

Whitchurch Town Council

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FULL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 19th OCTOBER 2017

PRESENT

Cllrs: B. Duffy, J. Martin, T. O'Neill, T. Neville, J. Sinnott

IN ATTENDANCE

Peggy Mullock – Shropshire Councillor

Gerald Dakin – Shropshire Councillor

Nicola Young – Town Clerk

Barrie White – Whitchurch Herald

Belinda Doolan – Community Enablement Officer, Shropshire Council

Dr Judith Hoyle – Whitchurch Museum and Archives

1. Apologies

Cllr J. McAuley – illness

Cllr J. Sinnott – illness

Cllr A. Chesters – holiday

Cllr L. Broders – work commitment

2. Declarations of Interest

None received.

3. Minutes

After a proposal from Cllr Duffy, seconded by Cllr O'Neill, it was **WTC/72/1718 RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on the **21st September 2017** and sign as an accurate record of that meeting.

4. Matters Arising

No matters arising

5. Mayor's Announcements

After a proposal from Cllr Neville, seconded by Cllr O'Neill, it was **WTC/73/1718 RESOLVED** to go ahead with the Friendship Agreement between Dartmouth Town Council and Whitchurch Town Council, accept the gift and arrange for a Whitchurch plaque to be made for Dartmouth TC.

6. Public Participation

After a proposal from Cllr Neville, seconded by Cllr O'Neill it was **WTC/74/1718 RESOLVED** that Public Participation would take place after the presentations.

Speeding

- Speeding motorists, with noisy cars, throughout the town centre. Police prefer engineering to calm down speeding. Noisy car drivers should receive a s59 notice. Suggest making Green End and High Street 'Access Only'.

- Repeater signs were suggested for the 20mph area of Green End and High Street or perhaps pain 20mph on the roads. Whitchurch Town Council to write and request repeater signs.

Pigeons

- Whitchurch Town Council were requested to approach Shropshire Council Environmental Health.

WW1 Book

- Dr Judith Hoyle, Curator at Whitchurch Museum & Archives presented a book to the Council, compiled by the Whitchurch Museum & Archives volunteers following a successful funding application. Whitchurch Town Council received the book and gave a vote of thanks to the volunteers of Whitchurch Museum & Archives.

7. Report from West Mercia Police

PC Deb Wheeler sent apologies for Whitchurch Town Council meeting and reports:

The Safer Neighbourhood team (SNT) have executed one warrant for drugs, on this occasion nothing was found and no one was arrested, however the Team will continue to carry out warrants as the intelligence is received from the public

The SNT are continuing to tackle ASB with vehicles within the Whitchurch area and one Section 59 has been issued to a driver regarding his driving. (A Section 59, the law is there to stop anti-social use of motor vehicles that annoy the public or place people at risk. It also stops offenders who disrupt the quality of life of others at homes nearby. A Section 59 warning is issued first to allow the driver to adjust their driving style or to their motor vehicles. If there are further complaints about the driver once the Section 59 warning has been issued, police then have the power to seize the motor vehicle. Once the vehicle is seized, the owner is liable for recovery and storage costs which must be paid before they can get their vehicle back).

To tackle the ASB outside Tesco, the SNT are working with the store: the bench outside is being brought in at night and we are currently liaising with SJT to attend all the year groups assemblies to give talks on ASB and Hate Crime.

ASB by elderly drunk male, SNT are aware of this male and are currently in process of tackling his behaviour

There has also been a police operation tackling cross-border crime. During the operation over 130 vehicles were checked, this resulted in 15 vehicles being seized for no insurance nor tax, 6 arrests: 2 for drink/drug driving and 4 drivers being reported for traffic offences.

The front counter at the police station will be open on occasions and there will be a large sign placed outside to say there is an officer available to be spoken to. (PC Wheeler is not allocating a day and time, due to other duties, an officer may be available on a certain day).

PCSO Hiron has had the mobile police station out in the rural areas.

8. Presentation from Wrekin Housing Trust Representative

Phil Brenner, representing Wrekin Housing Trust, gave a short presentation on the proposed plans for the Pauls Moss site. Reporting that there would be a public consultation on Friday 10th November for people to come and take a look at the proposed plans.

Phil explained that he had come to the meeting to present ideas for the proposed site and what could happen, he was an independent contractor working for Wrekin Housing Trust on this project and would not be able to answer questions about housing.

- Q. Residents living in the housing at the rear of Paul's Moss, owned by Equity Housing, will need continuous access through the building site to their properties.
- Q. What will happen about the sewerage for the residents on the Equity Housing properties?

Answer:

- Partners are looking at the whole site, there is a potential to knock down Pauls Moss
- Wrekin Housing Trust are currently at the 'business case' process
- Wrekin Housing are carrying out a feasibility study and will firstly talk to people to feed comments into the feasibility of the project
- Phasing a build can be looked at

Q. Where does the project start?

Answer:

- Wrekin Housing Trust own Pauls Moss site. Partners are working together, but Wrekin Housing Trust, who develop affordable housing only, will redevelop the older people's accommodation. The feasibility study will help the Trust to understand the needs of individuals and build appropriate accommodation.
- Whitchurch Town Council represent the views of the people of Whitchurch.

9. Shropshire Councillor's Report

Cllr Dakin reported on strategies and consultations:

- Shropshire Local Plan partial review starts 18th October for 8 weeks – 2016-2036
- Finance Strategy 2018-22 – imbalance of approximately £59m, but has been balanced for this year.
- Community Transport - the Transport Select Committee has launched an inquiry into the licencing arrangements for community transport in light of the Department for Transport's 31st July letter on Section 19/22 Permits and driver licencing, for minibuses over 8 seats.

After a proposal from Cllr Neville, seconded by Cllr O'Neill, it was **WTC/75/1718 RESOLVED** to reinstate standing orders.

10. Correspondence

None

11. Outstanding Council Resolutions

(a) **Civic Centre Freehold** – the Clerk had met with Shropshire Council officers.

(b) **Skateboard Park** – RSK Environmental Ltd have completed the land investigations, the report will be ready within 8 weeks and a meeting with partners and the project management company has been agreed for early December.

(c) **Increased Town Centre Signage** – no update.

12. Future Medical Provision

No further update.

13. Accounts

After a proposal from Cllr Duffy, seconded by Cllr Martin, it was **WTC/76/1718 RESOLVED** to accept Month 6 accounts as presented.

14. Minutes from Committees

- **Finance Committee** – It was reported that the Finance Committee had agreed that the Council would maintain exterior defibrillators placed in the public realm, following funding received to purchase the equipment. After a proposal from Cllr Martin, seconded by Cllr Duffy, it was **WTC/77/1718 RESOLVED** to accept the minutes from the Finance Committee held on 14th September 2017.
- **Parks & Public Realm** – It was reported that the play area extension was due to be completed Friday 20th October, an initial inspection had taken place and items were being rectified. The Council had received over 300 signatures for the Tree Charter Legacy Branch. After a proposal from Cllr O’Neill, seconded by Cllr Duffy, it was **WTC/78/1718 RESOLVED** to accept the minutes from the Parks & Public Realm Committee held on 7th September 2017.
- **Civic Centre Committee** – After a proposal from Cllr O’Neill, seconded by Cllr Neville, it was **WTC/79/1718 RESOLVED** to accept the minutes from the Civic Centre Committee held on 7th September 2017.
- **Heritage Committee** – It was reported that the Council are working with the volunteers to set up a CIO. After a proposal from Cllr Duffy, seconded by Cllr Martin, it was **WTC/80/1718 RESOLVED** to accept the minutes from the Heritage Committee meeting held on 21st September 2017.
- **Planning Committee** – It was reported that the Committee considered a few planning applications, but particularly the one from Aldi. Whitchurch Town Council support Aldi coming to Whitchurch but not on the proposed site. A request has been made to Alsì to provide an extra bus stop for the town bus rather than provide their own bus and for the Council to have control of the £45,000 offered for community projects. After a proposal from Cllr Duffy, seconded by Cllr O’Neill, it was **WTC/81/1718 RESOLVED** to accept the minutes from the Planning Committee meeting held on 18th September 2017.

15. Report from Members on Outside Organisations

- Cllr Duffy reported that she had attended the Northern Locality Patients Group where discussions had taken place on the medical centre proposals, Future Fit
- Cllr Duffy had attended the Whitchurch area Local Joint Committee meeting on 4th October receiving a presentation on the parking strategy
- Cllr Duffy had attended the Community Led Plan meeting followed by the Town Team meeting on 10th October.

16. Elect Members to Outside Bodies

The following members were nominated to the listed outside bodies:

GROUP	REPRESENTATIVE
Town Twinning	Cllr T Neville
Whitchurch Chamber of Trade	Cllr McAuley
Whitchurch Waterways Trust	Cllr T O’Neill
Fair Trade	Cllr T O’Neill
Queensway Playing Fields	Cllr T O’Neill
Beechtree Community Centre	Cllr J Martin
Higginson’s Church of England School	Cllr J Martin
Samuel Higginson Almshouse	Cllr J Martin
Jane Higginson Charity	Cllr J Martin

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Town Team	Cllrs: Duffy & Martin
Whitchurch Relief in Need	Cllr O'Neill
Local Joint Committee	Cllr Duffy / Deputy Cllr Neville
Joint Cemetery Board	Cllr T O'Neill/Cllr L Broders
Joint Commissioning & Economic Board	Cllr J Sinnott
Markets & Events Group	Cllr T O'Neill
Whitchurch Patients Group	Cllr B Duffy

17. Elect Members to Committees

Deferred.

18. Council Owned Trees - Guidelines

After a proposal from Councillor Neville, seconded by Councillor Duffy, it was **WTC/82/1718 RESOLVED** to add the Council Owned Trees – Guidelines to the Constitution.

19. Council Credit Card

After a proposal from Cllr Neville, seconded by Cllr O'Neill, it was **WTC/83/1718 RESOLVED** that the Clerk could proceed with ordering a credit card, up to a maximum of £1,000 credit for use by the Clerk only.

20. Play Area Extension – Amended Report

After a proposal from Cllr Neville, seconded by Cllr O'Neill, it was **WTC/84/1718 RESOLVED** that the report from the Clerk, amending the cost codes for the project, was accepted.

21. Place Plan

It was agreed that the Clerk will organise an afternoon to review the Place Plan and update the information on Whitchurch.

22. CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

After a proposal from Cllr Neville, seconded by Cllr O'Neill, it was **WTC/85/1718 RESOLVED** that under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1060, the public and press be excluded for the remainder of the meeting because of the likely disclosure of private and confidential information or staff matters.

23. Temporary Changes to Committee Structure

After a proposal by Cllr Duffy, seconded by Cllr Neville, it was **WTC/86/1718 RESOLVED** that Parks & Public Realm Committee will amalgamate with Civic Centre Committee, the Finance Committee will amalgamate with Personnel Committee and that ALL Councillors will be on ALL Committees.

Meeting closed at 9.25pm.

Chairman.....

Date.....