



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 20th JUNE 2023 AT 7.30PM

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

IN ATTENDANCE	
Mrs C. Owen Mrs M. Gwilliam and 1 member of the public	

Fire Procedure

Minute No.	Agenda Item	

76-23 1 **APOLOGIES** Cllr Houghton; Town Clerk.

77-23 2 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

a) To declare any disclosable pecuniary interests.

Item 14 ***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.*

Name	Item	Personal	Prejudicial
Cllr Stelman	Item 10 b (planning)	✓	
Cllr Carroll	Item 10 a (planning)	✓	

78-23 3 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** of 15th May 2023.

RESOLVED The minutes were accepted after a name correction. Proposed Cllr Stelman; Seconded Cllr Morris. All in favour.

79-23 4 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION**

A member of the public asked the Town Council whether they would have power to resist policies introduced by Government in a top-down manner, if the Council felt it was not in the town's interest to comply, e.g. with the pedestrianisation and traffic schemes being imposed in larger towns and cities.

Also, what was the Council doing about the lack of affordable (rented) housing in the town?

Cllr Perry offered to reply by email to explain what was and wasn't in the Council's remit.

Ms Jocelyn thanked the Council for looking after the Town well, particularly in relation to its Climate Action Plan.

80-23 5 **REPORT FROM THE MAYOR**

There had been some antisocial behaviour in the skate park – graffiti and bad language, which was annoying the neighbouring residents. Cllr Stelman would like to encourage some young people to be 'friends' of the skate park.

It is hoped that the rails down the cobbles will be fixed soon.

The planters will be sorted soon and the bunting will go up on Tuesday before the carnival.

The commissioned stained-glass window will soon be fitted on the landing.

The twinning with St Marcel went well.

The new newsletter has been well-received.

81-23 6 **REPORT FROM THE CLERK**

Portfolio holders future reports process needs brought to the next Council Meeting.

82-23 7 **UNITARY COUNCILLOR**

Not present

83-23 8 **ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

A local committee needs to be formed consisting of members of the community and councillors, with regard to the planned closure of the hospital.

The Health Trust hasn't announced the date of their public meeting yet. Philip Dunne MP has spoken with the Mayor at length and wants to be informed of developments.

RESOLVED: The Council seeks to call a meeting to form a committee to discuss the issues involved at the earliest opportunity. Proposed Cllr Perry; Seconded Cllr Stelman. All in favour.

84-23 9 **ALLOTMENTS**

For information. A recent inspection has been undertaken by the Allotments Society. Some tenants have been given 28 days to improve their plot, or an eviction notice will be served. If a tenant subsequently appeals against an eviction, then a panel of two/three councillors would be asked to consider the case.

For clarification. Any complaint against the Allotments Society would be dealt by them. However, if a complaint is made against the Town Council (as owners of the site), then the Council will follow its standard complaints procedure.

85-23 10

PLANNING

1. New applications:

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

a. 23/02028/LBC

Application for structural repairs and alterations to 'barn' outbuilding in connection with provision of ancillary domestic studio/workshop, to include renewal of metal roof coverings, insertion of conservation-style roof lights and installation of external timber staircase | The Porch House 33 - 35 High Street Bishops Castle Shropshire SY9 5BE

Cllr Carroll left the chamber.

RESOLVED: Supported. Proposed Cllr Perry; Seconded Cllr Halford. All in favour.

Cllr Carroll returned to the chamber.

b. 23/01941/FUL

Application for the refurbishment of and alterations to existing storage building and change of use to food bank | Proposed Conversion Of Outbuilding East Of 68 To 70 Church Street Bishops Castle Shropshire

RESOLVED: Supported. Proposed Cllr Perry; Seconded Cllr Carroll. This was passed

86-23 11

MONTHLY FINANCES

i) to receive the bank reconciliation.

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

ii) To receive the Internal Auditor's report

iii) To agree the account and governance statement

RESOLVED: Items 11 ii) and 11 iii) are to be deferred as the auditor has not returned the documents.

87-23 12

iv) To approve the following invoices for payment:

Payee	Item	Invoice	Amount £
Shropshire County Pension Fund	Monthly pension payment	June Return	904.40
HMRC	PAYE and NI	June Return	706.46
Staff salaries	4 staff	June Return	2,487.08
C. Owen	Minute taker	78	40.04
G. Dudley	Toilet cleaning	79	500.00
D. Turner	Grass cutting	80	1115.75
G.J. Rippon	Expenses	81	312.28
Dave Taylor	Town Hall (lighting)	82	237.60
Dave Taylor	Town Hall (lighting)	83	439.20
Craven Design	Charter	84	136.00
A. Pellegram	Neighbourhood plan	85	1055.95
V print	Charter	86	582.00
V print	Charter	87	318.00
Space mobiles	Charter	88	120.00
EPS	Charter	89	72.00
Medicare	Charter	90	474.00
BCBS	Materials	91	51.40
Shropshire Council	Joint Energy	92	1193.40
BCHRC	Affiliation fee	93	25.00
Exemplum	Printing	94	374.09
Play Safety	RoSPA report	95	397.80
Tony Baker	Maintenance	96	682.00
Paul Chamberlain	Window Cleaning	97	48.00
For information			
Visunext	New remote for screen	98	27.98
Numatic	Hoover part	99	14.48
Masquerade	Charter	100	64.00
Easy VAT	Vat return	101	4.99
Shropshire Council	Rates	102	187.00
Water plus	Rates	103	35.75
Corona	Electricity	104	762.23
	Total		£13368.88

Extra Invoice: Shropshire Hardwoods £168.

RESOLVED The invoices, including the extra invoice be paid. Proposed Cllr Perry; Seconded Cllr Carroll. All in favour.

89-23 14 **PUBLIC HALL**

Following the results of the public consultation, it is proposed that the trustees call a public meeting for the committee to explain the results and consequent plan of action. This will be confirmed at a separate Trustee meeting.

90-23 15 **REPORTS FROM MEETINGS ATTENDED**

Cllrs Perry and Carroll met the neighbours re a possible damp issue with a party wall and chimney shared with the Town Hall. Joe Green will prepare a report.

Cllrs Perry and Carroll met with Dan Turner re some extra ground maintenance work that had been identified. He will prepare costings and a schedule and submit the proposal of works to the Council for approval.

Enterprise South West Shropshire. Ruth Houghton had agreed to stand in temporarily as chair. Polly Owen is the new manager.

91-23 16 **NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 18th July at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.