MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 18th SEPT 2014

PRESENT

IN ATTENDANCE
M Wilson (Town Clerk), Cllr G Dakin (Shropshire Councillor)

1. Apologies
   Cllr Harris – On holiday
   Cllr McDonalld – Another meeting
   Cllr Hitchiner – Just come out of hospital
   Cllr Rigley – None given

2. Declarations of Interest
   Cllr Duffy – item 18 lives on Chester Road

3. Minutes
   After a proposal by Councillor Sinnott and seconded by Councillor O'Neill WTC/37/1415
   RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 17th July 2014 be agreed.

4. Matters Arising
   Cllr Duffy asked the progress on the paving slabs in the town. Cllr Hewson informed committee that Shropshire Council is still dealing with the issue.
   Cllr Stones informed councillors that he had spoken to the library and they were seeking Wi fi for the Library for public use. As committee had already decided that it was not for public use the library were informed.

5. Mayor’s Announcements
   The Mayor announced that he had been to Nantwich Show; opened two shops in the town; had the Mayors Charity event in the Civic Centre; attended the Mayors Charity event in Shrewsbury, attended a school presentation; the remembrance for WW1 and the Lions concert.

6. Outstanding Actions
   WTC/94/1314 19.09.13: Progress alternative use of play area. Application in to Shropshire Council has been approved.

7. Public Participation
   After a proposal by Councillor Hewson and seconded by Councillor O'Neill WTC/38/1415
   Members of the public asked questions about the feasibility study for the skate park in Jubilee Park; councillors were asked if the letters sent had been read, it was agreed that they had seen the letters.

   The Friends of the Park urged councillors to see read the town plan and the comments made by the youth at the time and if the feasibility study recommended the area by the portacabin that consultation of the general public not just those who live around the park is sought.
Cllr Sinnott replied to some of the questions raised in the letters stating that the Town Council cannot be held responsible for accidents unless they are negligent, noise surveys have to be completed and the Town Council is not paying for the feasibility study.

The Bye Law for no bikes on the park was raised; the public present was reminded that there is a BMX area already in the park. The Councillors were reminded by Friends of the Park that the Parish Plan shows a skate park at number 7. Cllr Dakin informed those present that he was leading the skate board park as the youth decided that they wanted one and it would be at no cost to the Town Council other than insurance and checks.

Nicki Young informed all that the funds raised by Centre North East have now been given to Leisure Services at Shropshire Council for them to fund any skate park proposal.

Another resident asked three questions concerning the planning application for an Aerobic Digester; The first concerned the statement that the AD would assist in the electricity for the town. Cllr Sinnott explained that the Town Council had a representative from Scottish Power to clarify that the excess electricity could not assist in the Towns shortage unless GroContinental relinquished the electricity they have at present.

The second question concerned if a councillor would be attending the planning meeting when the AD would be discussed, it was agreed that the Town would send a representative.

The third question was directed at Shropshire Councillor Gerald Dakin about the reason why a dry goods store planning application from GroContinental was replaced by a refrigerated chill store. Cllr Dakin would seek information for a reply. Cllr Sinnott asked Cllr Dakin about the dry goods store that is now a refrigeration unit, expressing concern that it is only after complaining that Shropshire Council are completing a noise assessment which is retrospective.

8. Presentation from Scottish Power

Unable to attend no presentation.

9. Persimmon Homes Presentation

A presentation on a proposed site was given to the councillors for development on Liverpool Road.

10. Casual Vacancy Co Option

After a proposal by Councillor Neville and seconded by Councillor O’Neill WTC/39/1415

REMOVED: to co-op Gareth Leverton to the Town Council.

11. Minutes from Committees

To receive the Minutes of the following committees as presented by the Chairman and to consider any recommendations contained therein.

- **Parks Committee** Cllr O’Neill reported that the feasibility study for the skate park has been suggested by the portacabin in Jubilee Park. After a proposal by Councillor Neville and seconded by Councillor Duffy WTC/40/1415 RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held 11th September 2014 be agreed.

- **Civic & Markets**
  After a proposal by Councillor Chesters and seconded by Councillor O’Neill WTC/41/1415
  RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held 4th September 2014 be agreed
• **Finance**  
Cllr Chesters asked councillors to agree item 7 and 10 on the minutes.  
After a proposal by Councillor Chesters and seconded by Councillor Hewson **WTC/42/1415**  
**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting held 14th September 2014 be agreed  

• **Heritage**  
Cllr Ebbs reminded the chairman of the committee that it was agreed that there should be two representatives from the Town Council at the Heritage Friends meetings to comply with their museum status. The minutes will reflect this agreement.  
After a proposal by Councillor Hewson and seconded by Councillor Neville **WTC/43/1415**  
**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting held 4th September 2014 be agreed.  

• **CCTV and Christmas Lights**  
Cllr Hewson informed the council that the representative from the Police Commissioning office had been to see the CCTV’s in Whitchurch and had commented on how they were the best he had seen to date. After a proposal by Councillor Neville and seconded by Councillor Hewson **WTC/44/1415**  
**RESOLVED:** That the notes of the meeting held on 4th September 2014 be agreed.  

12. **Report from Members on Outside Organisations.**  
Cllr Duffy reported attending Farmers Market meetings on the 6th August and the 17th August, the main item being discussed at agenda item 19. Cllr Duffy also attended the Patients group where they had a talk on dementia.  

13. **LJC Representative**  
After a proposal by Councillor Sinnott and seconded by Councillor Hewson **WTC/45/1415**  
**RESOLVED** that Cllr Stones would be the second representative for the LJC meetings.  

14. **Skate Park**  
The skate park was discussed in the Public Session and the feasibility study is being completed by Shropshire Council for the area by the portacabin.  

15. **Shropshire Councillor’s Report.**  
After a proposal by Councillor Sinnott and seconded by Councillor Hewson **WTC/46/1415**  
**RESOLVED To suspend Standing Orders to enable Council to receive a report from members of the Shropshire Council.** Cllr Dakin reported at now the planning permission has been given to Mount Farm the Town Council should be able to ask for particular housing needs on affordable / social housing.  
Cllr Sinnott asked if there was any problems with the planning department after the last round of voluntary redundancies as the staff seem to be unaware of important planning issued. He gave an example of the dry goods store that was changed to a refrigerated store as discussed in the public session. Cllr Dakin agreed that there is less staff in planning and it does cause delays in responding.  

16. **Correspondence**  
1. Pear Tree Lane Residents Complaint  
2. Letter from MP Owen Paterson giving support for the lack of additional electricity in the Town.  
3. A number of letters concerning the skate park.  
4. Letter sent to a resident concerning traffic issues down Chester Road  
5. Emailed letter from Lightsource offering financial support if planning for solar panels is agreed.  
6. Letter requesting names to be added to the Cenotaph.  
7. Email from Roger Willis resigning.
15. PIC

After a proposal by Councillor Sinnott and seconded by Councillor Hewson WTC/47/1415 RESOLVED to invite all chairpersons from each of the committees to attend a meeting to discuss the Town Plan.

17. Recording of meetings new legislation

To be discussed at the next council meeting as per Standing orders 85a

18. Planning

Cllr Sinnott commented that the planning process currently waits for the chairman to call a meeting and applications are just emailed through to councillors. Not all councillors read the applications and proposed that it should revert to meetings. After a proposal by Councillor Hewson and seconded by Councillor O’Neill WTC/48/1415 RESOLVED to have planning meetings every three weeks.

19. Farmers market agreement.

Cllr Sinnott reported at the Farmers market has decided to not use Town Council facilities or staff. The Farmers Market chairman has sent an email to this effect but not put it in writing. Bring forward to the next meeting once written conformation is received.

18. Traffic Issues Chester Road Whitchurch

Councillors discussed the Chester Road complaint but currently could not consider this to be a Shropshire Road Safety policy issue.

20. Street lights

A discussion around Shropshire Council switching their street lights off at 12:00 midnight and back on at 05:30 am and if the Town Council should also switch their lights off. It was agreed to wait for the cost of fitting the time switches which the contractor had been asked to quote. Bring forward to the next meeting to discuss the costs.

21. WW1

Cllr Ebbs gave some feedback on the application for funding the glass cabinet and the uniforms. The application will be considered on the 29th Sept and will be notified shortly after that date. The uniform services have been approached as to wearing WW1 uniforms and still awaiting a response.

The Cenotaph has not been cleaned yet as there are three names that have been asked to be added. Cllr Sinnott explained that he and the clerk had been to the archives in Shrewsbury to look at the minutes during and after WW1 to find the criteria for the names to be added to the cenotaph but found no references. Cllr Sinnott agreed that one should be on included, one may be on another war memorial and the third died in training and this one may not be considered.

The clerk informed the councillors that she had sought advice from Shropshire Council and they have suggested that there should be a public consultation before the names are added.

Cllr Sinnott informed councillors that the Newport Road verge would be planted out by McDonalds Hotels gardening staff very shortly.
Cllr Hewson asked if there were any objections to some of the knitted poppies that can be seen in the Bullring trees for the WW1 commemorations for some of them to be placed around the cenotaph for Remembrance Sunday in November. No one objected.

22. Shutters for the Sports / Market Hall

Still awaiting a response from Shropshire Council.

23. Reminder of Standing Orders

The clerk reiterated the standing orders requirement to councillors concerning talking to press or social networks.

24. Bank details

The clerk informed councillors that the Unity Trust Bank account has been opened and in time all the accounts will be transferred to that bank.

25. Statement of Accounts

After a proposal by Councillor Chesters and seconded by Councillor Sinnott WTC/49/1415 RESOLVED to accept Month 6 accounts.

26. Confidential Business

None

Meeting Closed at 8:25

Chairman .......................................................... Date ........................................