



whitchurch town council

MINUTES: FULL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING, THURSDAY 17TH NOVEMBER 2022

MINUTES OF THE FULL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 17TH NOVEMBER 2022

The Meeting was preceded, at 7PM, by a presentation from Patricia Davies, Chief Executive of Shropshire Community Health NHS Trust who gave an outline of Community Health Services delivered by the Trust (with Q&A) and the potential of a working partnership with Whitchurch Town Council. This is considering future developments and challenges within the local health landscape – including those inherent within the health system, financial and workforce pressures. The presentation also aligned to the formation of the WTC Health & Wellbeing Working Group (WTC/FC/33/2223 refers).

PRESENT

Councillors: C. Doyle G. Ebbs A. Hall (Chair) R. Hall
A. Hotchkiss A. Jackson M. Phipps C. Purt
M. Ridgway P. Sample P. Tew

Proper Officer: Mike McDonald

IN ATTENDANCE: Peggy Mullock – Shropshire County Councillor (Whitchurch North)
D. Newman – Whitchurch Herald 3 Members of the public present

Councillor A Hall opened the meeting at 7.25pm.

Cllr A. Hall opened the meeting by thanking Patricia Davies for her informative presentation on the work of the Community Health Trust and hoped that a future working relationship could be nurtured via the WTC Health & Wellbeing Working Group to address Health & Social Care challenges going forward.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr De-Wyrall, Lea and Sullivan

2. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of Councillors' Disclosure of Ordinary or Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in relation to the agenda items in this meeting were received

3. Mayor and Member Update

The Mayor outlined activity since the previous meeting:

7 th November 2022	Prostate Cancer Screening (Rotary Club) – Whitchurch Rugby Club
8 th November 2022	Meeting with Shropshire Council re ongoing matters (with Proper Officer)
11 th November 2022	Armistice Day Silence, St. Alkmund's
13 th November 2022	Remembrance Day – Cenotaph, Parade, Service and War Graves

Councillor A. Hall particularly thanked the Rotary Club for a very well administered event and thanked fellow Councillors, RBL, Churches Together and residents for their participation in Remembrance Day activity.

Member Updates of recent activity:

Cllr Tew	Whitchurch Business Group (2 meetings) Cenotaph wreath laying (on behalf of Whitchurch Business Group) Ongoing development of positive working relationships were particularly noted
Cllr Ebbs	Heritage Advisory Group Meeting (19 th October) Meeting included a tour of facilities for member information. Outcomes included addressing matters raised by the Heritage Centre (maintenance) and a commitment to a Saturday Opening trial period. Again, the formation of good working relationships were noted.

4. Minutes

The minutes of the Full Town Council Meeting held on 20th October 2022 were unanimously agreed and signed as an accurate record of that meeting. Proposed Cllr Purt, seconded Cllr Ridgway

5. Public Participation

It was resolved that Standing Orders were suspended (Proposed Cllr A. Hall, seconded Cllr Phipps – all in favour), whilst members of the public were invited to make representations, ask questions and give evidence in respect of business being transacted at the meeting and about any other matter for which the Council has a responsibility.

David Pritchard

Mr Pritchard thanked the Council for work over the Summer to address upkeep of Whitchurch Cemetery

WTC Response (Cllr A. Hall)

The efforts of temporary contractor, Limetree Landscape Services and Nurseries Ltd, were noted for these improvements

Peggy Mullock (Shropshire CC)

Referenced a recent visit to the Paul's Moss Medical Centre Development, alongside SC Cllrs Gerald Dakin (Whitchurch South) and Dean Carroll (Growth & Regeneration). The development has made great progress.

Whitchurch Patient Group are looking to reintroduce a previously successful "Keeping Well Day". Civic Centre potential venue.

Member questions for Peggy Mullock:

Cllr Purt

Highlighted traffic issues – particularly Kingsway / Rosemary Lane

Cllr Jackson

Asked Cllr Mullock to address previous pavement repairs, which were now in a poor state (especially Sharps Drive)

Cllr A. Hall

Requested that Cllr Mullock investigate several reports of SC Streetlights out of service – these have been reported by members of the public and WTC on numerous occasions. Cllr Mullock confirmed that these reports and their delay have been escalated to SC Chief Executive for an urgent response and action

There being no further items, Standing Orders were reinstated. Proposed Cllr A. Hall, seconded Cllr R. Hall – all in favour

6. Governance Matters: Committee Chair Reports and Minutes

- a) Cllr Phipps gave a brief overview of the CULTURE & CIVIC Committee Meeting of 3rd November. The Minutes of the meeting were received and noted, proposed Cllr Phipps, seconded Cllr Hotchkiss – all in favour.
- b) The minutes of the PARKS & PUBLIC REALM Committee Meeting of 3rd November were received and noted, proposed Cllr Hotchkiss, seconded Cllr Doyle – all in favour.

7. Governance Matters: Advisory / Working Group Chair Reports and Minutes

Cllr Hotchkiss gave a brief overview of the Cemetery Advisory Group meetings of 10th and 27th October, which primarily focussed on the practicalities of the group's formation, including the return of a Marbury Parish Council representative. Cllr Hotchkiss also thanked David Pritchard for his input as a member representing Whitchurch residents.

8. Governance Matters: WTC Representation on Outside Bodies

- a) After consideration, it was unanimously **resolved** that Cllr Tew represent WTC at future meetings of Walkers Are Welcome AGT Committee. Proposed Cllr Ebbs, seconded Cllr R. Hall. **WTC/FC/37/2223**
- b) After consideration, it was unanimously **resolved** that Cllr A. Hall represent WTC at future meetings of the Trustee Boards of the Higginson Charities (Higginson CE School, Jane Higginson and Samuel Higginson). Proposed Cllr R. Hall, seconded Cllr Phipps. **WTC/FC/38/2223**

9. Governance Matters: Health & Wellbeing Working Group Terms of Reference

After consideration, it was unanimously **resolved** to adopt the name and Terms of Reference, as presented, for the Health & Wellbeing Working Group. Proposed Cllr Purt, seconded Cllr Doyle.

10. Financial Matters: Financial Management Information (Month 7)

Year-to-date financial information (Month 7) from Rialitas was received.

Cllr R. Hall asked members to note a forthcoming Finance Advisory Group meeting which would scrutinise these figures alongside Budget/Precept preparations and other Internal Controls.

11. CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

To resolve 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. For this section, the Council resolves itself into Committee, per s1 (6) of the Act. Proposed Cllr A. Hall, seconded Cllr Phipps – all in favour.

12. Update: Shropshire Council Discussions

Cllr A. Hall updated members on a meeting of 8th November, attended by himself and the Proper Officer, with Shropshire Council officers Steve Law (Head of Property & Development) and Felicity Allan (Estates Manager). It was noted that a subsequent meeting will be held in the next few weeks based on a summary of action points prepared by the Proper Officer. A progress report will be presented to members at the next Full Council meeting.

13. Governance Matters: Committee Chair Reports and Minutes

The Confidential Notes associated with the CULTURE & CIVIC Committee Meeting of 3rd November were briefly discussed and noted.

14. Financial Matters: Proposed Projects in the 2022/23 Financial Year

Projects to be addressed from the current financial year’s budget were considered by members.

It was unanimously **resolved** that:

- a) Equipment be purchased to enhance Main Hall functions, indicative quote £6,000. Proposed Cllr Phipps, seconded Cllr Ebbs. Proper Officer to progress. **WTC/FC/39/2223**
- b) Cosmetic and other works to be undertaken to improve / enhance the first floor Bar Lounge area. Proposed Cllr Phipps, seconded Cllr Tew. Proper Officer to progress with reference to the Culture & Civic Chair / Committee. **WTC/FC/40/2223**
- c) It was noted that essential repairs to the Civic Centre (WTC responsibilities / split) could not be addressed until outcomes of action points in relation to Item 12, above, were known)

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.20pm

Signed as a true record of the meeting:

Chair: _____

Date: _____