



BISHOP'S CASTLE TOWN COUNCIL



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The Town Hall
Bishop's Castle
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MINUTES of the MEETING OF BISHOP'S CASTLE TOWN COUNCIL

At THE TOWN HALL

ON TUESDAY 17th August 2021 AT 7.30PM

PRESENT	APOLOGIES
Cllr G. Perry Cllr D. Du Cros Cllr T. Halford Cllr J. Carroll Cllr S. Morris Cllr B. Hawes Cllr R. Houghton Cllr J. Dickin	Cllr A. Stelman

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr G. Rippon Mrs C. Owen
3 Members of the public.

Fire Procedure

Minute No.	Agenda Item
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142-21 5 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION** – brought forward by agreement.

Mark Hooper of Visit Shropshire outlined to the Council the remit of the organisation and described the different advertising coverage they would provide with the different membership levels: Gold £2500 p.a.; Silver £1500 p.a.; Bronze £500 p.a..

Basically, the more you paid the greater frequency of adverts/posts and the greater variety of outlets, e.g. on-line content; newspaper articles and printed tourist guides.

Steve Hale of South Shropshire Climate Action outlined the history of the group and its 4 themes: land-use & bio-diversity; energy; transport; education & communication.

In order to make South Shropshire Carbon net-zero people need to support to make the necessary changes. The SSCA proposal to the government is to make South Shropshire a prototype to showcase/test how it can be achieved. The government would need to put the money in (like it did with COVID), but the benefits to the environment, bio-diversity, people's health and investment in green jobs would be worth it.

The plan is to put pressure on the local MP, Phillip Dunne, (who is head of the Environment Audit Committee), and Shropshire Council to move forward with this idea. SSCA are visiting all the local councils in the Ludlow constituency to promote interest. The full proposal will be ready by the end of September.

143-21 1 **APOLOGIES** Cllr Stelman

144-21 2 **CO-OPTION** None

145-21 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. 17 Town Hall Trust	✓	
Cllr J. Carroll	No. 17 Town Hall Trust	✓	

146-21 4 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES of 20th July 2021**

RESOLVED: Minutes approved. (The word VIRTUAL was removed from the summons). Proposed Cllr Morris; Seconded Cllr Halford. All in favour.

5 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION** already held

147-21 6 **REPORT FROM THE MAYOR**

Councillors were invited to the allotment BBQ on Sunday 22nd at 3pm.

Playing Field equipment. The 3rd quote from Shropshire Council has been received. Cllr Perry was attending a site meeting the following day to look at it.

Council benches. 2 x 12' ex-council benches that have been in storage are no longer required.

RESOLVED: They will be put in the next auction. Proposed Cllr Carroll; Seconded Cllr Hawes. All in favour.

ACTION: Cllr Perry will organise this.

The Public Hall and Underground Management Committee needs reconstituting following changes in personnel.

ACTION: Cllr Perry will organise this in September.

Auction Yard toilets. The plumbing/mechanisms need replacing.

ACTION: Cllr Perry will obtain some quotes.

148-21 7 **REPORT FROM THE CLERK**

The Clerk had received a quote of £410 for CCTV, including being able to dial in and look at it from elsewhere.

ACTION: The clerk will proceed with this.

The clerk had received an email from Jason Hughes of Shropshire Council re the connection of Electric Vehicles Points. Project 1 will be in Shrewsbury. The Council will be notified when Project 2 (across Shropshire) will be rolled out.

149-21 8 **UNITARY COUNCILLOR**

Severn Trent caused disruption performing repairs without much notice. They will be doing more repairs in Church Street soon. A488 roadworks are completed. Slow markings have been painted in Colebatch, which is good.

The bus survey has highlighted concerns re buses needing to connect with train times. NW Shrewsbury Relief Road consultation has been extended. Although this does not

directly affect South Shropshire, the overall spend by Shropshire Council will impact on its future budget and mean less spending including CIL money, (Community Infrastructure Levy) being available in the County.

150-21 9

PLANNING

None submitted.

151-21 10

MONTHLY FINANCES

- i. To note the Bank Reconciliation
RESOLVED: Noted. Proposed Cllr Carroll; Seconded Cllr Dickin. All in favour
- ii. To approve the following invoices for payment:

Payee	Item	Invoice	Amount £
Shropshire County Pension Fund	Monthly pension payment	August Return	909.37
HMRC	PAYE and NI	August Return	846.86
Staff salaries	4 staff	August Return	2340.31
C. Owen	Minute taker	119.	37.56
G. Dudley	Toilet cleaning	120.	336.00
M. Gwilliam	Expenses	121.	55.00
BCHRC	Subscriptions	122.	25.00
Halls SMS	Toilet consumables	123.	49.90
WPS	insurance	124.	39.20
WPS	insurance	125.	3786.85
WPS	insurance	126.	56.00
BCBS	Materials	127.	233.86
Viking	Stationery /postage	128.	49.91
Shropshire Council	rates	129.	56.38
Exemplum	Printing	130.	2.17
Halls SMS	Toilet Consumables	131.	116.74
Telescopic Window cleaning	Window cleaning	132.	45.00
BT	telephone /broadband	133.	309.82
Shropshire Council	rates	134.	163.00
Wayfair	Grants	135.	155.99
For information			
		Total	£ 9614.92

In addition, an invoice has been received from Mr B Jones for electrical work, £31.19; Belvedere Lifts for a service, £168 and Highline for £663. **RESOLVED:** The invoices be paid, plus the additional invoices. Proposed Cllr Morris; Seconded Cllr Carroll. All in favour.

152-21 11

VISIT SHROPSHIRE

There was a discussion with regard to the benefits and limitations of the various levels. Visit Shropshire can only advertise what is sent to them, so it would require a constant supply of events information etc to warrant the money. However, the more you pay, the more often they promote you and in more places. By having membership as a Town Council, it would enable more publicity for festivals and one-off events that would not

take out an individual membership, as well as promoting the area in general. It is important for the Town Council to be promoting economic recovery. A welcome pack of what Visit Shropshire require from the Town Council would be appreciated. It would also be useful to know from local businesses in due course if they have gained customers through Visit Shropshire via click-throughs.

RESOLVED It was agreed to trial Gold membership for 1 year. Councillors Carroll, Houghton and Perry would meet to look at the information that could already be sent, e.g. booklets and lists of events. The Town Clerk would be the main contact.

Proposed Cllr Hawes; Seconded Cllr Perry. All in favour.

ACTION: The Clerk will arrange Gold membership from 1st October

ACTION: Cllrs Perry, Carroll and Houghton will meet to coordinate the existing information that can already be sent, plus look at click-through links, and what else is required to get the most out of the scheme.

ACTION: Cllr Carroll will talk with businesses via the Tourism Group, re the practicalities of using the scheme and feeding back customer statistics.

153-21 12

ALLOTMENTS

Cllr Carroll and the Assistant Clerk have been inspecting the allotments. The Assistant Clerk had updated the Appeals Policy and Procedure and produced a document on Acceptable Cultivation Standards in addition to August's report.

A lot of the responsibility in looking after the tenants has up until now has fallen on the Assistant Clerk. It is proposed to form a group of Councillors to consider final notice appeals, and a Task and Finish Group to discuss longer-term issues. By January 2022, all tenants will be members of the Allotments Association and they will be able to take on more responsibility. This will be discussed at the impending Allotments AGM.

RESOLVED: The Appeals Policy will be adopted. All Councillors are nominated to sit on the Appeals Panel, 3 of which will be chosen at the time of any appeal

The Acceptable Cultivation Standards Document will be adopted.

Cllrs Halford, Carroll and Hawes will sit on the Task and Finish Group.

Proposed Cllr Perry; Seconded Cllr Carroll. All in favour.

ACTION: Cllr Carroll will put the item on the agenda for the AGM.

154-21 13

OLD MARKET SQUARE

There had been a good planning meeting, resulting in various tasks to look at and report back. The new planters are a huge improvement.

155-21 14

WINTLES ROAD ISSUE AND TRAFFIC SURVEY UPDATE

So far, comments received are in favour of a 20mph speed limit, but 50/50 about a one-way system. There is a pinch point at the end of the Wintles Road where it meets Castle Street and Bull Lane. There is little parking for residents and holiday let customers and traffic calming measures narrow the road.

RESOLVED: Highways be asked to paint a short length of white line on one side of the Wintles Road opposite Concept House to limit parking to one side. Proposed Cllr Carroll; Seconded Cllr Dickin. All in favour.

ACTION: Cllr Carroll will contact Highways.

ACTION: The Clerk will check that Shropshire Council have adopted the road.

156-21 15

NW RELIEF ROAD

Environment groups are against this proposal and others are opposed to the huge costs, which involves using £16 million of CIL money. This would impinge on rates.

Although not nearby, please take part in the consultation.

157-21 16

SKATEBOARD PARK

Cllrs Perry and Dickin met with the skateboarders to feed back on the decisions of the Council. They would also like an extra bin. Cllr Stelman was going to talk to Spar about funding it.

ACTION: Cllr Stelman will report back on progress to the next meeting.

158-21 17

TOWN HALL TRUST

A mobile card machine has been purchased for an extra £6 per month to facilitate sales.

The first concert is on Saturday, which will be a trial run (for logistical purposes) with an invited audience. Staff want guidance on the numbers of people that can safely be accommodated.

There will be a Town Hall Trust meeting on 9th September.

The government financial support has now ended.

159-21 18

REPORTS FROM MEETINGS ATTENDED

None attended.

160-21 19

ITEMS FOR FACEBOOK / WEBSITE

Food Strategy document – please add the Consultation document: Visit Shropshire; Bus Consultation; Church St ST Water repairs.

ACTION: Cllr Perry will check/add the consultation document on the website.

161-21 20

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 21st September 2021, 7.30pm. The meeting closed at 9.18pm.