
Rob McKay is developing a new Business Forum for SW Shropshire to work together to bid for grants. Having on-going projects is advantageous when grant application windows are short.
Phillip Dunne will chase the outstanding freshwater mussel situation which is affecting planning applications. A resolution is needed.
The Mayor was meeting Fiona Rogers-Coltman on behalf of the Lord Lt of Shropshire.
A report on the condition of the War Memorial is being commissioned prior to a grant application.
Blachere have installed the bracket to support the Christmas Lights over the street.
Excessive parking and access difficulty and state of the road (see Agenda Item 8) had been raised in Grange Road. The situation should improve once the builders had finished.
Shropshire Council had still not responded to our request for a quote for the playground refurbishment. The existing quotes had been circulated to the Primary School.
The next meeting will hopefully be in person, (20th July).
Visit Shropshire has changed their membership to Bronze, Silver and Gold, (£500 upwards). To be discussed at the next meeting.
The Community Partnership is holding an event on the 26th June for groups to report back on their activities. Cllr Halford was feeding back on the traffic survey.
- 112-21 7 **REPORT FROM THE CLERK**
The Clerk had still not heard back from Shropshire Council about the lights on Ox Leasowe.
Highways were not answering emails very promptly.
- 113-21 8 **UNITARY COUNCILLOR**
The state of Grange Road had been reported to Highways both 4 weeks ago and 10 weeks ago. The visibility at Brampton Crossroads has improved now that some grass has been mown. The Heblands road was being repaired. A488 is vastly improved now.

The Newton Bridge at Lydham had to be urgently closed because it is collapsing.

Enterprise SW Shropshire met with Keith Whiddon to make a bid for the latest Covid Recovery Grant. (Only one week to apply so need projects ready to go). There is some work on historical records of Pubs and Inns.

The consultation for the NW Shrewsbury Relief Road has been extended.

Notices will be issued shortly on the abandoned cars on Harley Jenkins Street car park. One is illegally parked. (Item for facebook to get them moved ASAP.)

114-21 9

PLANNING

None received

115-21 10

MONTHLY FINANCES

i. To note the Bank Reconciliation

(There is extra income which has been refunded because the Government has decided that Councils should not pay rates on public toilets).

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

ii. To discuss and decide on compensation for leave untaken.

RESOLVED: The Council agrees to pay the clerk and assistant clerk in lieu of half their annual leave not taken because of Covid. Proposed Cllr Stelman; Seconded Cllr Hawes. All in favour. The Mayor apologized for not insisting that the leave was taken.

iii. To approve the following invoices for payment:

Payee	Item	Invoice	Amount £
Shropshire County Pension Fund	Monthly pension payment	June Return	909.37
HMRC	PAYE and NI	June Return	846.86
Staff salaries	4 staff	June Return	2340.31
C. Owen	Minute taker	60.	37.56
G. Dudley	Toilet cleaning	61.	336.00
G.J. Rippon	Work from home	62.	24.00
A. Evans	Grass cutting /maintenance	63.	4383.00
A. Evans	Grass cutting /maintenance	64.	1251.00
General plumbing	Allotments	65.	93.30
Viking	Stationery	66.	90.26
For information			
Water plus	Water rates	67.	54.52
BT	Telephone / Broadband	68.	308.26
BG	Electricity	69.	79.63
Shropshire Council	Rates	70.	163.00
	Total		£ 10007.70

In addition, invoices had been received for Viking £90.26 for stationary; Highlines £825 for the Christmas Lights wire; £150 for the War Memorial Grant Application; £1 for Ransford's licence to access the Public Hall and the direct debit for the electricity of £163.19.

£1200 had been paid to cut down overhanging branches that were not the Council's responsibility. Please would Councillors check where responsibility lay before agreeing to ad hoc work.

RESOLVED: The invoices be paid, plus the additional invoices. Proposed Cllr Houghton; Seconded Cllr Morris. All in favour.

- 116-21 11 **WEBSITE**
Enterprise House is no longer providing IT support. Mike Ashwell had agreed to continue with the IT support to the Council's website privately, but in a reduced capacity. The Town Council is therefore seeking alternative support and is meeting with a potential technician to discuss it.
- 117-21 12 **ALLOTMENTS**
The Assistant Clerk sought permission to purchase anchor chains to keep the containers safe. (£70).
RESOLVED Approved. Proposed Cllr Carroll; Seconded Cllr Dickin. All in favour.
The power lines for the Business Park will skirt the allotments.
A request has been made to Shropshire Council for the rainwater harvesting off the Business Park buildings to be directed to the allotments.
- 118-21 13 **TOWN HALL TRUST**
Town Hall is opening on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays.
There has been a routine inspection of fire appliances.
Sue is looking for somewhere to store the books so as not to block fire regulations. The town clerk will enquire if the shop next door has any storage capacity.
- 119-21 14 **COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP**
This group was set up for 5 years – due to be reviewed this year – review postponed until 2022. The Council is being asked what its future should be. It has been useful in pulling together a lot of the town's activities. Enterprise SW Shropshire, Community Partnership and Town Council need to work together to get bids in for grants.
- 120-21 15 **REPORTS FROM MEETINGS ATTENDED**
Already discussed.
- 121-21 16 **ITEMS FOR FACEBOOK / WEBSITE**
Abandoned cars on Harley Jenkins Street Car Park; Grants; Playground equipment; Traffic Survey and comments; Faerie trail; Food Group consultation.
- 122-21 17 **NEXT MEETING**
Tuesday 20th July 2021, 7.30pm. The meeting closed at 8.30pm.