



BISHOP'S CASTLE TOWN COUNCIL



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

HELD AT THE TOWN HALL AND ON ZOOM

ON TUESDAY 15th MARCH 2022 AT 7.30PM

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

Mr G. Rippon. Mrs C. Owen
2 Members of the public (1 on Zoom).

Fire Procedure

Minute No.	Agenda Item	
35-22	1	<u>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION 1</u> Ian Willoughby, Deputy Head of The Community College, presented a letter from Andrew Kirk outlining the aspirations and plans for the centenary year. (2022) They hope to strengthen the ties between the community and the College, and in particular they are looking to work with inspirational people and community groups locally in areas such as careers talks, sport, work experience, school council etc.
36-22	2	<u>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION 2</u> Steve Hale asked Councillors to consider and prioritise the 15 'Asks' sent to all Parish and Town Councils in South Shropshire, and then write to Shropshire Council asking them to implement the most important for Bishop's Castle. Cllr Stelman agreed to collate Cllrs' comments. Steve Hale will ask John Whiteleg to provide data and County Council spending on transport from the Family Group of Counties that includes Shropshire, for comparison, so as to inform the discussion at the next meeting.
37-22	3	<u>APOLOGIES</u> None

- 38-22 4 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
a) To declare any disclosable pecuniary interests. Mrs C Owen. Agenda Item 16b
b) To declare any personal interests. None.
- 39-22 5 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES of 15th February 2022**
RESOLVED: Accepted as a true and accurate record. Proposed Cllr Morris; Seconded Cllr Halford All in favour.
- 40-22 6 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION**
Already held.
- 41-22 7 **REPORT FROM THE MAYOR**
Neighbourhood Development Plan Public Consultation. This has begun, with information in newsletters, social media, website, press and a hard copy in the Town Hall.
An extra (smaller) newsletter has been issued this month to allow for further feedback.
The Queen's Jubilee. Ideas are coming forward. Unfortunately, the town will not receive a Jubilee tree as the scheme was over-subscribed.
Auction Yard Toilets. Following daily inspections the cleaning is deemed acceptable, but the toilets would benefit from a deep clean and polish. Quotes are being sought.
Street Lights The jobs have been closed without mending the lights.
Foul water at the bottom of town. STWA and Highways are arguing over the responsibility for this issue.
- 42-22 8 **REPORT FROM THE CLERK**
An expert is coming to look at preliminary pruning of the yew trees at Old Market Square. Further shaping will be part of the grant application.
The Cost of STWA providing a water supply to the square is £3337.42 + VAT. This could also be part of the grant and possibly co-ordinated with a similar project in Clun.
- 43-22 9 **UNITARY COUNCILLOR**
Community Hospital. Meetings are planned with the Chief Executive of the Community Hospital, Cllr Houghton, Cllr Kidd and Cllr Hartin and the Medical Practice to discuss the future model of services. The Cllrs have asked for more information on the number of beds used, as only figures relating to Bishop's Castle residents were included and not the wider area.
Another NHS recruitment open day is being held in Shrewsbury.
Kerry Green properties are being refurbished.
Fix my street is the best way to report highways/street lighting issues.
Bus Back Better – no news on the grant application yet.
- 44-22 10 **PLANNING**
1. 22/00728/FUL Application for the erection of single-storey extension to provide new dining room and entrance | Fields Cottage Field Lane Bishops Castle Shropshire SY9 5AG
RESOLVED: No objection Proposed Cllr Carroll; Seconded Cllr Halford. All in favour.
2. 22/00373/FUL Application for the erection of a retail unit (Class E) | Site Of Former Countrywide Warehouse Station Street Bishops Castle Shropshire SY9 5AQ
RESOLVED: Councillors need to apply for special dispensation to discuss this because they are custodial trustees of the adjacent Public Hall. An extraordinary meeting will be called to discuss the plans as soon as dispensation is granted.

MONTHLY FINANCES

i) To note the Bank Reconciliation

RESOLVED: Noted. Proposed Cllr Carroll; Seconded Cllr Morris. All in favour.

ii) Update on the PWLB (Public works Loan Board) application

Hopefully, the outcome will be received this week.

iii) To agree the National pay rises for 2021-2022 and approve to back date them.

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

iv) To approve the following invoices for payment:

Payee	Item	Invoice	Amount £
Shropshire County Pension Fund	Monthly pension payment	March Return	1087.39
HMRC	PAYE and NI	March Return	783.32
Staff salaries	4 staff	March Return	3077.20
C. Owen	Minute taker	240.	37.56
G. Dudley	Toilet cleaning	241.	336.00
Highline	Street Lighting	242.	71.40
Mousemat	IT	243.	800.00
Viking	Stationery /postage	244.	95.08
Allotment Society	Subscriptions	245.	96.00
Andrew Evans	Grasscutting/ maintenance	246.	474.60
BCHRC	Storage	247.	143.00
For information			
BT	telephone /broadband	248.	316.17
Waterplus	rates	249.	370.96
Corona	Electricity	250.	748.10
	Total		£ 8474.43

In addition, the following invoices have been received.

Mail Room Postal Services £119.40

Printable slips £86.00

Extra Cleaning of the Town Hall £210.00

P. Eldridge £66.22

GR Travel £126.00.

RESOLVED: The invoices, including the extra ones, be paid. Proposed Cllr Carroll; Seconded Cllr Halford. All in favour.

AUCTION YARD TOILETS

To discuss and decided on a deep clean for the Auction Yard toilets.

No quotes had been received yet.

RESOLVED: Agreed up to a cost of £300. Proposed Cllr Carroll; Seconded Cllr Dickin. All in favour.

NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

A record of all the publicity given will be kept to inform Andrea Pellegram as part of the process.

There have been no formal responses received yet.

Cllr Carroll had replied to the Heat and Wind Network who had challenged the Town Council's decision not to delay the Public Consultation to accommodate more details of their proposal in the Plan.

The Town Council have already agreed to review the Plan, once passed by Shropshire Council, at its earliest opportunity with a view to including a policy or policies in regard to this proposal. Delaying the Plan now, to wait for the necessary detailed assessments to be undertaken would mean that the consultation would have to be done again at a later date, whilst in the meantime, the Town's preferred development plan would not be taken into account by Shropshire Planners. Covid has already delayed this process considerably.

48-22 14 **THE COUNCIL'S IT SYSTEM**

The new server was being connected this week.

49-22 15 **REPORTS FROM MEETINGS ATTENDED**

Community Partnership

The Heat and Wind Network expressed their disappointment of the Town Council's decision to proceed with the public consultation of the Neighbourhood Development Plan without waiting for the necessary reports to be completed.

Comment was made (in this council meeting) that the group could apply for planning themselves, independently of the Neighbourhood Development Plan.

Community Seed Bank. There has been a lot of interest and many seed packets collected.

Local Food Strategy. This is nearly complete.

Going Wild in BC. There had been much interest in the talks and demand for Swift Boxes was over-subscribed. The Town Council had granted £500 towards this initiative but more was needed. AS no Town Councillor has responsibility for the Playing Fields could the management of the Playing Fields be included in the Going Wild Management Plans?

On-line platform to support community mental health and well-being. The Community College and Medical Practice met and decided to quality assure and update the Moodle before rolling out to the Community.

BC NDP. Concern was expressed that most of the NDP information for consultation was on-line, thereby excluding those without internet access.

Electric Vehicle Charging Units. Not installed yet.

Household Energy Services. Lightfoot Enterprises have raised funding to carry out household energy surveys and give advice on saving energy.

Befriending and Dementia Support. The befriending service is going well. More volunteers are sought.

15 Transport 'Asks'. The group was pleased this was being discussed by the Council.

Public Hall Custodian Meeting.

A management committee needs to be formed. Responses are invited.

50-22 16 **CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS**

To discuss and decide to pass a resolution that by the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the public and press be excluded for the remainder of the meeting

on the grounds the business involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the Acts.

a. Town Hall Clock

To discuss and decided on quotes received to provide scaffolding to allow for the repair of the Town Clock

Smith's of Derby will repair the clock for £2427 + VAT. (VAT is recoverable).

RESOLVED The cheapest quote is accepted for the scaffolding. Proposed Cllr Carroll; Seconded Cllr Dickin. All in favour.

c. Mayoral Chain

To discuss the quote for the refurbishment of the Mayoral chain.

b. Staff matters

Members are asked to receive staffing matters and approve the actions.

The staffing matters were discussed and all matters dealt with, no need of a follow up

51-22

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NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 19th April 2022, 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 21.25pm.