



BISHOP'S CASTLE TOWN COUNCIL



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The Town Hall
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SY9 5BG

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BISHOP'S CASTLE TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL
CHAMBER, TOWN HALL ON TUESDAY 17th JANUARY 2023 AT 7.30PM

PRESENT	APOLOGIES
Cllr J. Carroll Cllr J. Dickin Cllr G Perry Cllr A. Stelman Cllr L. Payne Cllr S. Morris Cllr T. Halford Cllr R. Bromley	Cllr R. Houghton
IN ATTENDANCE	
Mr G. Rippon Mrs C. Owen <u>Fire Procedure</u>	

Minute No.	Agenda Item	
1-23	1	APOLOGIES Cllr Houghton
2-23	2	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u> a) To declare any disclosable pecuniary interests. Item 18 <i>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.</i> Item 13 Cllrs perry and Dickin b) To declare any personal interests.
3-23	3	<u>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</u> of 20 th December 2022. RESOLVED The minutes were accepted. Proposed Cllr Stelman; Seconded Cllr Halford. All in favour.
4-23	4	<u>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION</u> None present
5-23	5	<u>REPORT FROM THE MAYOR</u> Town Crier hand over event at the Town Hall at 2pm on New Year's Day went well.

The High Sherriff, Selina Graham, is attending the Shropshire Infrastructure Partnership event at Enterprise House on 25th January, 10am – 2pm. Voluntary groups will be able to get advice from the Partnership.

25th January 2.30pm St John’s Church. The High Sherriff will present a High Sherriff’s Award to John Howells for his dedication over many years maintaining the Churchyard.

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

The Clerk had received a letter from a resident asking for blocked gullies to be cleared and Japanese Knotweed to be removed. The matter has been reported to Fix my street. (Councillor Carroll also had noticed another path near to Oak Meadow that had water running along it).

The Clerk had received a letter from a resident complaining that the fireworks were too loud at Christmas Lights. The Fireworks are always included in the publicity for the Festival, although not the exact time for logistical reasons.

7-23 7 **UNITARY COUNCILLOR**

Not present

8-23 8 **PLANNING**

New applications:

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

1. 22/05752/TCA

Application for to Fell 1no Birch (T1) & 1no Western Red Cedar (T2) within Bishops Castle Conservation Area | Flat Llanserth 2 Kerry Lane Bishops Castle Shropshire SY9 5AU

RESOLVED (The tree warden confirms her support). Supported. Proposed Cllr Stelman; Seconded Cllr Perry. All in favour.

Shropshire Council Planning Decision

Reference: 19/04444/FUL (validated: 07/10/2019)

Address: Land Adj The Surgery, Schoolhouse Lane, Bishops Castle, Shropshire

Proposal: Mixed residential development of 52 dwellings; formation of new vehicular access and estate roads; formation of public open space (Amended Description)

Decision: Refuse

RESOLVED The Clerk will write to the Planning Officer to ask for the reasons behind the decision as this was SAMDEV land which had already been assigned for development by Shropshire Council prior to the application being submitted in 2019.

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

9-23 9 **TO DISCUSS THE COUNCIL’S CARBON FOOTPRINT**

Cllr Bromley offered to work with the Clerk to calculate the Council’s current carbon footprint as a baseline from which to set annual targets which can then be reviewed.

RESOLVED Cllr Bromley works with the Clerk and brings back the information to the March Meeting. Proposed Cllr Perry; Seconded Cllr Payne. All in favour.

10-23 10 **CCTV**

To discuss the installation of CCTV at the crossroads A488 with the B4385 to aid reduction of the high volume of thefts of vehicles. It is unclear whether the Police and Crime Commissioners would be able to provide any funding.

RESOLVED It was agreed that the Clerk will prepare costings and look into the implications for the Council and the operational responsibilities and bring back to the Council. Proposed Cllr Perry; Seconded Cllr Payne. All in favour.

11-23 11 **SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL CONSULTATION ON THE BUDGET**

Councillors agreed that the budget plan put out for consultation was too vague to comment specifically as there was little information on what the changes and their implications would be for Shropshire residents and Town and Parish Councils.

12-23 12 **MONTHLY FINANCES**

i) To note the bank reconciliation

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

13-23 13 **To approve the following invoices for payment:**

Payee	Item	Invoice	Amount £
Shropshire County Pension Fund	Monthly pension payment	January Return	973.19
HMRC	PAYE and NI	January Return	706.46
Staff salaries	4 staff	January Return	2,487.08
C. Owen	Minute taker	284.	40.04
G. Dudley	Toilet cleaning	285.	336.00
Exemplum	Printing	286.	182.51
Exemplum	Printing	287.	10.74
Blachere	Christmas lights	288.	1188.00
Josh Dickin	Civic expenses	289.	171.39
Severn Trophies	Mayoral Chain	290.	100.00
B. Jones	Christmas lights	291.	115.20
Shropshire Council	Joint energy	292.	618.01
P.Eldridge	relief Cleaner	293.	201.78
Grant Perry	Civic expenses	294.	33.00
SOS	training	295.	65.00
PKF Littlejohn	Audit	296.	106.20
Wintles Management Group	Grass cutting	297.	150.00
G.J. Rippon	Host It (Web hosting)	298.	167.88
For information			
ICO	Data protection Subscription	299.	35.00
bt	telephone /broadband	300.	357.34
Waterplus	rates	301.	37.37
Waterplus	rates	302.	25.09
Lloyds Bank	bank charges	303.	3.00
	Total		£ 8724.08

- RESOLVED** The invoices be paid. Proposed Cllr Stelman; Seconded Cllr Payne. All in favour.
- 14-23 14 **PUBLIC HALL**
see 18
- 15-23 15 **FOOD SECURITY**
Councillors agreed that paper that had been prepared was well written. The Council needs to take advice as to what it can do as a public body.
ACTION The paper will be publicised on the website and in the newsletter
Ms Du Cros be invited to speak to the Council on what the next steps might be for the Council
RESOLVED Cllr Payne will invite Ms Du Cros to speak to and advise the Council.
Proposed Cllr Payne; Seconded Cllr Stelman. All in favour.
- 16-23 16 **REPORTS FROM MEETINGS ATTENDED**
The new website “Bishop’s Castle and Beyond” has been launched
<https://bishopscastleandbeyond.co.uk>
The launch was well-attended. This is a collaboration of Enterprise House, who own the structure of the web-site, and The Tourism Group, who own the content.
Accommodation and business providers need to pay the Tourism Group but events will be free. There will be a further meeting to discuss how events can be advertised. There may also be a business directory produced for the website.
The opening video is on show in the Town Hall, also.
People are encouraged to visit the website and for businesses to register their business if not already done so.
- 17-23 17 To resolve 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 to be discussed involves the likely disclosure of confidential information as defined in the Acts.
- 18-23 18 **PUBLIC HALL UPDATE**
Cllr Perry briefed Councillors of the current progress in their capacity as custodian trustees of the Public Hall.
He is still awaiting some costings and other information. Once all the relevant information has been ascertained the new committee will be convened to discuss how to proceed.
- 19-23 19 **NEXT MEETING**
Tuesday 21st February, 7.30pm. The meeting closed at 8.35pm.