



BISHOP'S CASTLE TOWN COUNCIL



Gwilym J Rippon Cert. He CEG, PSLCC
Town Clerk
Tel: 01588 638141
Email: townclerk@bishopscastle.co.uk

The Town Hall
Bishop's Castle
Shropshire
SY9 5BG

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BISHOP'S CASTLE TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL
CHAMBER, TOWN HALL ON TUESDAY 21st March 2023 AT 7.30PM

PRESENT		APOLOGIES	
Cllr J. Carroll Cllr R. Bromley Cllr G Perry Cllr A. Stelman Cllr R. Houghton Cllr J. Dickin Cllr L. Payne Cllr T. Halford		Cllr S. Morris	
IN ATTENDANCE			
Mr G. Rippon Mrs C. Owen 1 member of the public <u>Fire Procedure</u>			
Minute No.	Agenda Item		

- 35-23 1 **APOLOGIES** Cllr Morris.
- 36-23 2 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
a) To declare any disclosable pecuniary interests.
Item 13 *Written request for dispensation: 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.*
b) To declare any personal interests. None.
- 37-23 3 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** of 21st February 2023.
RESOLVED The minutes were accepted. Proposed Cllr Perry; Seconded Cllr Carroll. All in favour.
- 38-23 4 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION**
Mr Bernard Evans presented a draft of the updated Climate Action Plan. Councillors are asked to bring comments and suggested changes to the next Council meeting. The Plan can then be adopted at the May meeting.

39-23

5

REPORT FROM THE MAYOR

The condition of the front street is a cause for concern. Nothing has been heard from Andrew Keyland re the proposed traffic changes. Highways has said it will attend to the repairs soon, but the changes will need doing first. Cllr Houghton has emailed for clarification.

Thanks to Cllr Stelman for facilitating the flag competition. The two winning flags will be printed for the Charter Celebrations.

The Annual Town Meeting will be on 25th April, when the successful grants will be awarded.

Mayor Making will be on 15th May, followed by the May Council meeting, subject to the Council's approval.

The Mayor, Clerk and Town Crier will visit St Marcel (twin town) to join in with a twinning event with their German twin town.

Lizzie Swales and the Mayor will organise a big tidy up of the town in June.

40-23

6

REPORT FROM THE CLERK

Floor. The Clerk had received two estimates for repairing the floor following the water damage caused by the leak. Councillors agreed to accept the cheaper quote.

The Street naming team have decided to change The Wintles, to Wintles Lane.

Planning. The Clerk had written to the Planning Department with regard to the Council's disappointment that the planning permission for housing on the SAMDEV site had been refused because of being visible for the AONB Shropshire Hills. As most of Bishop's Castle is visible from the AONB, and as the site had already been approved for SAMDEV development, the Council sought clarification on the refusal.

Correspondence is on-going between the Clerk and the Planning Officer.

Chain. Dave Jones had refunded money not spent on the repairs and extension of the Mayoral chain. It was decided that he will be given 2 free tickets to the Charter Banquet and a case of wine, by way of thanks.

41-23

7

UNITARY COUNCILLOR

NHS. The NHS community engagement event, on 1st March at the Methodist Hall was attended by over 120 people. The rurality of the area was shown to the organisers, and they heard concerns over lack of available treatment for dentistry, mental health and early years services. Although not the focus of the meeting, many people expressed their disapproval of the closure of the hospital, despite it being well-equipped and in demand locally. The team will now come up with a plan for the provision of services.

Shropshire Council Budget. Cllr Houghton voted against the budget as it was too vague to comment on effectively, and £3 million was to be spent on consultant's fees. However, it was passed. The cuts in the budget will have implications for rural areas.

Voting From May onwards people will need photo ID to be able to vote.

JSNA Bishops Castle Stakeholder Event was snowed off and has been rescheduled for 25th March.

42-23

8

PLANNING

New applications:

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

1. 23/00603/FUL

Application for the conversion of holiday let to dwelling, including demolition of flat-roofed extension and associated works, and erection of one new dwelling | Boars Head Hotel Church Street Bishops Castle Shropshire SY9 5AE

RESOLVED Object on the grounds that the application is incomplete. Proposed Cllr Perry; Seconded Cllr Payne. All in favour bar 1 abstention.

2. 23/00923/FUL

Application for the removal of the existing vehicular access and improvement of new vehicular access on to the B 4385 at The Cottage Farm Lydbury North Shropshire SY9 5ET

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

43-23 9

MONTHLY FINANCES

i) to receive the bank reconciliation.

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

44-23 10

ii) To approve the following invoices for payment:

Payee	Item	Invoice	Amount £
Shropshire County Pension Fund	Monthly pension payment	March Return	973.19
HMRC	PAYE and NI	March Return	706.46
Staff salaries	4 staff	March Return	2,487.08
C. Owen	Minute taker	284.	40.04
G. Dudley	Toilet cleaning	285.	420.00
Viking	Stationery	286.	153.17
Glasdon	Bench	287.	978.67
Phil's tool hire	Dehumidifier	288.	96.00
Mark One	Fire Safety	289.	£97.34
For information			
BT	telephone /broadband	290.	345.14
		6297.09	
	Total		£ 6297.09

Extra Invoices:

Exemplum: £683.63; BCBS £14.80 and £37.96; G. Dudley £420; Halls SMS £138.73; Blanchere £1656; MBO (Fire Safety) £58.20 and £295.20; Shropshire Council £618.01 (Street Lighting).

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

The broken FIT meter has now been replaced.

45-23 11

CARBON FOOTPRINT

Cllr Bromley had been filling in a Local Government template to ascertain the Council's Carbon footprint. Further information was needed to answer some of the questions. Cllr Bromley asked Councillors to let her know if she had missed anything.

46-23 12

VISIT SHROPSHIRE

Cllrs Houghton and Carroll attended an on-line event with Visit Shropshire. The Council was not getting any updates e.g., on hits on the website and other data which was promised. Some information sent to them had not been uploaded and promoted. The Council seemed to be having to do all the legwork. It seemed that individual members were getting better attention than corporate members. There was some concern as to whether the Council was getting value for its Gold Membership.

47-23 13

PUBLIC HALL

It is still hoped to form a committee, but not enough members of the public were willing to stand at the meeting in February. There will be a public consultation article in the next newsletter, and it will be put on the agenda for the Annual Town Meeting.

48-23 14

YOUNG PEOPLE UPDATE

Cllr Stelman was congratulated for securing a grant of £15,000 from Shropshire Council, including £1000 towards Open Mike, (which is very well attended).

Hereford Diocese were donating £2500 towards the project.

Cllr Stelman asked if the Town Council would be willing to donate £5000 of next year's budget towards the project in principle.

A question arose as to whether the youth leader post should be employed by South Shropshire Youth Forum, as it is currently, or by the Council. Also, if we need to advertise the position or can it be offered to the existing person. Do TUPE rules need to be applied?

49-23 15

CORONATION

The Church will live stream the event on Saturday. People are invited to bring a picnic.

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).

There will be a commemorative service in Church on the Sunday, plus a street fair, Public Hall event and Burger Van.

50-23 16

FOOD RESILIENCE

RESOLVED The Town Council will join the Food Resilience Group. Proposed Cllr Houghton; Seconded Cllr Bromley. All in favour.

RESOLVED The Town Council will form a Food Resilience Task and Finish Group, subject to the terms and references being satisfactory. Proposed Cllr Stelman; Seconded Cllr Houghton. All in favour.

51-23 17

REPORTS FROM MEETINGS ATTENDED

Enterprise South West Shropshire – A new manager has been appointed and the decision will be ratified the next day.

52-23 18

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 18th April at 7.30pm. The meeting closed at 9.28pm

Tuesday 25th April Annual Town Meeting.