



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 15th FEBRUARY 2023 AT 7.30PM

PRESENT	APOLOGIES
Cllr J. Carroll Cllr R. Bromley Cllr G Perry Cllr A. Stelman Cllr R. Houghton Cllr S. Morris	Cllr J. Dickin Cllr L. Payne Cllr T. Halford

IN ATTENDANCE	
Mr G. Rippon Mrs C. Owen 2 members of the public <u>Fire Procedure</u>	

Minute No.	Agenda Item	
20-23	1	<u>APOLOGIES</u> Cllr Dickin, Halford and Payne.
21-23	2	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u> a) To declare any disclosable pecuniary interests. Item 13 <i>Written request for dispensation:</i> <i>The Clerk reminded members that he had received a written dispensation from all Councillors in respect of the Public Hall as the Council corporate was the custodian trustee of the Public Hall. Without the dispensation the number of persons prohibited by section 31(4) from participating in any particular business would be so great a proportion of the body transacting the business as to impede the transaction of business.</i> b) To declare any personal interests. Item 8 Cllrs Houghton and Stelman
22-23	3	<u>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</u> of 17 th January 2023. RESOLVED The minutes were accepted. Proposed Cllr Perry; Seconded Cllr Morris. All in favour
23-23	4	<u>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION</u> Ms Du Cros presented the Bishop's Castle Community Food Resilience Strategy and Action Plan. The Town Council is the first in the county to have a food strategy. The group is working with Shropshire Good Food Partnership, networking with different groups and produces and accessing funding for research and start-up initiatives. A Shropshire Food Trail is envisioned. Shropshire Council have passed a 'Right to Grow' motion, whereby people can apply to grow food on derelict public land. The resilience group requests that the Town Council becomes a member (no cost), and works with them to be a model for other councils; identifying land that may be

available for the ‘right to grow’ initiative; nominating places for the food trail, and displaying the updated food strategy on its website.

24-23 5 **REPORT FROM THE MAYOR**

Wynn’s May Fair will extend their stay to include the Bank Holiday and is offering school children half-price fares on Sunday. (Coronation Weekend).

25-23 6 **REPORT FROM THE CLERK**

NALC had produced a booklet with 10 recommendations for local Councils.

The Clerk had received a copy of Landscape magazine which had a lengthy article promoting Bishop’s Castle, and another article on Clun. It was perceived that this content had come through Visit Shropshire.

There had been a leak in the Council Chambers. A plumber was coming to investigate.

26-23 7 **UNITARY COUNCILLOR**

Visit Shropshire. Whilst the article in Landscape was welcome, it transpired that not all information sent to Visit Shropshire was being incorporated into their website.

Cllrs Houghton and Carroll will attend an on-line event with Visit Shropshire on 24th February and ask whose responsibility it was to advertise Bishop’s Castle. There was some concern as to whether the Council was getting value for its Gold Membership.

NHS. NHS are holding a community engagement event, with two sessions on 1st March at the Methodist Hall.

Shropshire Council Budget. The Consultation period is over. Cllr Houghton had expressed concern that the budget was too vague to comment on effectively.

Boundaries. There is an on-going boundary review with an ideal population/member ration. However, the geography of the local area makes any change unrealistic.

Traffic Planning. No news from Andrew Keyland.

Resurfacing. School House Lane and High St will be resurfaced in the summer.

27-23 8 **PLANNING**

New applications:

(Responses are Object, Support, or Representation, submitted with comments if required)

1. 23/00352/AMP (For information).

Non-material amendments to planning permission No. 21/02771/FUL (revised shopfront detailing, installation of cast iron columns alongside entrance to No. 70, and increase in height of door to No. 68) | Sep Properties Ltd 68 - 70 Church Street Bishops Castle Shropshire SY9 5AE

2. 23/00721/AGR

Application for the removal of existing sheds and erection of new portal-framed storage building | Star Farm Colebatch Bishops Castle Shropshire SY9 5JY

RESOLVED Supported. Proposed Cllr Carroll; Seconded Cllr Perry. All in favour bar 1 abstention.

28-23 9 **MONTHLY FINANCES**

i) to receive the bank reconciliation.

RESOLVED Noted. Proposed Cllr Perry; Seconded Cllr Morris. All in favour.

ii) Albert Howard Society – permission to put up plaque.

All in favour of permission, subject to the plaque containing helpful information as to who he was and what he is famous for.

iii) To discuss and approve the following grants.

Name	Amount	Project	amount awarded
Football club	£1,000	new metal goals	£1,000.00
Going wild in Bishop's Castle	£1,000	To fund a project manager to develop a volunteer group	£1,000.00
Climate action group	£1,000	organising and running an environment day	£1,000.00
Community Land Trust	£1,500	To design, manufacture and install a new shop front for 'stars'	£1,500.00
Carnival	£1,000	to kickstart the carnival following the 3-year absence	£1,000.00
Cricket Club	£500	New practice netting	£500.00
Tennis Club	£1,000	to assist the club celebrating its centenary	£1,000.00
Food and Friendship	£200	startup cost for monthly lunch and social gathering	£200.00
BC Railway Society	£750	To assist with archiving to preserve original docs	£750.00
Michaelmas	£2,000	to kickstart the Michaelmas following Covid	£2,000.00

£43,000 in grants had been handed out by the Town Council over the last 12 years.

RESOLVED The Grants are approved. Proposed Cllr Perry; Seconded Cllr Stelman. All in favour.

iv) Litter pickers - request to the Council for the cost of fluorescent tabards for safety.

RESOLVED: The purchase of £118.20 be approved. Proposed Cllr Houghton; Seconded Cllr Perry. All in favour.

v). For information. The performing rights fee for the Town Hall had been paid by the Town Hall Trust.

vi) To approve the following invoices for payment:

Payee	Item	Invoice	Amount £
Shropshire County Pension Fund	Monthly pension payment	February Return	973.19
HMRC	PAYE and NI	February Return	706.46
Staff salaries	4 staff	February Return	2,487.08
C. Owen	Minute taker	350.	40.04
G. Dudley	Toilet cleaning	351.	420.00
IG Inspections	Lift Maintenance	352.	210.00
Halls SMS	Toilet consumables	353.	137.47
PCPS	Window cleaning	354.	45.00
BCBS	Maintenance	355.	267.77

BCHRC	Subscriptions	356.	162.50
Mant Leisure	Playground equipment	357.	36570.36
God's Acre	Grants	358.	1000.00
Allotment Society	Subscriptions	359.	339.00
Exemplum	Printing	360.	465.68
G.J. Rippon	Computer keyboard	361.	24.99
For information			
BT	telephone /broadband	362.	345.68
Pintney Bowes	Postage	363.	50.00
Waterplus	rates	364.	121.91
Corona	Electricity	365.	937.04
	Total		£ 45589.75

The playground equipment was now all installed.

Extra Invoices:

Highline: £72; £638.40; £240; £271.80.

Tony Baker: £720 (includes some repairs to the Public Hall).

Public Hall Apprenticeship Licence: (£70 for information).

Flag making: £8.25

Andrew Evans £462; £150.

Andrew Evans £2500 for clearing an overgrown and previously flooded allotment site.

RESOLVED The invoices, plus the extra ones be paid, apart from the £2500 from Mr Evans, which will await approval from the Councillors.

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

PORTFOLIO HOLDERS

Function Service	Interset Group	Budget Heading	People
Youth and Safeguarding	✓	✓	Cllr Stelman
Climate Action/Biodiversity	✓	✓	Cllrs Bromley and Payne
Town Scape		✓	Cllrs Dickin, Perry and Carroll
Newsletter		✓	Cllr Halford
Finance		✓	Cllrs Houghton and Morris
Public Hall		✓	Cllr Perry
Planning		✓	Cllrs Carroll and Perry

Personnel		✓	Cllrs Dickin and Stelman
Tourism & Footpaths		✓	Cllr Carroll

30-23 11 **ALLOTMENTS** This item did not need to be discussed in full council.

31-23 12 **CHARTER UPDATE**

The Charter celebrations for the town are moving along well. A working group headed by the Mayor, Cllrs and residents are working tirelessly to get the week and main day organised. The town council are leading the celebrations with some funding from outside grant organisations. Stewarding help from Councillors would be appreciated.

We have speaking to business, pubs etc about dressing up / decoration and how they can be involved, all seems to be very positive and people are looking forward to it. The decoration theme is green red and white.

We are also looking at commissioning some commemorative items.

Planned so far is: 450 years re-enactment with cheese & wine at the SpArC; Mayor's Charter banquet; Charter afternoon tea; beacon and firework display. The main Charter Day is on the Sunday. Living village stalls etc up front street.

32-23 13 **PUBLIC HALL**

A new committee will be formed at a meeting on 27th February.

33-23 14 **REPORTS FROM MEETINGS ATTENDED**

Enterprise South West Shropshire – Cllr Carroll will report back to the next Council meeting.

34-23 15 **NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 21st March at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9.14pm