



# whitchurch town council

## ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2024

### PRESENT

Councillors:	C. Doyle A. Hall (Chair) J. Morris	J. De-Wyrall R. Hall M. Phipps	G. Ebbs A. Hotchkiss P. Tew	A. Gilmore P. Lea
--------------	--	--------------------------------------	-----------------------------------	----------------------

Proper Officer: Mike McDonald

<b>IN ATTENDANCE:</b>	0 x Press	0 x Shropshire Councillors	14 x Members of the Public
-----------------------	-----------	----------------------------	----------------------------

The meeting was held at Bargates Hall, Whitchurch

Councillor A. Hall opened the meeting at 6.00pm.

### 1. Welcome by Mayor, Cllr Andy Hall

Cllr A Hall welcomed everyone and thanked representatives of local voluntary organisations and the public for attending. It was explained that this was a meeting of the electorate in the town to present their views to Council Members. It was noted that Minutes of the previous Annual Town Meeting (11<sup>th</sup> May 2023) were signed as a true copy of the meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2023, copies were available at the meeting and on the Town Council website.

### 2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs Jackson and Purt for this meeting.

### 3. To receive the Whitchurch Town Council Annual Report 2023/24

Cllr A Hall gave an overview of Council achievements, as set out in the Annual Report, copies of which were available to all attendees and forming part of the Minutes as a matter of record. The Civic Centre building challenges of the previous year was a particular theme, as was the unique 'spirit' of the town, its heritage and character, which gave the confidence to use these challenges as opportunities for development.

Cllr A Hall invited attendees to refer to the Annual Report for a more detailed overview of the activities undertaken by the Council's Committees throughout the Civic Year and introduced Committee Chairs to the meeting.

#### 4. Presentations from local organisations receiving support from the Council during the 2022/23 Civic Year

Brief presentations were received from the representatives of:

- Queensway Playing Fields Association
- Whitchurch Singers
- BizEd CIC
- North Salop Wheelers
- Whitchurch Cricket Club
- Whitchurch Walkers
- St John's Methodist Church
- Poetry Whitchurch

The Mayor thanked all representatives for their contributions to the meeting, which were also included in the Annual Report, alongside others receiving Small Community Grant support in the previous Civic Year, as a record.

#### 5. Local Electors Q&A Session

Members of the public raised the following points:

- MoP#1 Traffic and parking difficulties in main town thoroughfares.  
Cllr A Hall *It has been raised with Shropshire Council Highways by WTC on several occasions; a future 'Capital Project' has been developed for consideration.*
- MoP#2 The current Civic Centre Survey (SC) does not give fully costed options.  
Cllr A Hall *Explained the approach of the current survey ('Needs Analysis') which will be used to inform the future direction of the SC Civic Centre Working Group – further public consultation is planned before any proposals are submitted to SC Cabinet by their Officers.*
- MoP#3 Anti-social driving on Tarporley Road.  
Cllr A Hall *Anti-social driving had recently been raised with West Mercia Police, who were in the process of data-gathering / traffic control at several sites.*
- MoP#4 Thanked the construction company working on the new Swimming Pool & Leisure Centre for their considerate approach.  
Cllr A Hall *Comments would be passed onto Shropshire Council and, subsequently the contractors, Pelikaan.*

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 6.50pm, followed by an opportunity for members of the public to briefly chat with Councillors informally.

Signed as a true record of the meeting:

Chair: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_