MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 16th October 2014

PRESENT
Councillors: R Hewson (Mayor), B Duffy, G Leverton, T Neville, M Rigley, J Sinnott, B Slater, and L Stones.

IN ATTENDANCE
M Wilson (Town Clerk)

1. Apologies
   Cllr Harris – Unwell
   Cllr McDonald – Holiday
   Cllr Hitchiner – Hospital
   Cllr O’Neill – Hospital
   Cllr A Chesters - Unwell
   Cllr J Ebbs – Holiday

2. Declarations of Interest
   None

3. Minutes
   After a proposal by Councillor Hewson and seconded by Councillor Neville WTC/50/1415
   RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 18th September 2014 and sign as an accurate record of that meeting.

4. Matters Arising
   Cllr Slater asked about recording of meetings; item 15 on the agenda covers this item.

5. Mayor’s Announcements
   The Mayor expressed his thanks to the organisers of the Blackberry Fair and how the event was excellent for the town and those who attended. The Town Twinning was on the same day and the visitors enjoyed the Fair and the new Civic Centre.

6. Outstanding Actions
   To be discussed in confidential.

7. Public Participation
   After a proposal by Councillor Hewson and seconded by Councillor Sinnott WTC/51/1415
   standing orders was suspended to hear the presentation from Scottish Power and the town logo and website. Cllr Biggins asked a question about the skate park; Cllr Sinnott explained that the preferred site had a site meeting with National Grid today and they marked out where the gas pipes are located and gave instructions not to build over the gas pipes or within 1½ meters of those pipes. A member of the public asked about where and when the Parks contract would be advertised. The Clerk informed him that it had been advertised in the Shropshire Star and a company called B2Bquote who deal with private and public sector tenders.

8. Presentation from Scottish Power
Scottish power gave a presentation to the councillors and public. After their presentation they took further questions from the public outside the meeting.

9. Presentation to Town Councillors on website and logo

A presentation of the town logo and the Whitchurch website was given to the councillors. After a proposal by Councillor Hewson and seconded by Councillor Sinnott WTC/52/1415 the Public session was then closed to continue the meeting.

10. 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**
  After a proposal by Councillor Slater and seconded by Councillor Sinnott WTC/53/1415
  RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held 9th October 2014 be agreed.

- **Civic & Markets**
  After a proposal by Councillor Sinnott and seconded by Councillor Hewson WTC/54/1415
  RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held 2nd October 2014 be agreed.

- **Finance**
  After a proposal by Councillor Sinnott and seconded by Councillor Slater WTC/55/1415
  RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held 8th October 2014 be agreed.

- **Planning**
  After a proposal by Councillor Hewson and seconded by Councillor Stones WTC/56/1415
  RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held 9th October 2014 be agreed.

- **CCTV and Christmas Lights**
  After a proposal by Councillor Hewson and seconded by Councillor Neville WTC/57/1415
  RESOLVED: That the notes of the meeting held 1st October 2014 be agreed.

11. Report from Members on Outside Organisations.

None

12. Skate Park

The site meeting with National Grid has shown where the gas main pipes are located and Shropshire Council can now continue with the feasibility study.

13. Traffic issues

Worthington Street and Sedgford were discussed and agreed that there are problems in those areas under safer roads but without the expertise the clerk to write and ask Highways for a solution to the problem.

14. Gutter cleaning

A request from the chamber to have the town council write to premises in the town to share a cherry picker to remove vegetation from the gutters. Cllr Hewson asked the herald newspaper to put something in to encourage this alliance.

15. Standing orders amendment

New legislation on transparency needs to be included in Standing orders
After a proposal by Councillor Hewson and seconded by Councillor Sinnott WTC/58/1415 that Standing orders would be amended to reflect the new legislation, circulated for all to read and agreed at the next full council.

16. Farmers Market

The Chairman of the farmers market has written into the council but the agreement was not mentioned. It was agreed that the clerk should write to the chairman of the farmers market and ask for a letter concerning the agreement.

17. Street lights
Councillors were given a cost for replacing timers and LED lights. After a proposal by Councillor Hewson and seconded by Councillor Neville RESOLVED: WTC/59/1415 that Whitchurch Town Council would not consider at this moment in time to switch the lights off.

18. Parking in the Civic Centre Car Park
A discussion around the parking at the back of the civic in the Town Council’s private car park. It was agreed that the residents should not be allowed to park their cars in the town councils private car park as it prevents patrons and staff being able to park their cars. It was agreed to inform the residents that they will no longer be able to park their cars in the car park, giving one month for them to find alternative arrangements. The bollards will be put up every night and signs with private car parking erected.

19. Requests from Heritage Centre
The Heritage wish to have a bike rack placed on the hatched area on the car park and erect a notice board. It was agreed that the reason for the hatching be ascertained first as this could be contravening some regulations. The clerk bought to the Town Councils attention that the Heritage Centre had a grant for £3,000 last year and this year they were not awarded any money. Councillors agreed that the Heritage centre needs to have funds to purchase items and suggested that they write into the council to seek some funds.

20. WW1
The clerk gave an update on the Heritage Lottery Fund application, the award had been granted and this will give the Town Council the opportunity to have the display cabinet, names on the cenotaph, cenotaph cleaned and a re-enactments using WW1 uniforms.

21. Correspondence
Letter from Rates Valuation office
Letter from Farmers Market Chairman (item 16 on the agenda)
Email and letter concerning traffic issues (see item 13)
Invitation to Shropshire Housing Group event 3rd Nov 2014

22. Name for Theatre
It was agreed that a name was needed for the Theatre and it should be a competition in the town for the residents to decide the name.

23. External Audit report
The clerk reported no issues of significance for the external auditor.

24. Statement of Accounts
After a proposal by Councillor Hewson and seconded by Councillor Neville RESOLVED: WTC/60/1415 to accept month 6 accounts.

25. Confidential Business
Confidential items discussed; award of contracts.

26. To discuss award of contracts.

Meeting Closed at 9:25

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