

Whitchurch Town Council

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FULL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 15th NOVEMBER 2018

PRESENT

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

IN ATTENDANCE

Nicola Young – Town Clerk

PC D Wheeler – Safer Neighbourhood Team, West Mercia Police

1. Apologies

None received

2. Declarations of Interest

None received.

3. Minutes

After a proposal from Cllr Neville, seconded by Cllr Raynes, **WTC/122/1819 RESOLVED** to amend the numbering that was out of sequence and accept and duly sign the minutes of the full Council meeting held on 18th October 2018.

4. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

5. Mayor's Announcements

Date	Mayor Appointment
21 st October 2018	Band Concert, Telford
25 th October 2018	SJT Careers Festival at St Alkmund's Church
3 rd November 2018	Ethelston Cup Cheque Presentation Evening, Black Bear
7 th November 2018	Whitchurch Junior School Assembly
11 th November 2018	Cenotaph Wreath Laying – Remembrance Sunday
	Remembrance Sunday Church Service, St Alkmund's Church
	Armistice 100 Civic Centre Commemorations
12 th November 2018	Councillor Training at Dodington Lodge Hotel

6. Public Participation

After a proposal from Cllr Neville, seconded by Cllr O'Neill it was **WTC/123/1819 RESOLVED** to suspend Standing Orders for public participation.

Mr John Simpson, representing the residents of The Brambles

Mr Simpson raised 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 Shropshire Council to say that it should support these residents.
- The matter is now a Public Health issue and the Clerk will write to MP, Minister for Housing, Shropshire Council Head of Environmental Health
- Invite Shropshire Council to a meeting with residents in Whitchurch to discuss issues
- Ask every Shropshire Councillor to put a motion forwards to sort the issues out once and for all

7. Report from West Mercia Police

PC Deborah Wheeler reported:

- PCSO Baines thanked the Council for the Armistice 100 afternoon tea
- PCSO Hiron has now moved to Shrewsbury and a new PCSO recruit is currently being trained for Whitchurch
- The Local shop on the High Street has had its license revoked and has now been closed for a few weeks
- Tesco Car Park – the Police are unable to get the mobile CCTV through Bronze Level Tasking and the Police are monitoring the situation:
 - It was asked if the Police could put pressure on Tesco to install a CCTV camera?

PC Wheeler said that Police were getting witness statements and tickets are being issued.

- It was asked what would happen if Whitchurch Town Council paid for ASB CCTV cameras – PC Wheeler said she would look into the legislation and see if Tesco accepted that as a possible way forward.
- PC Wheeler informed Council that as well as the SNT, Specials will be on duty for the night of the Christmas Lights Switch-on.

8. Presentation from Wrekin Housing Trust

Unfortunately Wrekin Housing Trust were unable to attend the meeting.

9. Shropshire Councillors Report

There was no Shropshire Councillor present.

10. Vacancies & Co-option

The applicant had sent apologies.

After a proposal from Cllr Neville, seconded by Cllr O'Neill, it was **WTC/124/1819 RESOLVED** to reinstate Standing Orders.

11. Accounts

After a proposal from Cllr Hamlyn, seconded by Cllr Broders, it was **WTC/125/1819 RESOLVED** that Month 7 Balance Sheets and Income & Expenditure Reports be accepted and duly initialled.

12. Shropshire Council Consultation on Preferred Sites for the Shropshire Local Plan

After a proposal from Cllr Hamlyn, seconded by Cllr Neville, it was **WTC/126/1819 RESOLVED** to link the Shropshire Council Local Plan Review Consultation page on the Town Council website and the Friends of Whitchurch Facebook page.

After a proposal from Cllr Hall, seconded by Cllr Duffy, it was **WTC/127/1819 RESOLVED** to have a separate meeting to provide Whitchurch Town Council feedback for the Shropshire Local Plan consultation.

13. WTC Motion 8 from Councillor Sinnott

Councillor put forward the motion “That Whitchurch Town Council consider adopting this alternative lighting scheme for the market/sports hall as a fall-back position in the event that it decides that it cannot afford the PSG scheme”.

The Mayor put forward the following:

Councillor Sinnott, many thanks for the motion and for spending your time gathering so much information, however I have a few questions:

1. Who will provide the warranty for the relighting project? PSG offer a 5-year warranty on parts and a 2-year warranty on all labour for the project.
2. How did you arrive at a total cost of rewiring? Having consulted an electrician I understand that rewiring will cost considerably more than £3,000, as one electrician costs approx. £1,750 for 50 hours work, but naturally we need to get 3 quotes for the job!
3. The staff will not be able to remove the encapsulated asbestos in the roof void because a license is required to remove and dispose of asbestos. The encapsulated asbestos should remain in situ.
4. A full lighting calculation for the Sports Hall is required prior to any lighting being installed, and the High Bays lights are a harsh light not suitable for sports activities and the LUX quoted is also too high for Sports activities.
5. You have not included any emergency lighting within the motion, therefore this would need to be costed separately.
6. Also, your Motion does not suggest how all of the market hall will be lit, as the lights you suggest throw light downwards only.
7. I am not sure why you think that Whitchurch Town Council cannot afford the proposed PSG project ad the Council have the £913,709 in Unity Trust Bank Account and £129,072 in Rolling Capital Fund.

After a proposal from Cllr Neville, seconded by O’Neill, it was **WTC/128/1819 RESOLVED** that in view of the extra information needed, that Council agree to defer this motion until we receive the quotes from PSG and understand the full work required, then the Council can make a fully-informed decision.

Cllr Sinnott stated:

That the proposal is exactly the same in light intensity, luminosity and colouration as the currently bulbs, light at 120° and not 90°, so they do spread right across. The point being that the Council has already overspent by £21,000, there is no money in the budget,

therefore this Council should consider the people of Whitchurch as they pay the Council Tax. Cllr Sinnott thinks the Council should consider an alternative project to replace the lighting. Cllr Sinnott states that if asbestos is encapsulated it is safe to handle. Cllr Sinnott has costed the project and personally paid an electrician £180 per day.

The Town Clerk informed the Council that the Council is not overspent by £21,000, as the money has been vired from other cost codes.

After a proposal from Cllr Raynes, seconded by Cllr Duffy, it was **WTC/129/1819 RESOLVED** to get all the facts and consider the proposal by Cllr Sinnott as a possible alternative lighting scheme for the market/sports hall as a fall-back position in the event that it decides that it cannot afford the PSG scheme.

14. Amend Standing Orders and Financial Regulations

- a. After a proposal from Cllr Sinnott, seconded by Cllr Hall, it was **WTC/130/1819 RESOLVED** to amend Standing Orders, para 30.a(ii) to state “May appoint persons other than Members of the Council to a Committee (except Finance Committee & Personnel Committee), and in limited situations they may vote at meetings which concern the following:
 - i. Management of land owned or occupied by the council;
 - ii. Functions of the Council relating to the promotion of tourism;
 - iii. Functions of the Council relating to the management of a festival; and
 - iv. Advising the Council in respect of the discharge of any of its functions.
- b. The Town Clerk was requested to ratify legislation about what exact Personnel items should be in Confidential, in order to add Standing Orders, para 33.c. to read “A Councillor who is not a member of Personnel Committee has the same rights to attend a meeting of the committee as a member of the public. They can participate in the meeting if the public can, subject to standing orders about public participation. See Standing Orders para 41.”
- c. After a proposal from Cllr Chesters, seconded by Cllr Hamlyn, it was **WTC/131/1819 RESOLVED** to add the following wording to Financial Regulations para 6.18: “ and shall be subject to payment in full by the due payment date. The payment will be paid from the TSB Petty Cash Account and the Accounts Officer will request the full amount to be transferred from the Unity Trust bank account with two signatories authorising the payment.”

15. Christmas Lights Report

After a proposal from Cllr Chesters, seconded by Cllr Sinnott, it was **WTC/132/1819 RESOLVED** to agree the overspend of £2,442 for the 2018 Christmas lighting scheme.

16. Centre NE Community Asset Transfer

- a. After a proposal from Cllr Sinnott, seconded by Cllr Hamlyn, it was **WTC/133/1819 RESOLVED** that Whitchurch Town Council will get a full building condition survey and heating analysis completed.
- b. After a proposal from Cllr Duffy, seconded by Cllr O’Neill, it was **WTC/134/1819 RESOLVED** that Whitchurch Town Council inform Shropshire Council that this Council wishes to take on the freehold of Centre NE.

17. Name for Cenotaph

After a proposal from Cllr Hamlyn, seconded by Cllr Raynes, it was **WTC/135/1819 RESOLVED** that the name of Fred Lyth be added to the Whitchurch Cenotaph.

18. Footpath from Mill Street to Jubilee Park

After a proposal from Cllr Hamlyn, seconded by Cllr Duffy, it was **WTC/136/1819 RESOLVED** that, subject to due diligence and removal of Japanese Knotweed, the Council consider acquiring ownership of this footpath from Mill Street to Jubilee Park, for maintenance and upkeep.

19. Land at Sherry Mill Hill

After a proposal from Cllr Raynes, seconded by Cllr Duffy, it was **WTC/137/1819 RESOLVED** that Council consider and investigate taking on the ownership of the walled land at the bottom on Sherry Mill Hill.

20. Councillor Tablets

After a proposal from Cllr Hamlyn, seconded by Cllr Sinnott, it was **WTC/138/1819 RESOLVED** that no tablets are purchased, and that to alleviate the amount of paperwork produced for each meeting that papers are projected onto the wall. Councillors are also welcome to bring their own laptops and tablets to meetings to view papers if they so wish.

21. Replacement Photocopier

After a proposal from Cllr Sinnott, seconded by Cllr Hall, it was **WTC/139/1819 PROPOSED** that Council purchase the Midshire Midlands photocopier at a total cost of £1,920.00.

Following a vote: 3 for the Midshire Midlands photopier and 7 for the BM Digital photopier.

After a proposal from Cllr Hamlyn, seconded by Cllr Raynes, it was **WTC/139/1819 RESOLVED** that Council accept the recommendation from the Town Clerk and purchase the Reconditioned Ricoh photocopier from BM Digital Ltd at a total cost of £1,395.00.

22. CONFIDENTIAL Business

There was no CONFIDENTIAL business.

Meeting closed at 9.13pm

Chairman

Date