

Whitchurch Town Council

Civic Centre
Whitchurch
SY13 1AX



High Street
Shropshire
tel. 01948 665761

website: www.whitchurchcouncil.uk

email: clerk@whitchurchcouncil.uk

FULL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 20TH DECEMBER 2018

PRESENT

Cllrs: T. Neville, T O'Neill, L Broders, H Vasey, S Radford, S Hamlyn, A Hall, J Sinnott, A Chesters, N Raynes

IN ATTENDANCE

Nicola Young – Town Clerk

PC D Wheeler – Safer Neighbourhood Team, West Mercia Police

1. Apologies

Cllr Duffy

Cllr Barker

2. Declarations of Interest

None received.

3. Minutes

After a proposal from Cllr Broders, seconded by Cllr Hamlyn, **WTC/140/1819 RESOLVED** to a duly sign the minutes of the full Council meeting held on 15th November 2018.

8 for, 1 abstention

4. Matters Arising

Cllr Hall raised the issue of overtime for the pantomime, the matter was duly noted.

5. Mayor's Announcements

Date	Mayor Appointment
16 th November 2018	St John's Church – press photograph re grant from Town Council
19 th November 2018	Northern Area SALC meeting with Cllr Duffy
24 th November 2018	Christmas Lights Switch-on and Citizen of the Year afternoon tea
9 th December 2018	Whitchurch Band Concert
11 th December 2018	Press photograph at SJT with girls' football team re grant from TC
16 th December 2018	St Alkmund's Church Service – read lesson
	Remind Councillors of the Whitchurch Town Council Coffee morning taking place on Friday 21 st December 2018

The Mayor made a public apology reiterating an email apology he made to all Councillors, he had inadvertently 'Replied All' and apologised for so doing.

6. Public Participation

After a proposal from Cllr Neville, seconded by Cllr O'Neill it was **WTC/141/1819 RESOLVED** to suspend Standing Orders for public participation.

Mr John Simpson, representing the residents of The Brambles

Mr Simpson raised again the continuing plight of the residents of The Brambles regarding their lack of sewerage and unsurfaced road and their continuing struggle to gain support from the authorities.

The Town Clerk was requested to write to Ian Kilby, Head of Planning, Shropshire Council and copy in Shropshire Council CEO to arrange a public meeting with residents at the Civic Centre.

Why are planning enforcements not being upheld in Whitchurch?
What has gone wrong and what can be done to put it right?

7. Report from West Mercia Police

PC Deborah Wheeler reported:

- New PCSO started in Whitchurch this evening – his name is Jamie – and a further PCSO will be starting in due course.
- Following a report from Cllr Duffy, the Police have been in touch with the owners of the former Herald Printing site and they have re-secured all doors.
- Tesco site regarding vehicle ASB – no-one from Bridgewater Street residents nor the housing opposite the car park will provide a statement, verbal complaints have been received.
- Police station is due to move
- The PC has had no time to seek the legislation regarding a CCTV camera for Tesco

8. Shropshire Councillors Report

Shropshire Councillor Gerald Dakin reported:

- SC 2018-19 budget is OK and breaking even
 - 2019-2020 budget has to balance, and this may be done with short-term loans
 - The amount of the grant from central Government is unknown
 - Social Services cost £8m/year and Shropshire Council need help from central Government for Adult Social Care
- Shropshire Local Plan Review is out for consultation, the Whitchurch Plan contains 3 sites which will produce 600 homes
 - There is a Local Plan Review Consultation being held in the Civic Centre on Friday 11th January at 6.30pm

After a proposal from Cllr Neville, seconded by Cllr O'Neill, it was **WTC/142/1819 RESOLVED** to reinstate Standing Orders.

9. Accounts

After a proposal from Cllr Hamlyn, seconded by Cllr Broders, it was **WTC/143/1819 RESOLVED** that Month 8 Balance Sheets and Income & Expenditure Reports be accepted and duly signed.

10. Minutes from Committees

- a. After a proposal from Cllr Hall, seconded by Cllr Vasey, it was **WTC/144/1819 RESOLVED** to accept the minutes from the Entertainment & Events Committee meeting held on 25th October 2018.
- b. After a proposal from Cllr O'Neill, seconded by Cllr Vasey, it was **WTC/145/1819 RESOLVED** to accept the minutes from the Parks & Public Realm Committee meeting held on 1st November 2018.
- c. After a proposal from Cllr Sinnott, seconded by Cllr Vasey, it was **WTC/146/1819 RESOLVED** to accept the minutes from the Civic Centre Committee meeting held on 1st November 2018.
- d. After a proposal from Cllr Chesters, seconded by Cllr Sinnott, it was **WTC/147/1819 RESOLVED** to accept the minutes from the Finance Committee meeting held on 8th November 2018.
- e. After a proposal from Cllr O'Neill, seconded by Cllr Vasey, it was **WTC/148/1819 RESOLVED** to accept the minutes from the Heritage Committee meeting held on 13th November 2018.
- f. After a proposal from Cllr Neville, seconded by Cllr Hamlyn, it was **WTC/149/1819 RESOLVED** to accept the minutes from the Planning Committee meeting held on 20th November 2018.

With reference to sub-paragraph a. above, Item 13, Cllr Hamlyn asked about marketing the Civic Centre venue. Cllr Hall responded that the Committee are still looking at ways to market the venue and are working towards a strategic plan to advertise and promote the venue.

With reference to sub-paragraph e. above, it was reported that respective solicitors had agreed the lease for Whitchurch Heritage Centre.

After a proposal from Cllr Neville, seconded by Cllr O'Neill, it was **WTC/150/1819 RESOLVED** to bring forward Item 16. 2019-2020 Budget.

16. 2019-2020 BUDGET

The proposed budget for 2019-2020 was discussed and it was agreed that a precept increase of 9.2% was unacceptable, and the Clerk was requested to work on the budget and bring the precept increase to no more than 5%.

After a proposal from Cllr Hamlyn, seconded by Cllr Hall, it was **WTC/151/1819 RESOLVED** to pay for the sound and lighting for the main hall from the trust funds that the Council holds.

After a proposal from Cllr Hamlyn, seconded by Cllr Broders, it was **WTC/152/1819 RESOLVED** to accept the budget once the precept had been brought down below 5%.

At this juncture, the Mayor made an extra announcement that the British Driving Society have written to the Council to inform everyone that the drive that, for so many years, has been made from the Raven Hotel to Whitchurch High Street will not take place on 1st January 2019. This has been decided as so few 'turn outs' are available for the day.

11. WTC Motion 9 from Councillor Radford

After a proposal from Cllr Radford, seconded by Cllr Hamlyn, it was **WTC/153/1819 RESOLVED** that minutes will record:

- a. The action required

- b. The priority level for that action (high/low)
- c. The owner(s) of that action
- d. The anticipated month in which the owner(s) will report back to Council
- e. The budget centre and cost code for the project.

and that a regular Agenda item is added to each agenda to hear reports on any actions due to be reported on in that month.

12. WTC Motion 10 from Councillor Vasey

After a proposal from Cllr Vasey, seconded by Cllr Hamlyn, it was **WTC/154/1819 RESOLVED** that the Town Council set up a Working Group to create a cultural strategy for Whitchurch, members of the Working Group will be Cllr O'Neill, Cllr Raynes, Cllr Neville, Cllr Vasey and Cllr Hall.

13. Update on Solar Panel Project

Councillor Hamlyn reported that the Feed-In Tariff (FIT) finishes in March 2019, therefore the project needs to move forward at speed to be completed in time. The cost of the proposed Solar PV system would be approx. £32,000, and 8 years use should pay back the funds.

After a proposal from Cllr Hamlyn, seconded by Cllr Radford, it was **WTC/155/1819 RESOLVED** to take the project forward on the basis of the report presented to Council, dependent upon whether planning permission was required, or the project could proceed under permitted development.

14. Market Hall Relighting Project

After a proposal from Cllr Sinnott, seconded by Cllr Hall, it was **WTC/156/1819 RESOLVED** that the Market Hall Relighting Project would be scrapped as it stands and the project be referred to the Civic Centre Committee, who would put a Working Group together to manage the project.

5 for, 4 against

The Town Clerk read out Standing Orders para 21. Rescission of Previous Resolution and gave advice that as the resolution to hire PSG to project manage the Market Hall Relighting Project had taken place in August 2018 that the Council could not reverse the decision within 6 months and that the recommendation from the Civic Centre Committee was not specific to rescind the August 2018 resolution.

15. Egerton Place, Whitchurch

After a proposal from Cllr Neville, seconded by Cllr Raynes, it was **WTC/157/1819 RESOLVED** to defer the item to January 2019 full Council meeting and place the item in Confidential.

17. CONFIDENTIAL Business

After a proposal from Cllr Neville, seconded by Cllr Hamlyn, it was **WTC/158/1819 RESOLVED** that under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, 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.

18. COMPLAINTS

After a proposal from Cllr Broders, seconded by Cllr Raynes, it was **WTC/159/1819 RESOLVED** that the two complaints will be put before Personnel Committee to review and deal with.

Meeting closed at 9.25pm

Chairman

Date