

Whitchurch Town Council

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ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 5th MAY 2022

PRESENT

Cllrs: A. Hall (Chair), R. Hall, A. Hotchkiss, M. Phipps, J. Thornton

IN ATTENDANCE

Sheila Chase, Beechtree Community Centre

Proper Officer: Mike McDonald

Councillor A Hall opened the meeting at 6.00pm

1. Welcome by the Acting Mayor, Cllr Andy Hall

Acting Mayor, Cllr A Hall, welcomed everyone and introduced the meeting as a review of the Town Council's activities during the 2021-2022 Civic Year

2. Apologies

No Apologies were received for the meeting

3. Mayor's Annual Review – 2021/2022 Civic Year

Cllr A Hall gave an overview of Council achievements, as set out in the introductory pages of the Annual Report, copies of which were handed to all attendees and appended to the Minutes as a matter of record

4. To receive the Whitchurch Town Council Annual Report 2021/2022

Cllr A Hall invited attendees to refer to the Annual Report 2021-2022 for a more detailed overview of the activities undertaken by the Council's Committees throughout the Civic Year and thanked Members, in particular the Committee Chairs, for their hard work and commitment. It was noted that the Annual Report will be available on the Council's website and shared on social channels after the meeting

5. Local Electors Q&A Session

Sheila Chase, Chair of **Beechtree Community Centre**, attended the meeting to give an update on activities at the Centre, specifically aimed at service provision for the town's youth. She also thanked the Council for their £10,000 grant support for the development of youth projects at the Centre and welcomed the collaborative approach adopted by the Town Council:

“On Thursday 9th June 2022, the Beechtree will begin to host 2 back-to-back sessions for the children of Whitchurch via our youth provision support. This will be held every Thursday evening, term time only, for 39 weeks. The SYA (sic Shropshire Youth Association – a Registered Charity) will be leading the sessions and will operate on a 1.5-hour session basis, for each group. Whilst actual age groups are not set in stone, the SYA will only accept children aged over 10 year. Our thoughts were that one session supports 10-12/13-year-olds and 1 session for those above this to aged 16.

“This will be disclosed via our website / newspaper / social media as soon as a revised contract is returned to us by the SYA as I required some edits making from their originally sent document. The Beechtree will be providing x2 volunteers per session to support the SYA, each session having numerous activities taking place. This will encourage and support each child's physical and mental health and increase their social skills all within a safe and secure environment. A tuck shop will also be made available for the first time at Beechtree for fruit, sweets and drinks to be purchased.

“Entrance costs are to be confirmed; however, any entrance fees received will be reinvested back into the group sessions for the next week's planned activities. Any persons with financial difficulties will have the support made available for them to attend our sessions FOC / reduced pricing, to be discussed.”

Sheila also invited Councillors to visit Beechtree to see their facilities first hand, and thanked Councillors A Hall and R Hall for their individual support, through membership of the Centre.

Cllr Hall thanked Sheila for her contribution to the meeting and reiterated that the Council were delighted to be able to support the development of youth provision, in collaboration with the Beechtree, and looked forward to working closely with the organisation over the coming year.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 6.16pm

Signed as a true record of the meeting:

Chair: _____

Date: _____