

MUCH WENLOCK TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a **Planning & Environment Committee meeting**
held at The Corn Exchange, Much Wenlock at 6 pm on Tuesday, 4th June 2019

Present:

Cllr. Mary Hill, Cllr. Yvonne Holyoak, Cllr. Dafydd Jenkins, Cllr. Daniel Thomas, Cllr. Allan Walter and Cllr. Milner Whiteman

Town Clerk:

Trudi Barrett

In attendance:

One member of the public, Mr Simon Ross

1) Election of Chairman

Nominations were sought for the election of Chairman for the ensuing year.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and unanimously RESOLVED that Cllr. Mary Hill be elected as Chairman.

2) Election of Deputy Chairman

Nominations were sought for the election of Deputy Chairman for the ensuing year.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and unanimously RESOLVED that Cllr. Daniel Thomas be elected as Deputy Chairman.

3) Apologies

None.

4) Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests

Members were reminded that they are required to leave the room during the discussion and voting on matters in which they have a disclosable pecuniary interest, whether or not the interest is entered in the Register of Members' Interests maintained by the Monitoring Officer.

5) Dispensations

None requested.

6) Public Session

The Chair welcomed Simon Ross to the meeting. Mr Ross was a member of a group working within Holy Trinity Church to reduce the environmental impact of the Church and its properties and to take positive measures. The group was keen to encourage other local organisations to acknowledge the climate emergency and take similar action.

Mr Ross highlighted areas within the Town Council's operations where changes might be made to reduce energy consumption and environmental impact, for example, LED street lighting, the incorporation of energy saving measures in building renovation work, selection of consumables, cleaning products and stationery. It was noted that reductions in energy consumption would also generate financial savings. Mr Ross suggested the Council note any action already taken in this regard.

Mr Ross acknowledged that it was not always easy to introduce new products and systems. Whilst some changes could be made quickly, others should be viewed as longer term ambitions. The Church environmental group would be pleased to share their experiences and learning with the Council and other organisations in the town.

The Chair thanked Mr Ross for drawing attention to the need for the Council to take action.

7) Minutes

The minutes of a Planning and Environment Committee meeting held on 30th April 2019 were considered for approval. 19/19 14b – it was noted that only one small tree had been planted on the triangle of land at Back Lane.

With the above amendment, it was PROPOSED, SECONDED and unanimously RESOLVED that the minutes be signed and ADOPTED as a true record.

8) Planning Matters

The following PLANNING APPLICATIONS were considered:

19/01692/FUL Yew Tree Cottage, 6 Stretton Westwood, Much Wenlock	Erection of steel portal framed building to house tractors and other equipment for maintaining lawns and hedgerows. It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED that, in principle, Councillors had no objection to the erection of the building but they did object to the removal of the mature trees. If trees must be removed, they should be replaced with mature specimens.
19/02051/LBC 55 Sheinton Street, Much Wenlock	Erection of replacement conservatory. It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED no objection.
19/02076/TPO Gaskell Recreation Ground, Much Wenlock	Selectively prune back by approx. 2m away from infrastructure 6no Yew protected by the Bridgnorth District Council (William Brookes School/Gaskell Recreation Ground, Much Wenlock) TPO 2008 (ref: BR/TPO/154). It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED not to comment as the Town Council was the applicant.
19/02215/TCA 37 Sheinton Street, Much Wenlock	Reduce height by 1m of 1no. Yew within Much Wenlock Conservation Area. It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED no objection.
19/01387/FUL Baillie Accountants, 11 Bull Ring, Much Wenlock	Amendment to application: internal alterations to enable change of use of building to 1no dwelling, to include removal and replacement of partition walling; insertion of first floor window (SE elevation). It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED to respond that Councillors noted the viability statement. However, the Much Wenlock Neighbourhood Plan stated that the property should be marketed for at least 18 months, which Councillors did not believe had taken place. Councillors believed that the property should remain as commercial premises.
19/01523/FUL 47 High Street, Much Wenlock	Amendment to application: change of use from A1 retail to C3 residential. It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED to respond that Councillors noted the viability statement. They regretted that no other retail use had been found so far.

For information only

19/02062/CPE The Mount, Farley, Much Wenlock	Certificate of Lawfulness to replace residential caravan with log cabin.
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The following planning DECISIONS were **NOTED**:

19/00946/FUL 3-4 High Street, Much Wenlock	Sub-division of existing retail unit to create two units. Grant permission
19/00947/LBC 3-4 High Street, Much Wenlock	Sub-division of existing retail unit to create two units affecting a Grade II listed building. Grant permission
19/01386/TCA Holy Trinity Church, Wilmore Street, Much Wenlock	To carry out a crown reduction (as shown on photo) and removal of the lowest branch overhanging the footpath of 1no Willow tree within Much Wenlock Conservation Area. No objection
19/01666/FUL Dove Leys, Homer, Much Wenlock	Erection of single storey extension to front elevation. Grant permission
19/01021/VAR Withies Campsite, Stretton Road, Much Wenlock	Variation of Condition nos. 2 (approved plans) & 3 (no. of tents/huts) pursuant to Planning Permission 16/03878/FUL to allow for an increase in the number of tents in lieu of Shepherd Huts. Withdrawn
19/01544/TPO 40 High Street, Much Wenlock	To fell 1no. horse chestnut (T3) protected by Bridgnorth District Council (land to the rear of 40 High Street, Much Wenlock) Tree Preservation Order 2016. Grant permission

9) Flooding issues

- a. Councillors noted that the date of Wednesday, 10th July had been agreed with the Environment Agency (EA) for a Flood Awareness event at the Priory Hall. The EA representative had suggested a short presentation to open the event followed by a drop-in session. The Clerk was asked to arrange a meeting with the EA representative to finalise arrangements.
- b. The Clerk was asked to contact Shropshire Councillor David Turner to check how often Shropshire Council monitor the flood attenuation pond and whether the grille had been replaced on the inlet for the culvert. A report back at a forthcoming Council meeting should be requested.

10) Climate Change and Sustainability

Following the presentation by Mr Ross, Councillors considered what measures the Council might take and the following were identified as first steps:

- The Clerk was asked to check whether there was already a plan for LED bulb replacement in Town Council and Shropshire Council street lights. Finance schemes for this initiative should also be investigated.
- Arrol & Snell should be asked to include energy saving and other environmental measures in the Guildhall scheme.
- Any future building renovation work should incorporate appropriate measures.
- Shropshire Council should be asked whether any energy saving measures had been taken during the library refurbishment.
- The Clerk was asked to check with SALC/NALC whether there were any initiatives or support for Town and Parish Councils.
- Climate Change and Sustainability should be kept on the agenda for future meetings
- Any measures taken by the Council should be reported in the Wenlock Herald.

11) Street naming *

None received.

12) Footpath/Bridleway Creation Orders*

None received.

13) Footpath Diversion Orders*

None received.

14) Road closures*

Councillors noted planned gas works and road closures in Barrow Street and Wilmore Street. The works were scheduled to commence on 19th August and to take four weeks.

15) Highways Matters

- a. With regard to the request for a 30mph roundel to be painted on the road surface going out of town on the Bourton Road, Councillors noted that Shropshire Council Highways department had advised that roundels were not permitted to be installed on a road with street lighting. Councillors were puzzled by this response as there were roundels on the road surface in Farley Road, where there were also street lights. The Clerk was asked to check this with Shropshire Council Highways.
- b. It was noted that Councillors Harper and Hill had attended a meeting with a representative of Star Housing and local residents to consider parking problems at the junction of Back Lane and St Owen's Road. The area was owned by Shropshire Council but maintained by Star Housing.

Two problems had been identified: parking on the triangle of grass and parking generally on the roadside. Star Housing had agreed to provide some low planters for the triangle to discourage car parking on this area. Residents would maintain the planters, supported by Star Housing. The Star Housing representative had agreed that the tree was in the visibility splay and should not have been planted on the triangle. Star would follow this up.

It was noted that an ambulance had been unable to gain access along Back Lane at the weekend due to parked cars and that photographs of this occurrence were available. **It was RESOLVED to request that Shropshire Council introduce double yellow lines on the western side of Back Lane from the corner of St Owen’s Road to the junction of Back Lane with Queen Street, citing the recent obstruction of an ambulance.**

It was reported that PCSOs now had the power to issue parking tickets to cars causing an obstruction and that this was being undertaken in Donnington, Telford & Wrekin. Councillor Harper had the details and would pursue the matter with the local police.

- c. Councillors noted that concerns about the condition of the wall supporting the raised walkway by High Causeway in Victoria Road had been reported to Shropshire Council. Shropshire Council Highways department had advised that the area would be inspected and costs for repair obtained.
- d. Councillors noted the response from Shropshire Council regarding the overgrown hedge in Racecourse Lane. It could take several months for the process outlined by Shropshire Council to yield a result. The Clerk was asked to contact Shropshire Council again to stress the urgency and concerns about the safety of children.
- e. Councillors noted Shropshire Council consultation on the introduction of a no waiting at any time parking restriction on roads adjacent to Shadwell Quarry in the interests of safety for all road users and improved quality of life for local residents.
It was RESOLVED to respond that the Town Council supported this initiative and hoped that Shropshire Council would be able to provide enforcement of the restrictions.

16) Tree Preservation Orders*

None received.

17) Stopping Up Orders*

None received.

18) Speed Limit Orders*

None received.

19) Prohibition Orders*

None received.

20) Date of next meeting

It was **NOTED** that the next meeting would be held at 6.15 pm on Tuesday, 2nd July 2019 in the Mary Webb Room at the Corn Exchange.

PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

Pursuant to Section 1(2) of the above Act and due to the confidential nature of the following business to be transacted it was PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED that the public and press should not be present.

21) Planning Enforcement

Councillors noted current enforcement matters.

The meeting closed at 7.35pm

Signed.....
Chairman

Date.....