

# Whitchurch Town Council

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## FULL COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 19<sup>th</sup> JULY 2018

#### PRESENT

Cllrs: T O'Neill, J Martin, M Barker, L Broders, S Hamlyn, A Chesters, J Sinnott, N Raynes, H Vasey, M Fewster, T Neville, B Duffy, A Hall

#### IN ATTENDANCE

Nicola Young – Town Clerk

CSO Chris Hirons – Local Policing Team, West Mercia Police

Barrie White – Journalist, Whitchurch Herald

#### 1. Apologies

None

#### 2. Declarations of Interest

None received.

#### 3. Minutes

- a. After a proposal from Cllr Duffy, seconded by Cllr Barker, it was **WTC/49/1819 RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2018** and sign as an accurate record of that meeting.
- b. After a proposal from Cllr Raynes, seconded by Cllr O'Neill, it was **WTC/50/1819 RESOLVED** to make one amendment to the minutes; Cllr Hamlyn submitted apologies and then accept the minutes of the Extraordinary Council meeting held on **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2018**.

#### 4. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

#### 5. Mayor's Announcements

Date	Mayor Appointment
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June 2018	Opened the Meres & Mosses Landscape Partnership bench in Jubilee Park
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> June 2018	Attended the Whitchurch Guides & Scouts BBQ
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> June 2018	Attended Mayoral Training, Shirehall
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> July 2018	Shrewsbury Mayor Civic Reception
Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup> July 2018	Attending Opening of Art Gallery, Unit 3 Heritage Courtyard Studios
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> July 2018	Attended Wellington Mayor's Civic Service

The Mayor informed Council that:

- Future Fit consultation will be taking place in Whitchurch Civic Centre on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> August 2018.
- Shropshire Council have released a statement saying that they have suspended the Community Led Road Safety Concerns programme as a Highways saving. Accident cluster sites schemes will only be funded and all the other schemes will be on hold until 2020 budget.

The Mayor made the following statement:

For four weeks the Deputy Mayor and I have been under investigation by the Monitoring Officer. He had received an allegation from a Whitchurch Town Councillor that we had failed to comply with the Code of Conduct of Whitchurch Town Council. After a full investigation the Monitoring Officer's response was that we had acted correctly at all times and dismissed all allegations. The matter is now closed.

## 6. Public Participation

After a proposal from Cllr Neville, seconded by Cllr Duffy it was **WTC/51/1819 RESOLVED** to suspend Standing Orders for public participation.

## 7. Vacancies & Co-option

Council received a statement from prospective Town Councillor, Mr Dominik Pokladecki. Following a closed vote and unanimous positive decision, it was proposed by Cllr Neville, seconded by Cllr Martin, and **WTC/52/1819 RESOLVED** that Dominik Pokladecki be co-opted onto Whitchurch Town Council. Cllr Pokladecki read the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and took his seat.

## 8. Report from West Mercia Police

CSO Hirons, Local Policing Team, West Mercia Police reported:

- Two Joint Operations with Trading standard at a RETAIL premises, where illicit tobacco was seized and 500 nitrous oxide canisters were voluntarily handed over, trading standards are currently dealing with this. Wok has also been carried out with the Youth Club in Whitchurch to discuss the risks associated with using the nitrous oxide canisters to inhale the fumes.
- Speed reassurance at Grindley brook was carried out by a member of the public last night who had raised concerns about speeding on the road – speed checks were carried out for around 2 hours from 1830 to 2030 and one driver was stopped and spoken to about their speed. Councillors are welcome to join me on an arranged speed check if they wish, in an area they suggest – subject to safe positioning.
- Thank you for the use of a room for the pub watch meeting, there was a good attendance several venues attended and they are discussing setting up a scheme in Whitchurch.
- I enjoyed attending the Scam Awareness event last week together with Age Concern and Natwest Bank – we spoke with a good number of people and hopefully the event will be repeated.
- In conjunction with the Mischief Makers reading challenge in the library, I will be running a childrens' event on the 26th August learning about how Police use forensic science when we investigate crimes.

- Our PACT Surgeries, when we are available at the Whitchurch library for members of the community to discuss community concerns with us continue over the summer, on the below dates:
  - 26th July at 10am
  - 3rd August at 10am
  - 13th August at 10am
  - 7th September at 10am
  - 10th September at 10am

This is all the dates we have booked in at the moment.

- I'll be attending the Makers Market in Whitchurch on the 4th August, joining the Council table."

Q. How is Pubwatch scheme managed?

A. Pubwatch is self-managed by licensees, although they could pay a levy to employ a Pubwatch Coordinator.

Cllr Mike Barker expressed an interest in attending a speedwatch, the invitation was extended to all Councillors.

CSO Hirons informed Council about Op Triumph, taking place on Thursday evenings and Sundays: Police vehicles are parking up on known routes as traffic calming measures.

## 9. Portfolio Holder for Highways & Transport

Shropshire Councillor Steve Davenport, Portfolio Holder for Highways & Transport spoke to Council regarding the highways issue of the roads in and around Whitchurch, especially Waymills.

Cllr Davenport explained that his role is to hold Shropshire Council to account on behalf of town and parish councils. He clarified that the Highway contractor had now changed from Ringway to Kier and the company will have 5 depots countywide.

Programmed works:

Blackpark – resurfacing starts 1<sup>st</sup> September

Waymills – emergency patching and resurfacing in Autumn 2018

Parking permits have been requested by all residents in Bridgewater Street,

Nantwich Road – due to the number of fatalities, Shropshire Council have agreed to reduce the speed limit to 50mph. Cllr Davenport is also pushing for double white lines, but the Police and Department for Transport disagree.

The Safer Road Partnership also coordinate speedwatch groups if Whitchurch Town Council were interested.

Questions:

Comment: Had Shropshire Council originally completed a proper repair in the first place on Waymills, this would have been more cost-effective.

Comment: If Shropshire Council do not mend potholes, there is a real danger to road users.

Cllr Davenport explained that £5million savings had been removed from the Highways budget, this money had gone into Adult Social Care.

Comment: The process to mend roads is too bureaucratic – WSP/Kier/Shropshire Council. Cllr Davenport agreed, stating he would like to bring WSP back into the Council.

## 10. Shropshire Councillor's Report

Cllr Gerald Dakin reported that he had received good comments from Whitchurch regarding the Draft Local Plan Review meeting.

Parking: Cllr Dakin requested help with the request for the residents of Bridgewater Street & Claypit Street to receive residents parking only.

Public Session:

Mr Geoff Crowther-Smith – Secretary Whitchurch Men in Sheds reported that from the point of view of Whitchurch Shed, they support the proposal at Item 14. for Whitchurch Town Council to take on Centre North East as a community asset.

After a proposal from Cllr Neville, seconded by Cllr Sinnott, it was **WTC/53/1819 RESOLVED** to reinstate Standing Orders.

## 11. Accounts

After a proposal from Cllr Sinnott, seconded by Cllr O'Neill, it was **WTC/54/1819 RESOLVED** to accept and sign Month 2 & 3 accounts.

## 12. Minutes from Committees

- a. **Events & Entertainment Committee.** After a proposal from Cllr Hall, seconded by Cllr Duffy, it was **WTC/55/1819 RESOLVED** to accept the minutes from the Events & Entertainment Committee held on 27<sup>th</sup> July 2018.
- b. **Parks, Public Realm & Civic Centre Committee** meeting planned to take place on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2018 did not meet as it was not quorate.
- c. **Heritage Committee.** After a proposal from Cllr Duffy, seconded by Cllr O'Neill, it was **WTC/56/1819 RESOLVED** to accept the minutes from the Heritage Committee meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2018.
- d. **Finance & Personnel Committee.** Chair of the Finance & Personnel Committee, Cllr Sinnott, explained that a draft Service Level Agreement had been accepted for WAODS and other local organisations that wish Whitchurch Town Council to sell tickets on their behalf. After a proposal from Cllr Sinnott, seconded by Cllr Vasey, it was **WTC/57/1819 RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the Finance & Personnel Committee held on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2018.

## 13. Motion 2 from Councillor Sinnott

Motion 2: That Whitchurch Town Council purchase a recording system so that it can comply with resolutions that meetings should be recorded.

After a proposal from Cllr Sinnott, seconded by Cllr Hall, it was **WTC/58/1819 RESOLVED** that the Clerk could go ahead and order a Phillips recorder under £200.

## 14. Motion 3 from Councillor Sinnott

Motion 3: That Whitchurch Town Council enter into discussion with Shropshire Council with regards to the transfer of Centre North East to Whitchurch Town Council as a Community Asset Transfer. After a proposal from Cllr Sinnott, seconded by Cllr Barker, it was **WTC/59/1819 RESOLVED** to enter into discussions with Shropshire Council regarding the Community Asset Transfer of Centre North East (CNE) to maintain a building for youth provision whilst Shropshire Council fund the youth work.

**15. Separating Committees**

After a proposal from Cllr Neville, seconded by Cllr O'Neill, it was **WTC/60/1819 RESOLVED** to separate Committees, this was a majority vote with 3 abstentions. Councillors were then nominated to the respective Committees and a full list of Committees and members are attached to these minutes.

**16. PCC 'We Don't Buy Crime' Smartwater Funding**

After a proposal from Cllr Sinnott, seconded by Cllr O'Neill, it was **WTC/61/1819 RESOLVED** to initially apply for 100 Smartwater kits through the 'We Don't Buy Crime' initiative.

**17. Request to Attend Aldi Planning Inquiry**

After a proposal by Cllr Raynes, seconded by Cllr Fewster, it was **WTC/62/1819 RESOLVED** that Cllr Bev Duffy, Chair of Planning will represent Whitchurch Town Council at the Aldi Planning Inquiry regarding the Proposed Foodstore to the North of Wrexham Road, Planning Application Reference 17/01152/FUL.

**18. Extinguishment Request for FP 39 & FP 38**

Following a letter from Shropshire Council Outdoor Partnerships regarding an application to extinguish FP 39, FP38 and part of FP 40 in Whitchurch under section 257 of the Town & Country Planning Act to allow for development. Whitchurch Town Council are in agreement.

**19. Free Building Hire for Blackberry Fair**

Council received a written request from Blackberry Fair CIC to waive the room hire costs of rooms in the Civic Centre for Blackberry Fair event on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> October, including set up and set down. After a proposal from Cllr Neville, seconded by Cllr Sinnott, it was **WTC/63/1819 RESOLVED** to defer this to matter to Finance Committee.

After a proposal from Cllr Neville, seconded by Cllr Hall, it was **WTC/64/1819 RESOLVED** to continue the meeting after 2 hours.

**20. CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS**

After a proposal from Cllr Neville, seconded by Cllr Chesters, it was **WTC/65/1819 RESOLVED** to exclude the public & press from the remainder of the meeting in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960.

**21. Complaint from the Town Clerk**

After a proposal from Cllr O'Neill, seconded by Cllr Sinnott, it was **WTC/66/1718 RESOLVED** that the Mayor will sign the letter once the agreed wording has been amended.

**Meeting closed at 9.25pm**

**Chairman .....**

**Date .....**