



Council Briefing

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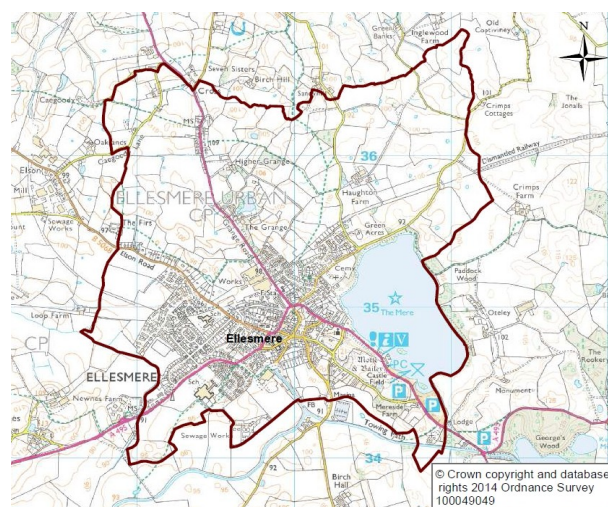
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Why Council Briefing ?

Cllr. Ian Ward

As part of a new approach to keeping Councillors better informed and enabling greater involvement in the functioning of the Council, I thought that it would may be worth producing a monthly (well for eleven months, excluding August) Council briefing in which to bring together all the significant events, reports, updates, etc, of which Councillors should be aware.

I would appreciate comments (positive



Ellesmere Town Council Boundary Map

and negative) on this pilot edition, in order to help to decide whether it should be-

come a regular part of the information exchange for Councillors.

Planning Civic Events

Cllr. Ian Ward

Special points of interest:

- Keeping Councillors informed
- Informing the community of the work of the Council
- Enabling Councillors to exchange and share information
- Putting positive communication at the heart of the Council

During my year ahead as Mayor I am keen to try to re-establish a number of the events which have lapsed in recent years, together with trying some new approaches.

Civic Service

As one of the features of this year's calendar, I propose that a

Civic Service should be held, probably in the Autumn.

Theme for the Year

I want to make this a year for looking towards a positive future for both the Town and Council based on improved communication building and re-connecting with the

community.

Mayor's Charity

Following on from the theme for the year, rather than supporting a specific Charity, I propose to adopt a theme, based on looking to the future, "Young People; Community Involvement

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Planning Civic Events continued

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and Social Responsibility". The exact details of this are still to be discussed and firmed up to see how it can fit with other developments focused on young people.

We are now in the fortunate position of having a Youth Champion (Councillor Elspeth Cross) and I hope that by putting this focus on young people it will help her to strengthen that role.

Social Events

Rather than plan a single formal event, I would like to try to organize a number of more informal activities based on the communication and connecting with the community theme.

This may, for example, be achievable through some 'Open House' drop in sessions for residents to meet with Councillors and ask questions, etc, and 'Coffee Morning' events.

If possible, I would also like to hold a 'Civic Reception' at some stage during the year.

I would very much welcome suggestions from members for events of any kind which you feel may contribute towards making this year a positive and active one.

Offers of assistance in organising the events will be very gratefully received.

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Events at which the Town Council and Town were Represented in the Past Month

Date	Event	Represented by
10 May	Royal British Legion Church Parade, VE 70th Anniversary, Cemetery Chapel, Ellesmere	Town Mayor & Deputy Mayor
10 May	Cheshire Candles MG Cars Rally Charity Event, Boathouse, Ellesmere	Town Mayor & Deputy Mayor
14 May	Bridgnorth Town Council Annual Meeting, The Guildhall, Bridgnorth	Town Mayor
17 May	Local Remembrance Service, Methodist Church, Trimpey, Ellesmere	Town Mayor
17 May	Severn Hospice, Ellesmere Support Group, 25th Anniversary Lunch, Town Hall, Ellesmere	Town Mayor
17 May	Shrewsbury Town Council—Mayor's Sunday	Deputy Mayor
27 May	Art Exhibition Preview Evening, Ellesmere College	Town Mayor



The Promenade at the Mere

Important Current Consultations from Shropshire Council

Community Groups Invited to express and interest in taking over the running of the Swimming Pool at Ellesmere Primary School. Expressions of Interest requested by 3rd June 2015.

Views sought about the future provision of youth activities in Shropshire. Consultation running from 11 May to 22 June 2015

Soft Market testing to shape and develop the Meres Day Centre as a potential community venue alongside other services such as the Library. Submission deadline 22 June 2015

Highways Sub-committee

The Highways Sub-committee met on 19 May to discuss and review the priority Highways issues to be submitted to Shropshire Council.

In view of the considerable number of issues identified, it was decided to submit a series of themes as part of the list (the Council is required to identify five key areas requiring attention for the next twelve months and prioritise these) in order to

cover the various areas of concern.

The key themes listed are;

- *Road Resurfacing*
- *Traffic Management & Calming*
- *Junction Management*

Each of these include a number of locations throughout the town, including Sparbridge Roundabout, Cambria Avenue Junction with Elson Road. All the themes were listed as Priority 1.

It was agreed that members of the sub-committee would undertake a walkabout of the main areas of the town to put more detail on the items submitted.

It was also agreed that when the list was submitted a request would be made for a meeting with Shropshire Council Highways, to which the Police would also be invited, to discuss the issues in more detail.



Welcome to Ellesmere

Highways

"The key themes listed are;

- Road Resurfacing
- Traffic Management & Calming
- Junction Management"

Heritage

"Local Groups, organisations and individuals need to be approached to become involved in conducting an assessment of all the key buildings in the town, both listed and unlisted to update the last partial survey carried out and improve the heritage record of the town"

Heritage at Risk / Public Realm

The Heritage at Risk / Public Realm Task and Finish Group met with the Senior Heritage Officer and Community Enablement Officer on 19 May. Amongst the issues discussed were proposals to

complete an updated version of a survey of listed buildings within the town, their condition and identifying and recording other notable buildings. There is a part completed audit carried out some years ago

from which to build up to date information.

The proposal is to seek the support of volunteers to carry out the survey. Full training would be provided by the Heritage Service.

Council Website Review

The Council's website is currently being reviewed in order to both update the layout and detail of information and refresh its appearance.

It is already proposed to provide more information about Councillors, Committee memberships and responsibilities.

Suggestions for improvements to the website would be welcomed by Jo Butterworth, Assistant Clerk, who is undertaking the review.

All road closures and diversions, traffic restrictions, roadworks, live incidents, special events, etc can be checked out at www.roadworks.org. This includes information about the nature of the issue, likely effects and planned duration.

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We're on the Web!
Ellesmere.info/town-council/

SAMDev - Progress at Last!

Shropshire Council have announced that the Inspector is inviting comments on the proposed Main Modifications as part of her examination of the SAMDev Plan.

The consultation period will be for six weeks from 1 June to 5pm on Monday 13 July 2015.

Full details have been published on the Council's website at <http://shropshire.gov.uk/planning-policy/samdev-examination/main-modifications-consultation/>.

The good news is that the site off Grange Road is being removed and the original development boundary restored. The site should have been removed at the 'Final Plan' stage and this corrects the error.

The consultation timetable gives the opportunity for the lengthy list of modifications, only a few of which directly affect the Town, to be fully considered during the next month and a final response to be agreed at the Town Council meeting on 6 July 2015.

Members Training

It is a requirement of Standing Order 7b that all Councillors undertake training in the code of conduct within 6 months of the delivery of their declaration of acceptance of office.

The Town Clerk will be arranging with SALC for the neces-

sary training to be held locally.

The planned Training/Events programme to the end of 2015 can be found at the SALC website (<http://www.2shrop.net/2shropnet/AToZOfMini-sites/A/Alc/Training>).

Please inform the Town Clerk if you are

interested in attending any of the sessions particularly if you are taking up a new representative role for the Council, e.g. Chairmanship, Cemetery Management

Current Diary Events for June & July 2015

Date	Event	Representing the Council
13 June	Dudleston Heath/Criftins Church & School Fete	Town Mayor
18–21 June	Waterloo 200	—
20–21 June	Ellesmere Food Festival, Town Hall & Market Hall	Town Mayor Deputy Mayor
21 June	Mayor of Oswestry's Civic Service, Oswestry	Town Mayor
27 June	Armed Forces Day, details tbc	All Councillors
28 June	Mayor of Ludlow's Sunday Service, Ludlow	Town Mayor
5 July	Ellesmere Regatta	Town Mayor