



# 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 19<sup>th</sup> JULY 2022 AT 7.30PM

PRESENT	APOLOGIES
Cllr J. Carroll Cllr J. Dickin Cllr G Perry Cllr A. Stelman Cllr R. Houghton Cllr T. Halford Cllr B. Hawes Cllr S. Morris	Cllr D. Du Cros
IN ATTENDANCE	
Mr G. Rippon Mrs C. Owen	

### Fire Procedure

Minute No.	Agenda Item	
125-22	1	<b>APOLOGIES</b> Cllr Du Cros <b>RESOLVED</b> Accepted. Proposed Cllr Stelman; Seconded Cllr Morris. All in favour.
126-22	2	<b><u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u></b> a) To declare any disclosable pecuniary interests. None b) To declare any personal interests. None
127-22	3	<b><u>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</u></b> of 21 <sup>st</sup> June. <b>RESOLVED</b> The minutes were accepted. Proposed Cllr Houghton; Seconded Cllr Perry. All in favour.
128-22	4	<b><u>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION</u></b> None present.
129-22	5	<b><u>REPORT FROM THE MAYOR</u></b> Lezley Picton (Leader of Shropshire Council) visited the town for a Drop-in on 13 <sup>th</sup> July. Cllrs Houghton and Dickin escorted Ms Picton around the town to highlight the on-going issues. (e.g. white lining and street light repairs, and lack of social housing). The Mayor and Deputy met up with Clun's Mayor and Deputy. It was a useful meeting.
130-22	6	<b><u>REPORT FROM THE CLERK</u></b> The external auditor has advised the Clerk that there will be extra work involved with auditing now that the spend income of the Council is greater than £200,000.

The clock was not reinstalled as scheduled. The Clerk has informed the company that they will need to pay for any extra scaffolding costs.

The Clerk has received a form to fill in regarding the War Memorial Restoration and will seek 2 or 3 quotes.

The blocked road adjacent to the Vaults will be reopened as soon as the awaited part arrives to make the repair.

There has been a request from the Tourism Board to put up more prominent signs pointing to the location of the playing field.

The signs for the skate park will be ready soon.

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### **UNITARY COUNCILLOR**

There are 2 consultations in process: Economic Strategy, and The Removal of Registrar Facilities (face to face) from SpArC. This has happened by default because of COVID. It used to be by arrangement.

**RESOLVED.** The Clerk will convey the Council's regret and disappointment at this decision largely made due to COVID and request that an on-demand service remains available in the town. Proposed Cllr Houghton; Seconded Cllr Perry. All in favour.

Housing. Cllr Houghton is receiving at least 3 queries a week. Cllr Carroll thought that Mathew Mead had begun a housing needs survey but it was unclear.

Cllr Houghton pointed out to Lezley Picton on her visit that the email service to inform of problems was unacceptable as no-one from the Shropshire Council ever replied or fixed anything.

The Telford Child Sexual Exploitation Report has been published, and has made 49 recommendations.

RESOLVED: The Town Council will consider the report's findings and discuss at the next meeting. Proposed Cllr Houghton; Seconded Cllr Hawes. All in favour.

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### **PLANNING**

New applications:

1. 2202824/FUL

Application for erection of single-storey dwelling | Proposed Dwelling To The North Of Silverdale Corporation Street Bishops Castle Shropshire

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

Two other applications had been received on the day, which will be considered at the next meeting. However, as one is to do with a tree, the Tree Warden will be informed straightaway.

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### **MONTHLY FINANCES**

i. To note the bank reconciliation

RESOLVED. Noted. Proposed Cllr Perry; 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	July Return	924.77
HMRC	PAYE and NI	July Return	679.61
Staff salaries	4 staff	July Return	2349.97
C. Owen	Minute taker	83.	40.04
G. Dudley	Toilet cleaning	84.	420.00
G.J. Rippon	Expenses	85.	73.99
Hallam	Insurance	86.	7501.69
Exemplum	Printing	87.	640.91
Allotments	Materials	88.	60.12
Allotments	Materials	89.	39.00
Allotment society	Membership fee	90.	66.00
Highline	Street lights	91.	71.40
BCBS	Materials	92.	120.38
Halls SMS	Toilet supplies	93.	193.60
Shropshire Council	Premises licence	94.	180
Shropshire Council	Premises licence	95.	70.00
<b>For information</b>			
BT	telephone /broadband	95.	346.89
Water plus	Water rates	96.	95.67
Water plus	Water rates	97.	98.86
Water plus	Water rates	98.	289.52
Corona	Electricity	99.	537.80
SCC	Rates	100.	187.00
SCC	Rates	101.	55.00
	<b>Total</b>		<b>£ 15042.22</b>

In addition, the Clerk asked for the following invoices to be paid: £2672 Legal Fees; £3120 Legal Fees (Barrister); £173.16 Cleaning; £85.20 MSO (Fire Safety); £67.14 Ink for Postage Machine.

**RESOLVED** The invoices, plus the extra ones, be paid. Proposed Cllr Perry; Seconded Cllr Stelman. All in favour.

134-22 10 **JULY POLICY REVIEW**

RESOLVED. The policy on Data Retention and Disposal is accepted with the addition of a review date. The Assistant Clerk be thanked for her hard work on this. Proposed Cllr Carroll; Seconded Cllr Stelman. All in favour.

135-22 11 **NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

National England and the Environment Agency are objecting to Shropshire Council's local housing plan (because of the mussels) and so our Neighbourhood Plan's progress has stalled while the issue is resolved. The inspector will make his decision soon, but all the plans for Shropshire have to be accepted for it to go through.

- 136-22 12 **YOUTH**  
Cllr Stelman had attended the South Shropshire Youth Forum.  
Connexus do not appear to have paid the £2000, yet.  
Christine has appointed 3 well-trained volunteers to work with her.  
Cllrs Stelman, Dickin and Hawes are meeting with Steve Whittingham on 21<sup>st</sup> July re the Pump Track
- 137-22 13 **MEMBERS FOR THE COVID VOLUNTEERS NOMINATION PANEL**  
Cllrs Stelman, Dickin and Hawes agreed to meet on 1<sup>st</sup> September to sift through the nominations. Awards will be made on 18<sup>th</sup> September after the Mayor's Service.
- 138-22 14 **COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP EVENT**  
30<sup>th</sup> July 10.30am-4.30pm. Cllrs Perry and Dickin will attend to promote the work of the council, recruit councillors and engage with the community.
- 139-22 15 **PUBLIC HALL**  
The Committee is not fully formed yet. There have been enquiries for its use in the short term. There is a groundswell of opinion that the site is good but it needs a new building more suited to its function.
- 140-22 16 **REPORTS FROM MEETINGS ATTENDED**  
Cllr Perry had attended Hands Together Ludlow and will talk to Rob Mckay re hosting a hub for them.  
Cllr Halford had attended a meeting re the Church's 5 year plan to repair and better equip the Church building for multipurpose use by Church and community. A Lottery Grant is being applied for.
- 141-22 17 **NEXT MEETING**  
Next - Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> August, 7.30pm. The meeting closed at 8.53pm.