



Much Wenlock Town Council

Town Council Meeting

5th September 2024

Supporting Papers

Broseley and Much Wenlock Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT)

Update to Much Wenlock Town Council: 05/09/2024

Update on Police and SNT activity in the area. In addition to the Officers in the Safer Neighbourhood Team, there is a team of Response Officers based in Bridgnorth Police Station who attend incidents in the area. We now have a second PCSO on the team, PCSO Helen Scott, so the team of one PC and two PCSO's is now complete.

Neighbourhood Matters. Neighbourhood Matters is an online messaging service operated by West Mercia Police. SNT Officers are sending Crime Alerts and other locally relevant information out to all those who join the service. Please encourage everyone to check out the service by following the link -

<https://www.neighbourhoodmatters.co.uk/>

West Mercia Police has signed up to the Local Policing Community Charter. The Council has outlined its three main Policing Priorities as:

Theft (from outbuildings). There were no reported burglaries from outbuildings or farms, although there was a report of an empty property being entered illegally by an "urban explorer".

Anti-Social Driving. SNT continue to patrol areas where there have been previous reports of anti-social driving & submit reports when necessary.

Speeding. The new PCSO will be given speed gun training in September, this will make it easier for the SNT to conduct checks in relevant areas when other commitments allow.

Suspicious circumstances. There is a report of a so called "urban explorer" gaining entry illegally to an unoccupied house. Technically this is classed as burglary and an investigation into the matter is ongoing. Since the initial report, there have been three further incidents at the same address. SNT are conducting patrols in the area of the unoccupied house when other priorities allow.

Criminal Damage. There were two incidents of criminal damage, the public toilets on St Mary's Car park have been damaged and another incident in Lower Netchwood where a swastika has been painted onto a building.

Anti-social Behaviour. There have been four reports of a series of neighbours being in dispute, details have been passed to the housing association responsible for the involved addresses in an effort for them to resolve the issues and Police are also involved in the process. There was an incident in Tasley where a group of youths were being abusive and after Officers attended an arrest was made.

There was one report of a missing person, fortunately the person returned before Officers were deployed to the home address.

Dog incident, an owner of a XL Bully called the Police wishing to handover the dog, he was given suitable advice on how to give up the ownership of the dog.

One 999 call was made in error and an alarm at a commercial premises was also activated in error.

Road Traffic Issues

There was a single Road Traffic Collision on the A458 in Much Wenlock when a motorcyclist had a medical incident. An Officer attended and assisted paramedics at the scene. The rider was taken to hospital for an assessment.

There was one report of a vehicle breaking down on the A458 through Much Wenlock, it was able to be recovered prior to Officers being deployed. A second vehicle broke down on the A458 on Harley Bank and was also dealt with prior to the deployment of Officers.

There was one report of motorcycles being ridden at excessive speed on the B4368. A team of motorcycle Police were in the area conducting speed enforcement on the day of the report.

MUCH WENLOCK TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
 held at The Guildhall, Much Wenlock
 at 7 pm on Thursday, 11th July 2024

Present: Councillors William Benbow, Wilfred Grainger, John O'Dowd, Marcus Themans (in the chair), Daniel Thomas, Chris Tyler and Linda West.

In attendance: Trudi Barrett – Town Clerk, two members of the Christmas Fayre Committee, two members of the public remotely, PCSO Mal Goddard.

1. Mayor's Welcome

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting and reported the following:

- He noted that Revd Stafford had another engagement and so had been unable to attend for prayers.
- The Council's new RFO, Janet Evans, was settling in well and he hoped Councillors had had the opportunity to meet her.
- The Mayor was pleased to report that Jacqueline Allen had been appointed as the new Custodian at the Guildhall.
- Roadworks were a major theme over the summer with resurfacing work on the Farley Road, the installation of the puffin crossing on Bridgnorth Road, pothole repair on Sheinton Street and the forthcoming closure of the Stretton Road for drainage work.
- The Windmill Hill Orchid Count had taken place on 29th June along with 'hands around the windmill' to celebrate the designation of the site as a Local Nature Reserve. Slightly fewer orchids had been counted this year than last. There had been good local press coverage.
- On the same day a fundraising 'Big Sing' had been held in the church with the choir singing 100 hymns over the course of the day. The event had been well supported.
- Open Gardens in Wenlock had followed on the next day with 19 private gardens open to the public. 315 tickets had been sold for the event.
- There had also been a successful Made in Shropshire market in the town on 15th June.
- Volunteers had carried out work to tidy up the Gaskell Field and the Mayor expressed particular thanks to members of Wenlock Warriors for their support.
- The Wenlock Olympian Games would be held on Sunday, 14th July and Councillors were encouraged to help set up on Saturday.
- The unveiling of a plaque to celebrate the late Queen's Silver Jubilee would take place on the Gaskell Ground on the coming Saturday. The plaque had been in storage since 1977. The event would also be in memory of John Simpson, who had planted the tree.
- Repair work had been completed at Queen Street toilets and a bin for the gents' toilet was on order.
- The Mayor welcomed two new retail businesses to the town: The Unknown Barber and Wah Lai Chinese takeaway.
- There had been good press and radio coverage for Much Wenlock recently and awareness was increasing, in part due to the Visit Shropshire subscription.

2. Apologies for Absence

Councillor Susan Croke-Williams – prior engagement, Councillor Christian Toon – work, Councillor Duncan White – family commitment.

3. 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.

4. Dispensations

None requested.

5. Public Session

No members of the public had asked to speak.

6. Police Matters

- a. Members noted a written update from the local policing team. PCSO Mal Goddard reported that two new PCSOs were in training and one of these was expected to be allocated to the Broseley & Much Wenlock policing team during July.
PCSO Goddard was thanked for attending and left the meeting.
- b. Members noted correspondence from Inspector Kelly following up his attendance at the June Council meeting.
- c. Councillors reviewed policing priorities for the town. They were pleased to note that rural crime had been much quieter following recent arrests.

It was RESOLVED to remove drugs from the Council's policing priorities for the town and to set the new priorities as theft (outbuildings), anti-social driving/riding and speeding.

The Clerk was asked to check with the local policing team whether they could do more within schools to deter youngsters from drug taking. Councillors noted that the change in Council priorities did not mean that other offences would be ignored by the police.

- d. Members noted that the Police & Crime Commissioner had issued his annual Town and Parish Council survey and considered a response by the deadline of 5th August 2024.

It was RESOLVED to ask Councillor White to respond to the PCC's Town and Parish Council survey on behalf of the Council.

7. Shropshire Council Report

Shropshire Councillor, Daniel Thomas, presented the following report:

“Green Waste & Recycling Centres: The plans for Green Waste and the five household recycling centres are revealed in the papers going to Shropshire Council's Cabinet next week. Shropshire Council plans to charge residents £56 a year for the collection of their green waste – but none of the recycling centres will close. Instead, hours will be reduced by each centre closing one day a week, although it has not been confirmed which day that will be. It is anticipated it could be Wednesday or Thursday as these days are quieter.

The centres will also move to operating on a booking system, requiring people to book a slot to enable them to drop off recycling. This follows the system used elsewhere and helps the Council staff to demand. Many people echoed my concerns about fly-tipping; however, the report says there is no evidence to suggest that we will see any increase in fly-tipping because of a subscription service. This is based on evidence from other councils that have introduced similar schemes. Importantly, fly-tipping is a crime, and anyone caught doing it could be prosecuted and face a large fine.

Shropshire Council said that the latest moves are part of measures to save £62m from the budget. The proposals are set to be approved by the council's cabinet on 17th July with the changes being introduced on 1st October 2024, and the annual subscription running from 1st October 2024 to 30th September 2025. In the past SC has afforded to offer green waste collection free of charge. However, Shropshire, like every council has seen substantial cuts to its budgets and the money is simply not there any more. Councils now have to prioritise their funding so that they can continue to delivery essential services like social care. No council is required by law to offer a green waste collection. However, rather than simply stopping the service, we are doing what 80% of other councils have done and introducing a charge. There are still free alternatives to using the service which include taking the green waste to the recycling centre or home composting. The income from the green waste charge will help towards the cost of the green waste collection service and other waste recycling and environmental services.

Flood Updates: I recently met with John Bellis, Flood and Drainage Risk Manager for Shropshire Council, to discuss flooding issues in Much Wenlock. I'm delighted to announce that the drainage upgrades at the top of the High Street are scheduled for late September, with the progression of the Stretton Road works starting on 22nd July, creating a new drainage system to connect the attenuation ponds which are already there. Together, these form two very important pieces of flood prevention in the town. Other funding options are available for “Slow the Flow” work, a method of utilising the landscape to temporarily hold water, and one of these is already being explored near the Bridgnorth Road Cemetery.

I have had to postpone my advice surgery scheduled for this Saturday in order to support the set-up for the Wenlock Olympian Games. The next Council surgery will therefore be held on Saturday, 20th July, between 10.30 am and 12 noon at the museum. No appointment is necessary and I'll be joined by Town Councillor Linda West and, hopefully, a representative from the police.”

Councillor Thomas was advised that a drain at the Gaskell corner was still blocked solid. He was asked to check when the drain gulper last came to the town and to ensure that this drain was on the list for the next visit of the gulper. It was noted that there had been regular drain clearing activity in the town following the last flood event but this now seemed to have slipped. If the regular clearance was not maintained, further flooding would result. Shropshire Council had promised that the work would be programmed and preventative, rather than reactionary.

It was RESOLVED to send a photo of the blocked drain to Shropshire Council's Drainage and Flood Risk Manager requesting that the promised clearance be undertaken urgently and to ask how often drain clearance was scheduled in the town.

8. Much Wenlock Christmas Fayre 2024

The Mayor welcomed Lesley Ingram, Chair, and Ken Sharman from the Much Wenlock Christmas Fayre Committee. Councillors were advised that the Fayre had been going for 25 years and this year's event would be held on Saturday, 7th December. Ken had now taken on the task of organising the stalls and ensuring that all stallholders were able to set up without too many traffic problems. There had been some difficulties the previous year as the Council's regular stallholders under the Guildhall had not been included in the stall set-up timetable. Any help and support that the Council could provide would be beneficial. Councillors were also asked if they could help on the day as more volunteers were needed.

With regard to the set-up, town centre streets were closed for the day and each stallholder was given an arrival time. About five stallholders were given the same arrival time and access was closely supervised. Communication and co-operation were paramount. The Committee would need to know which stallholders would be setting up under the Guildhall so that they could be allocated a time slot. It was noted that the Guildhall stallholders would need to be operational earlier than the Christmas Fayre stalls. At the end of the day there was a similar process for stallholders to take down their stalls, commencing at 5pm.

The problem of parking for the day was considered. There could be up to 6,000 people coming into the town and the Christmas Fayre committee approached local businesses and individuals to help provide parking. Councillors were asked to forward any suggestions for new sites, which would need to have hard standing due to the time of year and weather. It might be possible to look again at a park and ride scheme from Buildwas, although this had not worked well in 2019. Councillors stated that it would be helpful to have a breakdown of the parking requirements, what was available and what was needed. A traffic warden would be in attendance on the day. It was noted that more parking would be beneficial for other potential large events in the town. This could perhaps be considered as part of the Neighbourhood Plan review.

The visitors were advised that the Council was paying for a 'Visit Shropshire' subscription this year and would ensure that the Christmas Fayre was promoted on their website.

Plans were yet to be agreed for the Christmas Lights switch-on but it was a benefit to the Fayre and the shops to have the lights on towards the end of November. The switch-on would probably follow a similar format to the previous year and would also provide an opportunity to promote the Christmas Fayre.

Lesley Ingram and Ken Sharman were thanked for attending and left the meeting.

9. Minutes

- a. **It was RESOLVED to approve and adopt the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 13th June 2024.**
- b. **It was RESOLVED to adopt the minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee meeting held on 4th June 2024**
- c. **It was RESOLVED to adopt the minutes of a HR Committee meeting held on 14th May 2024.**

10. Town Clerk's Report

Members noted the written and verbal report from the Town Clerk. She advised that a local contractor had been asked to clear the gutters at the front of the Guildhall and this work was awaited. It was suggested that drone footage might inform plans to fit pigeon prevention measures on the front of the Corn Exchange.

11. Code of Conduct and Register of Interests

- a. Members were reminded of their obligations under Much Wenlock Town Council's Code of Conduct, which was applicable to all Town Councillors.
- b. Councillors were reminded of the need to review and update their registers of pecuniary and other registrable interests if their circumstances changed, for example, a change of employment. Advice could be sought from Shropshire Council if required.

12. Rescission of Previous Resolution

In accordance with Standing Order no. 7a, and at the request of three councillors, **it was RESOLVED to approve rescission of the following decision taken at the Council meeting on 13th June 2024, minute 22, as the installation of the puffin crossing had commenced on 1st July and the letter would no longer be appropriate:**

“to write to Mark Barrow, Director of Place, at Shropshire Council, to express the Council’s dismay at the confusion and mis-information about the installation of the puffin crossing.”

13. The Guildhall Project

The Clerk advised that she had written to the Council’s contact at the National Lottery Heritage Fund to say that the Council was intending to submit an Expression of Interest for further funding and to seek guidance. A reply was awaited.

14. Possible Police & Crime Commissioner (PCC) Funding for CCTV

Members noted correspondence from the Police & Crime Commissioner’s office regarding possible funding for CCTV. Due to other policing priorities, there seemed little prospect of funding for CCTV for the town. Councillors considered that private cameras installed by residents could be a useful resource and that this should be encouraged. Members noted that Shropshire Council was intending to reduce support for CCTV in Shrewsbury, withdrawing live monitoring. Shropshire Council currently wholly funded the operating costs of CCTV monitoring for Shrewsbury.

15. CCTV Policy and Procedure

Members noted that work on the CCTV policy and procedure was ongoing and this would be considered at the next meeting.

16. Neighbourhood Plan Review

A public event would be held on 12th July at 7pm in the Priory Hall to update residents on progress with the Neighbourhood Plan review and the event had been widely publicised locally. The Council’s consultant would be attending the event. The Clerk advised that she had submitted an application to Locality for additional funding for the Neighbourhood Plan review.

17. Shropshire Local Plan Review

The Shropshire Local Plan review was continuing as planned. Government planning policy had changed during the course of the review and further changes were expected following the election of a Labour Government. Shropshire Council’s latest response to the Inspectors questions had been uploaded to the website on 8th July.

18. VE Day Commemoration 2025

Members noted that the national commemoration of the 80th anniversary of VE Day would be on 8th May 2025. Councillors were advised that the commemoration would be an agenda item for the September Council meeting and were asked to give prior thought to how the anniversary might be marked in Much Wenlock. It was noted that the local elections would be held on 1st May 2025 and that the date for Mayor Making next year was still to be confirmed. Members were advised that a beacon event might be held in November to mark the 60th anniversary of Wenlock Abbey being handed over to English Heritage.

19. Correspondence

Members noted the following items, which they had received by email between meetings:

- a. SALC information bulletins and other information
- b. NALC newsletters and other information
- c. Press releases from Shropshire Council
- d. Rural Bulletins from the Rural Services Network
- e. VCSA Shropshire newsletters
- f. South Shropshire Climate Action Group and Zero Carbon Shropshire joint July 2024 Newsletter
- g. The Rural Services Network Rural Funding Digest June 2024
- h. Selected Neighbourhood Matters alerts.
- i. ‘Our News’ Newsletter for Neighbourhood Watch supporters July 2024
- j. Results of Windmill Hill Orchid Count 2024
- k. Friendly Transport Service July newsletter
- l. Mailings from The Edge Cinema

20. Agenda items for next Town Council meeting

Members were invited to suggest items for inclusion on the agenda of the next meeting: VE Day 2025, Christmas Lights Switch-on, follow up on parking for the Christmas Fayre.

21. Date of next meeting

Members noted that the next meeting would be held on Thursday, 5th September at 7.00pm at the Guildhall. Councillor Tyler gave apologies in advance.

Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

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

22. 10 High Street

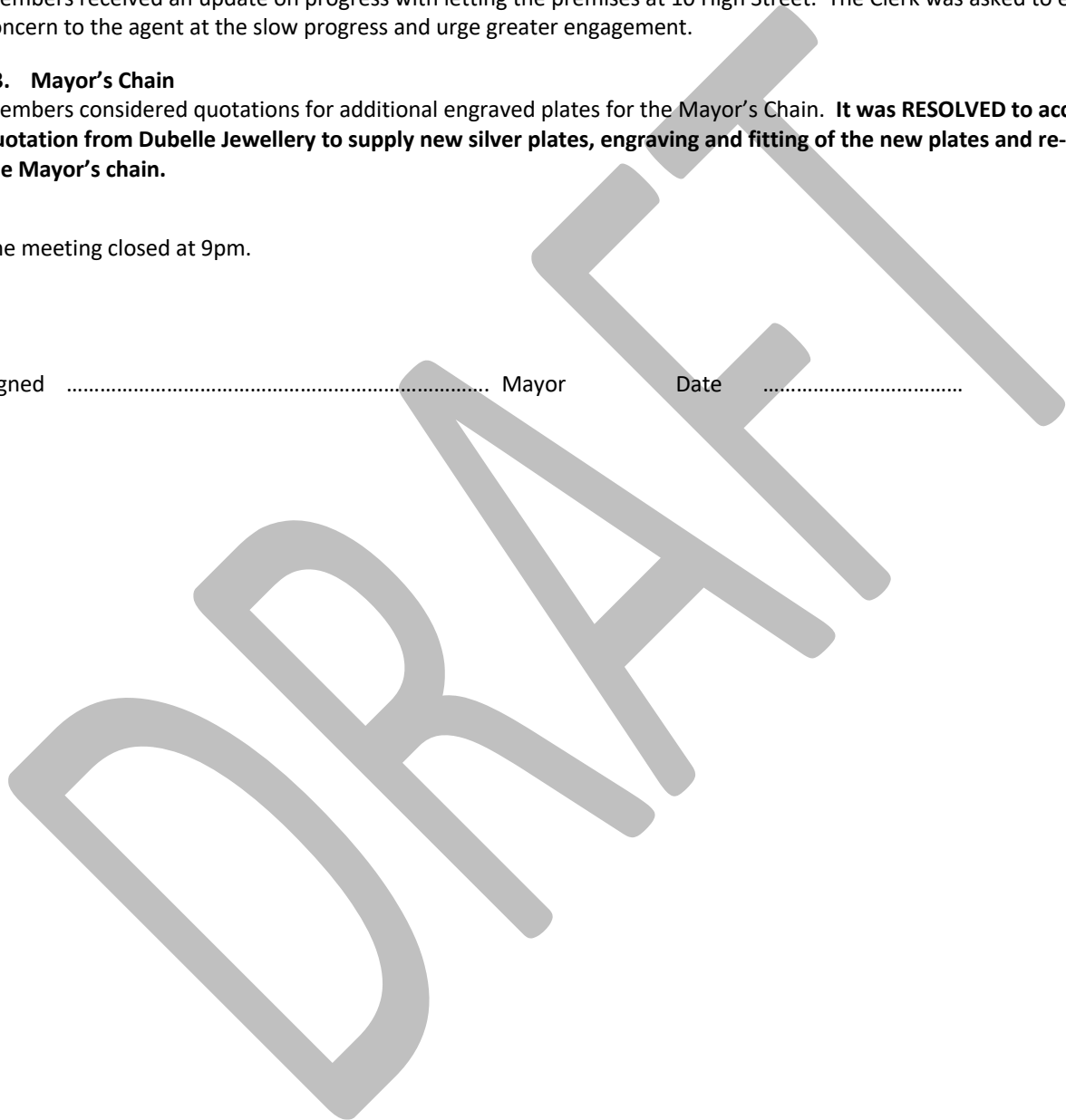
Members received an update on progress with letting the premises at 10 High Street. The Clerk was asked to express concern to the agent at the slow progress and urge greater engagement.

23. Mayor's Chain

Members considered quotations for additional engraved plates for the Mayor's Chain. **It was RESOLVED to accept the quotation from Dubelle Jewellery to supply new silver plates, engraving and fitting of the new plates and re-gilding of the Mayor's chain.**

The meeting closed at 9pm.

Signed Mayor Date



04/24

MUCH WENLOCK TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a **Planning & Environment Committee meeting**
held at 7.00 pm on Tuesday, 2nd July 2024 at the Corn Exchange, Much Wenlock

Present: Councillors Will Benbow, David Fenwick, Wilfred Grainger (from minute 11), Daniel Thomas, Chris Tyler, Linda West

In attendance: Trudi Barrett – Town Clerk, one member of the public

1. Apologies

Councillor Grainger had sent apologies for his late arrival.

2. 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.

3. Dispensations

None requested.

4. Public Session

A member of the public outlined his concern about noise from commercial waste collections early in the morning. Veolia collected commercial waste from several businesses in Much Wenlock on Wednesday and Thursday mornings and had been arriving in the town at around 5.00 am over the last 9 – 12 months. Between 11pm and 7am the legally permitted noise level was 34dBA or lower but the resident had measured the noise during collections at an average of 65dBA. The resident had complained to Veolia, who had responded positively, and said that they would try to change the collection time to after 7am. Other waste collections in the town were later in the day and caused no noise problem. The resident also suggested that reference to early morning/late night noise levels in the town should form part of the revised Neighbourhood Plan.

The member of the public left the meeting.

5. Minutes

It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee meeting held on 4th June 2024 be APPROVED and signed as a true record.

6. Planning Applications

Members considered the following application and resolved to respond as noted:

24/02453/FUL 2 St Owens Drive, Much Wenlock	Erection of a single storey extension to rear. It was RESOLVED no objection.
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7. Planning Decisions

No planning decisions had been notified.

8. Draft Shropshire Local Plan Review 2016 - 2038

There was nothing to report.

9. Neighbourhood Plan Review

Members noted that the flooding and transport working groups had met and the pace of the review was picking up. There had been some discussion of valued viewpoints and green spaces and a post seeking comments should be prepared for social media. The next public consultation event would be held on Friday, 12th July at the Priory Hall.

10. Noise from Veolia Commercial Waste Collections

Members noted the concerns raised by a resident in public session regarding noise generated from Veolia commercial waste collections before 7.00 am.

It was RESOLVED to send a message to Veolia stating that concerns had been raised with the Town Council about the noise from commercial waste collections very early in the morning.

Councillor Wilfred Grainger joined the meeting.

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11. Flooding Matters

- a. The Strategic Flood Working Group had nothing to report.
- b. Preparation of a report to the Health & Safety Executive about risks from the potential collapse of the boundary wall at Shadwell Quarry was in progress. Councillors considered recent photos of the quarry and the rise in the water level over time.
- c. The drains on the Gaskell corner had not been emptied for several months, although this had been reported to Shropshire Council. Councillor Benbow agreed to follow this up with the Shropshire Council Drainage & Flood Risk Manager, as well as urging progress with other flooding matters.
Following the recent Severn Trent Water public engagement event under the Corn Exchange, Councillor Tyler had attended a Severn Trent Stakeholder Roadshow in Shrewsbury. He had questioned the fact that Much Wenlock was not on the list for capital expenditure in Severn Trent's 2025-30 five-year plan.

12. Slow the Flow Natural Flood Management – Much Wenlock

Members considered correspondence from Shropshire Wildlife Trust regarding the creation of small ponds to help reduce flood risk on land at the side of the allotments at the rear of the cemetery on Bridgnorth Road. Members noted that this land was leased by the Town Council to the Much Wenlock Allotment Society.

Having declared an interest in this item, Councillor Thomas left the meeting.

Members understood that during heavy rain there had been problems with soil run-off from the adjacent field into the gardens on Oakfield Park. They discussed ways of reducing the water flow further up the hill, such as creating ponds in the field or leaving a grass margin around the edge of the field, for which funding could be available to the landowner.

It was RESOLVED to respond that, in principle, the Council supported the idea of reducing flood risk by the creation of small ponds, but this was not straightforward. Councillors would like to invite representatives from the Wildlife Trust to attend a forthcoming Planning & Environment Committee meeting to discuss this and other options.

Councillor Thomas returned to the meeting.

13. Transport and Highways Matters

- a. Members noted that the installation of the new puffin crossing on the A458 Bridgnorth Road had begun on 1st July. No start date had been notified for introduction of the speed limit on the same road.

The Clerk advised Members that she had not yet sent the letter of complaint to Mark Barrow about the confusion over consultation on the puffin crossing, which had been agreed by full Council. Members considered that this was not appropriate now and agreed to request that full Council rescind the decision at the next meeting.

- b. Members noted correspondence from Shropshire Council notifying that the scheme to install on-street electric vehicle charging points in Southfield Road had been removed from the current phase of installation as there had been no funding available for the creation of a new layby to accommodate the chargers.
Members noted that electric vehicle charging points had been installed in St Mary's and Falcons Court car parks and that the spaces were available for both electric and non-electric vehicles.
- c. Members received a report from the Transport Working Group. The group had met to discuss transport matters forming part of the Neighbourhood Plan, including issues such as open access and accessibility of pavements. Local residents had prepared a plan showing where improvements were required to the on-street footpaths and a priority list would be produced for inclusion in the Neighbourhood Plan. The Planning & Environment Committee would scrutinise this, when ready. After the General Election a meeting would be held with WSP and Shropshire Council regarding proposals for the Gaskell corner.

14. Reporting Highway and Other Issues to Shropshire Council

Members received a guide to reporting highway and other issues to Shropshire Council, including use of 'Fix My Street'. Councillors considered that, in general, the Fix My Street system worked well, although the follow up was not always as timely as desired.

Members noted concerns about the rapidly deteriorating condition of Sheinton Street and the dangers associated with this. Councillor Thomas agreed to press for urgent repair work.

15. Climate Change and Ecological/Nature Emergencies*

Members noted that 'Plastic Free July' was being promoted in Much Wenlock

16. Street Lighting**17. Street Naming ***

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18. Footpath/Bridleway Creation Orders*

19. Footpath Diversion Orders*

Members received an update on discussions regarding the diversion of Footpath 28 (part) and 31 (part) near Spoonhill Hall. Councillors Benbow and Fenwick had attended a site meeting with the landowner, members of the Ramblers Association and the Shropshire Council officer. The interested parties had been able to agree a revised route.

It was RESOLVED to support the amendments to the proposed diversion and the revised route for Footpath 28 (part) and 31 (part), Spoonhill Hall.

20. Road Closures*

21. Tree Preservation Orders*

22. Stopping Up Orders*

23. Speed Limit Orders*

24. Prohibition Orders*

25. Date of next meeting

Members noted that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday, 30th July at 7.00pm at the Guildhall.

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 RESOLVED that the public and press should not be present.

26. Proposal for Neighbourhood Plan Consultancy Support

- a. Members considered the proposal for continuing consultancy support for the review of the Much Wenlock Neighbourhood Plan through to Examination (and referendum if required).

It was RESOLVED to approve and accept the proposal from Alison Eardley for further consultancy support for the Neighbourhood Plan Review.

- b. **It was RESOLVED to apply for additional funding from Locality for consultancy and any other costs associated with the review of the Neighbourhood Plan.**

28. Planning Enforcement

Members noted enforcement case 24/10346/ENF.

The meeting closed at 8.20 pm

Signed.....(Chairperson)

Date.....

01/24

MUCH WENLOCK TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a
FINANCE & ASSET MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
 meeting held at the Corn Exchange, Much Wenlock
 at 7.00 pm on Tuesday, 21st May 2024

Present: Susan Crooke-Williams, David Fenwick, John O’Dowd, Marcus Themans, Duncan White.

In attendance: Trudi Barrett – Town Clerk, Diane Barlow – Responsible Financial Officer (RFO).

It was RESOLVED to elect Councillor Marcus Themans to chair the meeting.

1. Apologies

None.

2. 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.

3. Dispensations

None requested.

4. Minutes

It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Finance and Asset Management Committee held on 19th March 2024 be APPROVED and signed as a true record.

5. Town Clerk’s report

Members noted the Clerk’s written and verbal report on action taken since the last meeting. She reported that the work to clear the Corn Exchange roof valley and replace loose tiles had been completed. The Clerk would now seek quotations for replastering and decorating in the Council office to repair the internal damage.

The Clerk was asked to request that the tenant of Linden Lodge cut back ivy on the fence panels and the vegetation overhanging the footpath at the front of the house.

6. Finance

- a. The RFO presented a written and verbal report. The year-end closedown on the Rialtas system took place on 7th May 2024. The closedown went smoothly and there were no problems to report. Subsequent to that, Cllrs Themans and Crooke-Williams came into the office to review and sign the March bank statements and bank reconciliations. Cllr Crooke-Williams also undertook a quarterly review of the petty cash.

Expenditure for the 12 months to 31st March 2024 was £304,178 for the year, which was 0.9% (£2,761) below budget, and income was £87,191 for the year, which was 17.5% above budget, mainly due to the increase in interest rates. These figures excluded various income and expenditure for grant funding and property sales, etc.

The internal audit review would be carried out on 23rd May by DM Payroll Services, after which the RFO would prepare the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) for approval at the June Town Council meeting.

Members wished to formally thank Diane Barlow for her work as RFO and for agreeing to help with the transition of the role to a new member of staff.

- b. Members noted the balance sheet as at 30th April 2024.
- c. Members noted the income and expenditure to 30th April 2024.
- d. Members reviewed the bank reconciliations to 30th April 2024. **It was RESOLVED to approve the bank reconciliations to 30th April 2024.**
- e. **It was RESOLVED to approve payments from 20th March 2024 to date.**

7. Rural Market Town Group

It was RESOLVED to continue membership of the Rural Market Town Group at a cost of £100 + VAT p.a.

The Clerk was asked to forward the Area Profile for the town to Councillor White.

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8. The Guildhall Project

It was noted that full Council had delegated to the Finance & Asset Management Committee authority to take forward the project to the stage of an Expression of Interest to the National Lottery Heritage Fund. Greenwood Projects would be drafting the application for Council review. The cost of the project was expected to be around £2.5m.

9. Public Toilets

Members noted recent vandalism to Queen Street toilets and repairs needed at St Mary's toilets. The vandalism had been logged with the police and reported to the local policing team but there was no further action to be taken. A quote was awaited from Healthmatic for the repair to the toilet in the gents at Queen Street. It was suggested that a stainless steel toilet pan would be more durable than porcelain. A local contractor had been asked to replace the damaged windows at Queen Street. A toilet and drain were blocked at St Mary's and repairs by Healthmatic were awaited. It was noted that sand from sandbags stored nearby had been tipped down the toilet at St Mary's. Councillors agreed to speak to a neighbouring resident about storage of the sandbags.

Members advised that the signpost located in Station Road was pointing in the wrong direction for the toilets, as was the signpost for the play area. The Clerk was asked to arrange for these to be changed.

10. Car Park at the rear of the Corn Exchange

- a. Members noted that there had been no apparent change in the behaviour of those flouting the rules in the car park at the rear of the Corn Exchange.
- b. Councillor Themans and the Clerk had met a representative of National Parking Management the previous day and discussed how they could manage the car park. This would involve the installation of an ANPR camera and fines being issued by the company to those abusing the system. It would be necessary to consider more standardised parking arrangements, eg. 2 hours free parking at any time and a charge thereafter. This would be a similar arrangement to that operated by many supermarkets. Specific number plates could be registered for staff, tenants, etc. and the system suspended for major events in the town.
Written information was awaited from the parking management company for detailed consideration by Councillors.

11. Street Lighting

- a. Members noted that the planned conversion of SON lighting to LED had been delayed due to an oversight on the part of the contractor and that the work would be scheduled in as soon as possible.
- b. Members noted that the Council's long-term contact at E.ON Highways Lighting would be retiring at the end of July and that a new appointment had been made.
- c. Members noted that new lighting had been installed on the footpath from Pinefields Close to Victoria Road by STAR Housing and that the Clerk was awaiting details of the installation. The Council had previously agreed to take on responsibility for the energy costs and maintenance of the lights if STAR Housing paid for the installation. The Clerk was asked to include this information in the next edition of the Wenlock Herald.

12. Date of next meeting

Members noted that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday, 23rd July 2024 at 7.00pm at the Corn Exchange.

PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

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

13. Summer Floral Arrangements

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the quotation of £911 from Abbey Nursery for the summer planting scheme.

It was **RESOLVED** to move forward with the purchase of new hanging baskets/planters for the church yard.

14. Cemetery Chapel

Members noted that repairs to the cemetery chapel porch were still outstanding. The Clerk was asked to obtain further quotations for the work.

Members requested that renovation and display of the First/Second World War memorial board, currently stored in the Chapel, be considered at the next meeting.

03/24

15. Much Wenlock Library

Members considered actual costs from Shropshire Council for the operation of Much Wenlock Library for the financial year 2023/24. It was noted that the Council contributed £19,030 towards costs in 2023/24 and would contribute £19,260 in 2024/25. The Clerk was asked to obtain library usage information for Much Wenlock Library.

The meeting closed at 8.15 pm.

Signed.....
Chairperson

Date.....

02/24

MUCH WENLOCK TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of an extraordinary
HR COMMITTEE MEETING
 held at the Guildhall, Much Wenlock
 at 6.00 pm on Thursday, 13th June 2024

Present: Councillors John O’Dowd, Marcus Themans and Daniel Thomas (in the chair)

In attendance: Trudi Barrett – Town Clerk

1. Election of Chairperson

It was **RESOLVED** to elect Councillor Daniel Thomas as Chairperson of the Committee.

2. Election of Deputy Chairperson

It was **RESOLVED** to elect Councillor Marcus Themans as Deputy Chairperson of the Committee.

3. Apologies

Councillor David Fenwick – holiday.

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. Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the extraordinary HR Committee meeting held on 14th May 2024.

7. Next Meeting

Members noted that the date of the next meeting would be called as required.

Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

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

6. Vacancy for Responsible Financial Officer (RFO)

a. Members received a report on the interviews and selection process for the RFO.

It was RESOLVED to confirm the appointment of Janet Evans as RFO for the Town Council with effect from 10th June 2024. It was RESOLVED to approve the contract of employment for the RFO.

b. Members noted arrangements for the handover and induction of the RFO.

7. Guildhall Custodian

Members reviewed applications for the position of Guildhall Custodian and agreed arrangements for the interview process.

Signed:Chairperson

Date:

Actions from Town Council meetings

MONTH	MINUTE NUMBER	RESOLUTION / ACTION	TASK COMPLETE	COMMENT
June 2022	13	Continue to check the Local Plan EIP website for updates.	Ongoing	Councillors and associates also requested to check EIP website themselves, in case of delay with Clerk checking.
Oct 2022	6b	Mayor and Clerk to draft a procedure for making CCTV footage available to the police.	Yes	Councillor White and Clerk met to discuss. On agenda for 5 th September
2024				
May	18	Revised Financial Regs would be presented to Council for consideration at the June full Council meeting	In progress	Review not completed by June, regs to be presented at a future meeting.
	20	Continue with the Guildhall project and submit an Expression of Interest to the National Lottery Heritage Fund for further funding. Delegate authority to the Finance & Asset Mgt Cttee to take forward Guildhall project to the stage of an Expression of Interest to the NLHF.	Yes	Expression of Interest submitted to NHLF on 15 th August. Response expected within 20 working days.
June	19	Recreate the role of Town Crier, to be appointed annually, and to delegate authority to the HR Committee to determine the recruitment process and conditions.	In progress	Discussed at HR Committee meeting on 11 th July. On agenda for full Council 5 th September.
July	6c	Remove 'drugs' from the Council's policing priorities for the town and set the new priorities as theft (outbuildings), anti-social driving/riding and speeding.	Yes	Local policing team advised.
	6d	Ask Councillor White to respond to the PCC's Town and Parish Council survey on behalf of the Council.	Yes	Councillor White responded.
	7	Send a photo of the blocked drain at the Gaskell corner to SC's Drainage & Flood Risk Manager requesting that the promised clearance be undertaken urgently and ask how often drain clearance was scheduled in the town.	Yes	Advised that SC Highways responsible. Councillor Thomas was addressing.
	22	Express concern to the agent at slow progress with rental of 10 High Street.	Yes	On agenda for 5 th September.
	23	Accept the quotation from Dubelle Jewellery to supply new plates, engraving and fitting of the new plates and re-gilding of the Mayor's chain.	Yes	Work in progress.

Other activities:

- Receipt of Photo diary of Margaret Attwood from 1975 for archives from family members of 12th August 2024, with the Mayor and archivist
- Market Town Clerks meetings on Teams on 25th July and 22nd August

Shropshire Council
Shirehall
Abbey Foregate
Shrewsbury
Shropshire SY2 6ND

Date: 26 July 2024

Dear Sir/Madam,

Partnering to provide services for your area

As the most local form of government in Shropshire I am writing to ask for your help with how we deliver services in your area.

There are many great examples already of ourselves and town and parish councils working to deliver these services across our county and residents have told us how much they appreciate their council doing this.

Listening to local councils, many of you have told us, that you are willing to help provide or contribute to services and facilities in your local areas for the benefit of your residents especially if there is a chance we will no longer be able to provide them, or in the same way we do now, in the future.

We really appreciate these offers and that in return we must make sure we are organised in responding to them and provide you with clear information that allows you to make decisions and justify your involvement and the expenditure of public funds on any services.

That is why we are inviting your council to complete a short survey (6 simple questions) to indicate whether you are interested in a conversation with us (or not) around providing or contributing towards local services (or considering the current or future arrangements if we are already working with you).

By starting with a focus upon two areas of services which local councils have told us are important (and Shropshire Council face significant financial challenges in delivering due to well publicised increases in inflation and demand for our statutory services, like social care) we hope significant progress can be made quickly for the benefit of local people.

Our culture and leisure services and facilities (libraries, leisure centres, outdoor recreation sites, museums, etc.) enhance lives in our county and we need assistance in giving them a bright future as many elements are not statutory (required to be provided by law). In addition, our local 'street scene' (roadside verges, sign cleaning etc) gives people a sense of pride in their area and can benefit from additional support.

We are suggesting these conversations will not be 'one-size fits all' rather something that can be agreed that is realistic for all parties and can give certainty for the next few years. The initial conversations are not binding in any way but allow us to understand who may be able to help and is willing and who is not. We are conscious that all councils work slightly differently but would appreciate an indication either way at your earliest convenience as we all head into budget setting season later in the year.

We appreciate the work you are already doing for your communities and hope that we will be able to work together for the benefit of local people.

As a great many councils across the county are members, we have been taking the time to talk with SALC and are grateful for their support for the approach we are taking in discussing these matters with you.

To complete the survey, follow this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SALC24> Our deadline for responses is **16 September 2024**. However, the sooner we hear from you, the sooner we can start our conversation.

Yours sincerely



Lezley Picton
Leader

Shropshire Council

FUTURE OPTIONS WITH TOWN AND PARISH COUNCILS SURVEY

Thank you for taking the time to complete this quick survey, your feedback is appreciated.

What is your name?	
Which town or parish Council are you responding on behalf of?	
What position do you hold regarding the town or parish councils?	
Who do you want us to speak with as the lead contact for these conversations? Please provide their email address.	
Please chose from the following options the one that best describes the current position with regard to the request for help from Shropshire Council:	
1. Yes we are in a position to help, please get in touch for a conversation.	
2. Yes, we are willing to help but it depends on the resources required, please get in touch for a conversation.	
3. No, we are willing to help but do not have the resources available.	
4. No, unfortunately we are no in a position to help.	
Please tell us more about the option you chose if you wish to.	
So that we can make the most of your time when we speak, could you just outline any particular services or facilities or locations you want to particularly consider in relation to culture and leisure or 'streetscene'.	



HOW WE WILL USE THE INFORMATION YOU HAVE PROVIDED

We will not share your data with any external third parties. Your information will be held securely, only shared internally with where necessary. We comply with data protection laws concerning the protection of personal information, including the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). For more information on how information is held by Shropshire Council, and your rights to gain access to the information we hold on you please see our corporation privacy policy www.shropshire.gov.uk/privacy .

We will be in touch to arrange a conversation with your lead contact as soon as we can (normally within a fortnight). Thank you again for taking the time to complete this questionnaire.

From: PlacePlans <PlacePlans@shropshire.gov.uk>
Date: Friday, 26 July 2024
To: Trudi Barrett <townclerk@muchwenlock-tc.gov.uk>
Cc: Dan Thomas <Dan.Thomas@shropshire.gov.uk>
Subject: Place Plan project nomination feedback - Much Wenlock Town Council

Dear Clerk

Shropshire Council has been carrying out a full review of the Shropshire Council Place Plans during the last 12 months, and the outcomes of this process were formally adopted by Shropshire Council's Cabinet on 13th March 2024.

The key objective of the Place Plans is to provide a robust, up-to-date and credible evidence base of the infrastructure needs of communities, including those needs resulting from the impacts of new development. Given this process will directly inform decisions on future investment, it is essential that this process is based on sound and reasoned evidence.

As part of this process, we provided Town and Parish Councils with the opportunity to nominate infrastructure items for inclusion in the Place Plans. Senior officers from across Shropshire Council have been assessing these nominations and can now start to feedback the responses of the nominations your Council made to the Place Plans.

The table below shows the nominations made by your Council, along with feedback on the status of these nominations. It is important to recognise that maintaining the Place Plans and assessing nominations is an ongoing process. A number of nominations were agreed and included on the relevant Place Plan. Where nominated items have not been included on the updated Place Plans we have provided the rationale. This could be that we are awaiting more information from a partner organisation or need more details from your Council to help us fully assess the nomination. On occasions items have not been included as a result of concerns that this would not be the most appropriate intervention for a local area.

Ref No if allocated	Place Plan	Town/ Parish	Items for consideration	Infrastructure type	Status of nomination for inclusion on published Place Plan	Additional information about the nomination
962	Much Wenlock	Much Wenlock	Gaskell Corner Traffic Management - duplicate with 749 The Gaskell corner is a five-way junction which currently has no specific traffic management measures. Significant additional through traffic is expected from planned housing developments at the former Ironbridge Power Station, Tasley and elsewhere. It is accepted by Shropshire Council that it will be necessary to introduce traffic management measures at the junction and SC has commissioned WSP to undertake a feasibility study	Highways	Yes	Project already on the Place Plan with an alternative reference number.
967	Much Wenlock	Much Wenlock TC	Much Wenlock Flood Resilience	Flooding and Drainage	No not enough information	The review is still being undertaken with a Shropshire Council infrastructure department
976	Much Wenlock	Much Wenlock	Improvement to entrance to pathways off the Bullring, Much Wenlock. Rights of Way 0133UN10/1 and 0133/16/1 are accessed from the Bull Ring. The footpaths are well used by pedestrians to Gaskell Recreation Ground and William Brookes School. The route is an alternative to the narrow footpaths in Sheinton Street and the A4169. SC Rights of Way have agreed to change the gate and stone up 10 m of the path.	Public Rights of Way and Footpaths	Yes	Project has been completed

978	Much Wenlock	Much Wenlock	Improvements to the junction of Southfield Road with the A458.	Highways	No not enough information	The review is still being undertaken with a Shropshire Council infrastructure department
980	Much Wenlock	Much Wenlock	Road Safety improvements on the A458 near the Edge Adventure Centre, such as moving the 30 mph speed limit to the other side of Newtown Farm.	Highways	No not enough information	The Town or Parish Council have the option to pay for a traffic survey the approximate cost of this is £600 - £1000. If there is significant speed issues detected this can then be added to the Place Plan
982	Much Wenlock	Much Wenlock	Introduction of 20mph Speed Limits near Schools in Much Wenlock Superseded by 1350 for William Brookes School	Highways	yes	Project already on the Place Plan with an alternative reference number.
984	Much Wenlock	Much Wenlock	Introduction of a 40 mph buffer zone on the Stretton Road B4371.	Highways	No not enough information	The Town or Parish Council have the option to pay for a traffic survey the approximate cost of this is £600 - £1000. If there is significant speed issues detected this can then be added to the Place Plan
992	Much Wenlock	Much Wenlock	Introduction of a 40 mph buffer zone near to primary school on the A458.	Highways	Yes	This project has been added to the Place Plan

In addition to details of your nominations, you can also view the up-to-date list of all the Place Plan projects in your Council area on our new Place Plan webpages

<https://next.shropshire.gov.uk/place-plans/place-plan-projects-by-area/>

The infrastructure needs identified in the Place Plans represent a full range of infrastructure types, including transport and accessibility, health, utilities, education, outdoor recreation and economic opportunities. Importantly, the Place Plans assign a priority status to the identified projects: 'Priority A', 'Priority B' and 'Neighbourhood'.

Priority 'A' infrastructure is considered to be those items which are essential to the delivery of development, generally including additional utility provision, improvements to strategic highways, new and enhanced school provision, and new and enhanced medical provision.

Priority 'B' infrastructure is considered necessary to improve areas, in particular to support the growth expectations set out in the current and emerging Local Plans and other Council development strategies. As such, there is an expectation that the Council may need to use its CIL Local and Strategic funding to support the delivery of these projects where they are associated with the cumulative impact of new development.

'Neighbourhood' infrastructure is considered important to a local community and the expectation is these will normally be led by partners in the local area, including the parish and town councils. As such, there is a general expectation that the CIL Neighbourhood Fund (i.e. the proportion of CIL which is maintained and allocated by the parish and town councils) will be the priority source of funding for these schemes, alongside any wider external grant support.

The Place Plan process remains a live and ongoing process and Town and Parish Councils can continue to nominate infrastructure items for inclusion on the Place Plan via our online nomination form in the link below. Please note this form is to nominate new items and there is no need to nominate items that are already on the nomination list provided, or on our published Place Plans on the webpages

[Place Plan item nomination form](#)

Future updates to the Place Plans

In recognition that the Place Plans are inevitably a picture in time, Shropshire Council Cabinet agreed that new items can continue to be considered, and if appropriate, added to the Place Plans through the delegated powers of the Assistant Director of Economy and Place in consultation with the Council's Internal Infrastructure Group (IIG) and the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Regulatory Services.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Local Expressions of Interest

As you're aware, expressions of interest (EoI) for CIL Local Funding have been on hold while the Place Plan review has taken place. Now that the review has been completed new expressions of interest (EOIs) are again being accepted by Shropshire Council.

As outlined above, the Council's focus for CIL Strategic and CIL Local funds will primarily be on Priority A and B items identified in the updated Place Plans. It is expected therefore that in the majority of cases successful EOIs will be focussed on these priority items, which are likely to be led by internal Council departments, such as Education and Highways, or by third party partner organisations such as the Integrated Care Board (ICB). EOIs will be assessed by Shropshire Council's Internal Infrastructure Group, who meet quarterly.

It is important, however, to recognise the continued role of Parish and Town Councils in this process, even where they are not leading on expressions of interest. An example of this is with highway schemes, which are clearly important locally but sometimes take a number of years to be delivered due to the need to prioritise our programme of works. We recognise this time lag between CIL approval and delivery can be frustrating, which is why over the next few months the Council will be developing a more strategic view on the highway work programme. This process recognises that not all highway schemes can be delivered at the same time, and we want to work with parish and town councils to identify how we prioritise bringing these schemes forward.

Finally, the Council remains committed to working with Parish and Town Councils in understanding and enabling the delivery of necessary infrastructure for the benefit of local communities. However, in recognition of the recent and ongoing changes to the Council as it responds to its financial challenges, it is only fair we make you aware that the capacity of the Place Plan Officers to support you on these matters will be reduced, you will receive more information on this, but this is likely to mean the frequency and availability of officers to attend meetings and to respond to requests for information will reduce.

Regards,

Shropshire Council Place Plan Team
Shropshire Council
e-mail: PlacePlans@shropshire.gov.uk



Town and Parish Councils Local Nature Recovery Strategy Survey

The Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) is part of a nationwide move to create the space and connectivity needed on land and sea for nature to thrive, recover and be resilient. A key objective for the LNRS is to support the establishment of a national Nature Recovery Network (NRN) and 48 LNRSs will be developed nationwide to help deliver it. They are a result of the Environment Act 2021 and aim to identify opportunities and priorities for recovering habitats and species at the local level. Habitats are the places where animals, plants and other living things live (e.g. woodland, river, meadow). Species are a group of living things that naturally produce young with other members of the same group, and each have specific habitat needs (e.g. bluebell, curlew, dormouse). For further information on the LNRS, please visit our FAQs tab on the website.

As people who live and work in Shropshire, we want your Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) to reflect what you want for nature. We are therefore, keen to hear your views on what needs to be done to help nature recover.

This survey will take approximately 15 minutes to complete. We will use your response to inform the priorities and actions which will support the delivery of the LNRS. All responses are treated confidentially and will remain anonymous, unless you specify otherwise.

The Local Nature Recovery Strategy intends to understand which outcomes you most want for nature and wildlife in Shropshire. This helps us to bring ambitions together from people and organisations across the county. The aim is to focus future funding and resources towards places that can start taking action to help meet these ambitions.

At the end of this survey you will be able to let us know if you would like any of the information that you give to be confidential.

What the LNRS is not:

- Not** compulsory, you don't have to take the actions that we show on the final map. The reason that we map areas is to attract funding to them.
- Not** being delivered by any one group, it will require collaborative effort from groups across the county within the next 10 years.
- Not** a new type of funding.
- Not** a plan for housing developments.
- Not** a plan for traffic.
- Not** a plan for managing sewage.
- Not** a plan for managing flood risk.
- Not** a plan for reducing our carbon emissions.
- Not** creating new laws for nature.

We recognise that many of the above issues do impact nature and wildlife, and actions that we recommend for nature can help reduce the impact of some of these. However, LNRSs are only able to recommend actions that relate to protecting, improving, and creating habitats to benefit wildlife and nature.

Shropshire Council is working with Telford & Wrekin Council and the LNRS Steering Group to support the LNRS development process. By clicking the next button, you agree to participate in the survey and for these organisations to review and process all information collected. We will maintain personal anonymity and comply with Shropshire Council's data protection policy.

Collated and summary results and reporting from this survey, without any personal information, will be shared publicly online as part of news about the development of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy. For more information, please contact Lynn Parker at l.parker@shropshire.gov.uk or lnrs@shropshire.gov.uk

To follow the progress of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy keep an eye on [our website](#).

Survey

Section 1: Nature and You

How important is it to you to have access to nature?

- Not at all important
- Slightly important
- Somewhat important
- Important
- Very important

Is there anything that prevents you from accessing nature?

Shropshire has many places where people can spend time in nature. What is your favourite place? Please provide any place names, post codes, grid references, or what3words locations. (This website can help you give us a location name or grid reference: gridreferencefinder.com)

Are you concerned about the current and/or future state of nature in Shropshire?

- No
- A little bit
- Somewhat
- Quite a bit
- Yes
- Yes significantly

Section 2: Environmental Challenges

This section will help us understand the environmental threats and challenges that you believe are most significant in Shropshire.

Please order the following environmental challenges in order of CURRENT importance
Sort in order of importance, with 1 the most important and 10 the least important .

- Drought
- Flooding
- Habitat Loss
- Invasive species (e.g. mink)
- Climate change
- Lack of connection and access to nature
- Loss of natural resources (e.g. clean water)
- Pests and diseases
- Pollution (water, air, soil)
- Urban development

Please order the following environmental challenges in order of FUTURE importance

Sort in order of importance, with 1 most important and 10 least important.

- Drought
- Flooding
- Habitat loss
- Invasive species (e.g. mink)
- Climate change
- Lack of connection and access to nature
- Loss of natural resources (e.g. clean water)
- Pests and diseases
- Pollution (water, air, soil)
- Urban development

Section 3: Species and Habitats

We are looking for suggestions for a long-list of Species of Local Significance for Shropshire. Are there any particular species that you would like to propose? Local species experts are already compiling ideas including species which are classified as threatened or near threatened. We're interested to hear what species you think are, or could be, particularly important for Shropshire.

Agenda item 22a

Which would you consider to be the most important habitats to prioritise in our nature recovery strategy? (select up to 5 options)

- Mixed deciduous woodland (including ancient woodland)
- Wet woodland
- Wood pasture and parkland
- Ancient and veteran trees
- Scrub
- Hedgerows
- Traditional orchards
- Urban trees
- Heathland
- Grassland (neutral, acid, and calcareous; e.g. meadows, arable field margins, road verges, parks, churchyards and cemeteries)
- Wet grassland (including grazing marshes, rush pasture etc.)
- Gardens
- Open mosaic habitat on previously developed land
- Rivers and streams
- Ponds, lakes, meres, broads and gravel pits
- Fens, bogs and mires
- Reedbeds
- Other (please specify)

What is the main reason you have prioritised the habitats in this way?

Please use the box below to provide any further information you'd like to share about habitats and species.

Section 4: Your Long-Term Vision for Shropshire

We understand that there are a lot of different pressures on nature and wildlife. We can control some more than others. This survey asks specifically about the nature recovery actions that you would like to see be taken in Shropshire to support the variety of species (animals, plants, fungi) and natural habitats that we have.

In this section we want to understand what your ambitions are for Shropshire to achieve. This section invites you to think long-term.

Please indicate how much you agree with this statement: "I would like to do more to increase nature in Shropshire"

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- I'm already doing the most I can Not sure / Don't know

The main barrier(s) that stop me from doing more for nature are:
(Choose all that apply)

- The land I own/manage is too small
- I'd like to take action but I don't know where
- I'd like to take action but I don't know what I could/should do
- I don't know how to access funding
- The funding process takes too much time to understand
- The funding process is too uncertain
- Funding requirements criteria are too complicated
- I'm not clear how to fit more nature onto the land I own or manage
- My land is being used for other purposes, and there isn't room for nature recovery actions.
- Lack of time
- Lack of equipment and materials
- I do not want to take actions
- I do not experience any barriers
- Other (please specify)

Section 5: Action for Nature

From putting up a bird box to restoring ancient wildflower meadows, many actions can help our wildlife and areas of nature.

Please tell us what action(s) you are planning to take, and if relevant the size of land you are taking action on (for example improving or creating habitat(s), installing equipment, or supporting animals, plants, fungi, or wildlife):

Please select the option that best represents you:

- I own the land that I will take these actions on
- I rent or lease the land that I will take the actions on
- I am representing a town, parish or rural council
- I am a volunteer with permission from the land owner
- Other (please specify)

Please indicate what type of location you intend to take this action in (choose all that apply):

- Urban area (built up towns or cities)
- Near urban areas (areas on the edge of towns or cities)
- Rural area (small villages, countryside, and farmland)
- Not sure / Don't know
- Prefer not to say Other (please specify)

Agenda item 22a

If you are happy to, please tell us where you are planning to take this action specifically: You can give town names, post codes, grid references, or what3words locations.

(This website can help you give us a location name or grid reference: [gridreferencefinder.com](https://www.gridreferencefinder.com))

If you're happy for the LNRS team to contact you by email to record the location of your land in relation to your planned actions, please write your email address below:

Is there anything else that you would like us to consider when creating our Local Nature Recovery Strategy for Shropshire?

Section 6: Contact

We are collecting contact information so that we can get in touch with you to follow up on your responses if needed. Please let us know if you would be happy for us to use your contact information in this way? We would store your contact information for a maximum of 3 years. You can withdraw your consent at any point by emailing l.parker@shropshire.gov.uk.

Are you happy for to be contacted in future regarding the Local Nature Recovery Strategy?

Yes No

Your Name (optional)

Your Town or Parish Council (optional)

Your email address (optional)

Postcode or name of your location (optional)

About You

We would now like to know more about you, so that we can understand if we are hearing the views of a wide range of people and communities.

If you do not wish to provide any of this information, please select 'prefer not to say' or skip the question as appropriate.

I am responding to this survey as a (choose all that apply):

- Local resident
- Representative of a local business or commercial organisation
- Member of a local interest or community group
- Representative of a local town, parish or rural parish council
- Shropshire ward councilor
- Shropshire Council employee
- Visitor to Shropshire or member of the public living elsewhere
- A Shropshire farmer
- None of these
- Prefer not to say
- Other (please specify)

Shropshire Council

Shropshire's Great Outdoors Annual Public Survey 2024

Consultation period: 8 July 2024 – 16 September 2024

Online survey

About this survey

The Annual Shropshire Great Outdoors Survey gathers information about how people access the great outdoors in Shropshire. The survey is led by The Shropshire Outdoor Partnerships Service; the part of Shropshire Council that maintains and develops recreational access, conserves and enhances the natural environment and encourages people to improve their wellbeing by being active outdoors. The service maintains and protects public rights of way, country parks, countryside and heritage sites, greenspaces and play areas, and supports the Shropshire Hills National Landscape Partnership – the new name for this designated Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

The survey includes questions about the outdoor facilities and activities you make use of, how you obtain information, any access barriers you may face and how satisfied you are with the services provided. Undertaking the survey each year allows Shropshire Council to understand how things are changing and where future actions should be prioritised.

The survey also provides information to support the delivery of Shropshire's Great Outdoors Strategy 2018-28. The strategy sets out how Shropshire Council and its partners aim to conserve and enhance the natural environment, improve people's health and wellbeing and support the local tourism economy. It sets out the strategic direction for the management and development of publicly accessible greenspace, rights of way and other outdoor access. The strategy fulfils the statutory requirement of a rights of way improvement plan but broadens the remit to deliver across multiple policy areas and to integrate activity across local authority services and partner organisations. It provides a way of inspiring collective action to improve health, prosperity and happiness by cherishing Shropshire's great outdoors.

We'd like to hear from you, even if you don't use rights of way, parks, play areas or countryside sites, so we can understand what the barriers to participation are.

If you have any comments about the engagement work undertaken by Outdoor Partnerships, please email: outdoor.recreation@shropshire.gov.uk

From: Dianne Dorrell
Date: Tuesday, 9 July 2024 at 15:57
Subject: RAF Shawbury Helicopter Liaison Group

Forwarded to Town and Parish Councils, Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin, on behalf of RAF Shawbury

Dear Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin Parish and Town Council Chairpersons,

As you may well be aware, the RAF Shawbury Helicopter Liaison Group was a meeting held two or three times a year aimed at informing Parish Councils (PCs) and Town Councils (TCs) as to the helicopter flying training activity conducted out of RAF Shawbury. The aim of the Group was also to discuss any questions or issues arising from our communities as raised through PCs and TCs across Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin. The Group was previously coordinated by Shropshire Council, with RAF Shawbury acting as the host and presenters. Shropshire Council recently requested that the responsibility for coordination of the Group be passed to RAF Shawbury. We are pleased to accept this, given that communicating with our neighbouring communities remains one of our highest priorities.

There were some limitations to the previous model, primarily that it relied on PC and TC representatives being available to travel and attend meetings at RAF Shawbury. With attendances becoming very low, we have been thinking how best to proceed with the Group, particularly in terms of how we maximise reach and flexibility. Shropshire Association of Local Councils has kindly agreed to distribute our communications and hence we have decided to send out two newsletters per year to the some 200 addresses to reach all PCs and TCs across Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin. The newsletters will be issued in September and March and will cover our flying and engagement intent for the next 6 months, as well as reporting on flying and complaint statistics for the preceding 6 month period.

In terms of reciprocal communication from PCs and TCs into RAF Shawbury, then our newsletters will clearly show our dedicated flying complaint email address and telephone number, as well as our general enquiry engagement multi-user email. These are shown at the bottom on this email and are open at any time for PCs/TCs, or anyone from the communities they represent, to contact us on. Finally, we will be offering through our newsletters to attend any of the six Area Meetings held by Shropshire PCs/TCs, should your PC or TC wish to have a dedicated Q&A session with RAF Shawbury Executives, or to directly discuss any specific issues.

I hope the above all makes sense with respect to how RAF Shawbury intends to engage with PCs and TCs across Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin going forward. We look forward to issuing our first newsletter to you all in September 2024.

Low Flying Complaints Email: SHY-LowFlying@mod.gov.uk
Low Flying Complaints Telephone: 01939 251712
Engagement and Media General Enquiries Email: SHY-EngagementMediaTeam@modgovuk.onmicrosoft.com

With Best Wishes and Kind Regards

Tim

Tim Mason

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