



Whitchurch Town Council

High Street
Whitchurch
Shropshire SY13 1AX



Telephone:
01948 665761
Fax 01948 661160

MINUTES

Full Town Council Meeting held on Thursday 28th July 2011.

1. Apologies and reason for absence.

IT WAS RESOLVED:

To accept the apologies.

Cllr Sedge – work commitment

Cllr Walker – holiday

Cllr Leach – illness

Cllrs P. & J. Stokes – family commitment

No other apologies were received.

Members Present:

Councillors: P. Mullock, R. Hewson, D. Ankers, A. Chesters, T. Harris, A. Vickers, A. Young, G. Von-Dinther, E. Fearnall and M. Winwood.

Officers present:

Town Clerk

Assistant to the Town Clerk

2. Declarations of Interest

IT WAS RESOLVED:

That no declarations of interest were received.

3. Chairman's Announcements

The Mayor attended the Age UK Launch, Armed Forces Day in which the Town Plan was presented and the hospital coffee morning.

Thanks to Cllr Chesters for donation

The Deputy Mayor attended 50 years of the Community Council

4. To suspend standing orders for the purpose of public participation

IT WAS RESOLVED:

To suspend standing orders.

5. To receive public participation

IT WAS RESOLVED:

For the Civic and Market Committee to consider Mr. Handley's question.

6. To reinstate standing orders

IT WAS RESOLVED:

To reinstate standing orders.

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7. To confirm the Minutes of the meeting held on 23rd June 2011 and 7th July 2011 and sign as an accurate record of that meeting.

IT WAS RESOLVED:

To move the minutes to the end of the meeting as there were members of the public present and the Council did not want to hold up the presentation.

8. Matters arising from those Minutes

IT WAS RESOLVED:

That no matters were arising from those minutes.

9. To receive Shropshire Councillor's report

Cllr Biggins informed the Council that the car parking charges in Whitchurch would not come into affect until 1st September 2011 and he noted that Whitchurch experiencing a five month delay compared to other towns in Shropshire.

10. To receive written reports from Member representatives of outside bodies.

IT WAS RESOLVED:

No reports were received.

11. To receive, consider and approve recommendations from Committees and Workshops.

IT WAS RESOLVED:

No recommendations or reports were received.

12. To receive written reports from Committee Chairmen.

IT WAS RESOLVED:

No reports were received.

13. To receive a brief presentation from Action for Hearing from Ruth Beer

IT WAS RESOLVED:

To have the loop system checked out.

14. Correspondence items after the agenda was sent out.

- A response letter was read out from Mr J. Hayes about the bus service.
- Received lease for Mill Street car park
- Consider proposal to rename B5395 to 'Old Malpas Road'

IT WAS RESOLVED:

- To take the letter to Cllr Dakin.
- To bring the Mill Street Lease back to the next Full Council Meeting
- To rename road B5395 to 'Old Malpas Road'

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15. Application from Beacon Church to use Deermoss Park for a fun event.

Cllr Hewson declared a personal interest as he is a member of Beacon Church.

IT WAS RESOLVED:

To support the event as long as Whitchurch Alport Football Club do not have a match that day.

Action: The Town Clerk was instructed to contact Whitchurch Alport to find out whether they had a match on the day.

16. To consider the renewal of the Shropshire Tourism.

IT WAS RESOLVED:

To renew the membership affiliation.

17. To consider an application from Diana Clarke for financial and resource support from the Town Council to hold an event in Jubilee Park.

IT WAS RESOLVED:

That the Town Clerk and the Chairman of the Council meet with Mrs Clarke to discuss arrangements.

18. To receive a thank-you letter from Gobowen Gardens.

IT WAS RESOLVED:

To receive the thanks.

19. To consider an application from Steve Chapman for support in paragraphs two. Also an application for funds and asking the Town Council to waive the commission on tickets sales, to support live music at the Town Markets.

IT WAS RESOLVED:

To make a donation of £400.00 towards the entertainment during the Blackberry Fair event.

20. To receive a public path diversion order from Shropshire Council

IT WAS RESOLVED:

To receive the public path diversion order, Members were informed.

21. To consider a letter from Mr. Handley reference the farmers market in the bullring.

IT WAS RESOLVED:

To move this item to the Civic meeting to be held on August 4th 2011 to involve the following people: Geoff Handley and Tish Dockerty.

22. The Town Council reconsider match funding for projects currently under consideration identified in an email from Chris Hill. The match funding required in addition to the £40,000 already allocated appears to be an additional £87,000.

- £100,000 for the Civic Centre plus £7,000 for feasibility study.
- £20,000 for the Heritage Centre

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IT WAS RESOLVED:

That £87,000 should be ring fenced until a breakdown of costs were available for consideration at the next Full Council Meeting. It is expected that the cost breakdown will be identified within the feasibility study and the Council should wait for this document to be produced before deciding to release this funding.

23. To consider the North Shropshire and Oswestry Tourism Strategy Work

IT WAS RESOLVED:

To award £1,500 to the strategy work.

24. To receive a letter of thanks from the Queensway Area Residential Association

IT WAS RESOLVED:

To receive thanks.

25. To receive information from Mouchel

IT WAS RESOLVED:

To hold the information on file for future reference.

26. To consider information from Home Start reference day trips

Information only.

IT WAS RESOLVED:

To receive the information

27. To consider an application for funding from The Waterways Trust, moved from the last meeting of Full Town Council and information requested already sent out to Members to support the application.

Cllr Harris said that the Council did not ask for all the information provided, only the accounts.

Cllr Fearnall requested that The Waterways Trust give a presentation.

IT WAS RESOLVED:

That The Waterways Trust give a presentation

28. That the Town Council consider reviewing percentage charge on ticket sales commission in order to alleviate current difficulty in assessing the charge without a council agreed criteria.

IT WAS RESOLVED:

To charge ten percent (10%) overall on commission for all ticket sales.

29. To consider the ALC renewal fees and approve payment.

The Town Clerk was asked to give his views, which he did.

IT WAS RESOLVED:

That the Town Clerk investigate whether we can join NALC without joining ALC.

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30. To approve the payment of Cheques 200402 to 200423.

IT WAS RESOLVED:

To approve all cheques for payment.

31. To approve payment of manual cheques 104101 to 104129.

IT WAS RESOLVED:

To approve all manual cheques payment.

32. To receive month three statement of accounts

IT WAS RESOLVED:

To receive the accounts.

33. To sign the Healthmatic contract agreement and seal in accordance with standing orders.

IT WAS RESOLVED:

To sign the contract and to review it after six months. The Mayor and Deputy Mayor were approved to be the signatories.

34. To consider an expression of interest received from Greenspace for the Market Town revitalisation projects and instruct the Town Clerk how the Council wish to proceed regarding this matter.

IT WAS RESOLVED:

To extend the deadline date to 26.08.2011 in order to give other companies the opportunity to put forward a feasibility study.

35. To confirm the Minutes of the meeting held on 23rd June 2011 and 7th July 2011 and sign as an accurate record of that meeting.

IT WAS RESOLVED:

To sign the Minutes from 23rd June 2011.

Cllrs: Mullock, Chesters, Ankers and Harris said they believed the Minutes to be inaccurate. The Town Clerk asked for the inaccuracies to be identified to which there was no response.

The Clerk informed the Council that the Minutes should not be the subject of discussion and are taken as read. The only matter for consideration is inaccuracies for which the Clerk has not received a resolution identifying any alleged inaccuracies. No resolutions were forthcoming at the meeting. Cllr Fearnall said she could not vote since she did not attend the last meeting, the Town Clerk advised the Council that Members can still vote whether they were in attendance of that meeting or not. The Town Clerk also offered advice through the Chairman of the Council that the Councillors currently subject to standards board complaints had a conflict of interest/prejudicial interest and should not vote. The Clerk recommended that you pass this matter onto the vice Chair. Cllr Mullock hesitated over signing the Minutes and eventually did not sign the Minutes.

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Cllr Harris stated that the Minutes were “Totally inaccurate” and considered “invasion of privacy” he also said that he had sought advice and what he had said, which was recorded, should not have been recorded without his permission.

The Vice Chairman signed the Minutes due to early departure by Cllr Mullock, Cllr Chesters and Cllr Harris left before the meeting was closed. The Minutes were signed by the Vice Chairman on the majority of councillors present who were able to vote.