

**Minutes of the Meeting of Ellesmere Town Council held on Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2015 at 7.20pm at Ellesmere Town Hall.**

PRESENT: The Town Mayor, Cllr A Clarke, The Deputy Mayor, Cllr J Frost, Cllrs Mrs L Davies, Mrs E Cross, J Williams, R Hartley, I Ward and G Elner.

In attendance: Mandy Evans, Town Clerk  
Jo Butterworth, Assistant Clerk.

NHS Future Fit Programme Presentation. RESOLVED: to note presentation was cancelled and Members were informed in advance of the meeting.

Public Participation Session.

- (a) Mr R McBride spoke regarding planning application 15/00291/OUT – Proposed Development Land NE of Cemetery, Swan Hill, Ellesmere who thinks that the planning system is not fit for purpose as it is de ja vie from the last planning application on this area.
- (b) Mr L McMullan commented about Cllr Mrs E Cross comments during the last meeting that the Town Council would be throwing money at the market.
- (c) Mr H Lewis resident from Swan Hill read statements 76 and 77 from the National Planning Policy Framework as he thinks this area would meet this criteria.
- (d) Mr B Phillips resident from Swan Hill commented regarding planning application 15/00291/OUT that this area has been considered for development for over 20 years and every time an application is received it has been refused and wonders why the Inspectors comments from the latest application have not been considered which was that this area should not be built on at all.

239/15 Disclosure of Personal and Prejudicial Interest. To receive declarations under consideration on this agenda in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 s32 and The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012. Updated form has been received from Cllr I Ward. The Town Mayor, Cllr A Clarke and Cllr Mrs J Williams declared interest on item number: 13. RESOLVED: updated form will be forwarded to the Monitoring Officer, Shropshire Council. FURTHER RESOLVED: to note and Members will leave the room when this item is discussed.

240/15 Grant Dispensations. RESOLVED: to note none received.

241/15 Public Participation Session. Cllr I Ward proposed a motion, Cllr G Elner seconded the motion with all Members in favour to move item 10 (b), (c) and then (a) Planning to: 5 (a). Cllr Mrs E Cross responded to Mr L McMullen's comment made by Cllr Mrs Cross during the last meeting that she did not want to see the market closed and to review it periodically and if her comments were misinterpreted she apologises. RESOLVED: to note.

242/15 Police Matters. Report received from PC P Crump. A total of 5 incidents have been reported for February. 1 x Assault/2 x thefts/ 1 x burglary and 1 shop window damage. The Police currently have 2 active leads out of these 5. A new updated website is about to be launched on the West Mercia internet web site. RESOLVED: to note.

242/15(a) **(b) Planning Applications for consideration:**



15/00291/OUT –Proposed Development Land NE of Cemetery, Swan Hill, Ellesmere. Outline application for residential development to include means of access. Members considered and agreed to the forward the following response: RESOLVED: Members object to this planning application because as a council they are in support of the Localism Act where by the views of the public are recognised as paramount, but this council can not recommend approval as we have grave concerns about its impact to the environment, resulting in possible contamination of the Mere which is central to the quality of our community life, and in addition could have a financial impact on tourism which is an important element in the success of this town with many visitors from other Countries and tourism should not be underestimated in this area. These concerns were demonstrated by a petition signed by the majority of our residents on the earlier application for development at this site (13/01988/OUT) which was dismissed at appeal, but the residents and Town Council Views have not altered. Considerable work has been done to develop leisure and nature experiences at the Mere and Cremorne Gardens and it is essential we maintain a sustainable balance between housing and tourism. This area is outside the 'existing' recognised development boundary but also that the latest revised proposals (e.g. SAMDev preferred sites) will not change that and, furthermore, the Town Council (and recognised in the latest SAMDev proposals) seeks to take the existing development boundary elsewhere around the Mere further away from the Mere side to protect and enhance the ecological, tourist and economic interests of this important natural, environmental and tourist resource for the long term benefit of the town and future generations.

The fact that through community supported housing developments elsewhere in the town area Ellesmere is making a significant contribution (c. 800 new homes) in a phased way over the next plan period to support Shropshire Council to achieve its required housing targets.

In the conclusion of the appeal decision to application 13/01988/OUT, the investigating Inspector Neil Harrison stated “I conclude that the proposal conflicts both with saved LP Policy H5 and CS Policy CS3 in relation to the restriction of development outside development boundaries, and with the Council’s overall strategic approach to delivering sustainable development through the identification of suitable housing sites in the emerging SAMdev DPD. Significantly in the balancing exercise I have also found that the proposed development would be harmful to the character and appearance of the surrounding area in terms of its unacceptable impact on the setting of The Mere, the historic designated parkland of Cremorne Gardens, the street scene in Swan Hill, and the setting of the adjacent conservation area.” Before dismissing the appeal he ended his report in the following way “I have taken into account all other material considerations raised but they are insufficient to persuade me that the appeal should be determined other than in accordance with the development plan. As far as Ellesmere Town Council and local residents are concerned they feel that although the amount of housing has been reduced in this application and the high of the housing has been slightly reduced, this development will still be harmful to the character and appearance of the surrounding area in terms of its unacceptable impact on the setting of The Mere with this in mind the Town Council makes the following material planning objections: Roof silhouettes would redefine landscape despite being reduced in height since the original application.

Concerns of the nearness of the houses to the buffer zone.

The terms of location for housing in this area is completely inappropriate.

There should be a covenant on the buffer land to protect these areas this must be owned by the applicant as it is not in the ownership of Shropshire Council.

Parking and access on Swan Hill is also a major concern and could also have an impact on the Cemetery.



15/00503/FUL – 7 Scotland Street, Ellesmere SY12 0DG. Change of use from A1 (Retail) to B1a (Office); insertion of 2 no. new timber sash double glazed windows in existing rear wall of extension. RESOLVED: that members agreed to support this application.  
15/00504/LBC – 7 Scotland Street, Ellesmere SY12 0DG. Insertion of 2 no. new timber sash double glazed windows in existing rear wall of extension affecting Grade II Listed Building. RESOLVED: that members agreed to support this application.

**(c) To consider any other planning applications received after the issue of the Agenda.** (To be notified at Meeting).

15/00703/FUL – Whrosimere, Elson Road, Ellesmere SY12 9EU. Erection of a single storey extension to rear elevation including lantern roof light. RESOLVED: that members agreed to support this application.

**(a) Planning Application Decisions (for information only)**

14/00822/OUT – Proposed Development Land South of The Hawthorns, Ellesmere. Outline application for residential development to include access.

Decision: Grant Permission.

14/03370/FUL – Proposed Residential Development Land East of Teal Drive, Ellesmere. Erection of 68 dwellings to include on-site open space provision.

Decision: Refuse.

RESOLVED: to note decisions.

243/15 Shropshire Council Report. RESOLVED: to note no report due to the absence of Shropshire Cllr Mrs A Hartley.

244/15 Minutes. To read and confirm the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on: Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2015. (Attached). RESOLVED: that Cllr R Hartley approved, Cllr Mrs L Davies seconded, and all Members agreed that the minutes were approved, confirmed and signed as a true copy.

245/15 Meetings/Training Courses. Any reports from attended meetings during the last month. RESOLVED: to note none received.

**246/15 Correspondence.**

**(a) Items for consideration (information items will be circulated at the meeting).**

Ellesmere Medical Practice Funding. NHS England. Response letter received from NHS England regarding land reserved for the proposed redevelopment of Ellesmere Medical Practice. NHS England have announced funding to support improvement and development of primary care premises which will be available over the next 4 years and GP's have been invited to submit bids. The anticipate Ellesmere Medical Practice would take advantage of this opportunity and submit a bid for their proposal. RESOLVED: to note.

Ellesmere Community Art Events. Fizzgigs. Donation request. Members all agreed to donate: RESOLVED: £100.00.

Highway Concerns/Issues – Shropshire Council. 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2015. No concerns have been raised. RESOLVED: to note.

The Shropshire Council (Off Street Parking Places) Order 2011. Increase from £1.50 to £1.70 at The Moors and Castlefields Car Parks. RESOLVED: to note.

Oswestry Olympians. Thank you letter for support from the Town Council. RESOLVED: to note.

**(b) Correspondence Circulated during the month:**

Local Government Finance Settlement. Shropshire Association of Local Councils (SALC). RESOLVED: to note.



Invitation for Involving People in looking after the Meres & Moses Nature Improvement Area. Meres & Moses. RESOLVED: to note.

SALC Special Information Bulletin – 16<sup>th</sup> February, 2015 & SALC Information Bulletin – 16<sup>th</sup>/23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2015. Legal Topic Note 5 changes are: New Law in England permits email service of the summons and agenda and councils in England with a turnover not exceeding £25,000.00 should publish summons, agenda and draft minutes on a website. RESOLVED: to note.

Shropshire Council's Council Tax Support Grant Settlement – 2015/16. RESOLVED: to note.

Montgomery Canal Consultation – Visitor Economy Team, Shropshire Council. RESOLVED: to note.

**(c) Other Correspondence received after the Agenda being sent out.**

Press Release – Shrewsbury to Chester Rail Users Association (SCRUA). SCRUA have confirmed that the Arriva Trains Wales service 0700 Shrewsbury to Wrexham and 0747 return train will not be axed. The Town Council also wrote to Arriva Train Wales voicing their concern to keep this important commuter service for North Wales and Shropshire in use. RESOLVED: to note.

Shropshire Council Street Naming and Numbering. Various road names were suggested, Members decided to forward the Clerks suggestion of St. Mary's Close. RESOLVED: to forward this suggestion to Shropshire Council.

Parish Funding for Local Council Tax Support Scheme – Kris Hopkins MP/David Cooper, Bridgnorth. RESOLVED: to note.

Lakelands Academy PTA. Letter received requesting a contribution to support the PTA. Members agreed to write to Lakelands PTA and explain that they are unable to offer financial support but would be pleased to: RESOLVED: sponsor a Trophy for an award of achievement.

Neighbourhood Fund Requirements, CiL Collected in Shropshire. (Circulated to Members). The Council have a total of 4 years to make any decisions where this money could be spent. RESOLVED: to note.

SALC Information Bulletin – 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2015. (Circulated to Members).

(a) Council Tax Support Grant will not be passed to Town and Parish Councils – Shropshire Council Cabinet meeting held on 26th February, 2015.

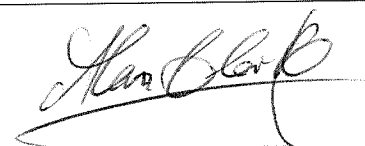
(b) Section 137 Expenditure: Limit for 2015/16 is £7.36.

David Jones, Cemetery Co-Ordinator, Ellesmere Joint Parishes Burial Committee. Email received requesting the Town Council's permission (along with Ellesmere Rural Parish Council as jointly owned) to hire the room rear of the Chapel, Swan Hill to a screen printing business. Legal advice and lease has been given from Solicitors and no change of use is not required. Lease will be based on a 3 year term. RESOLVED: Members agreed to support the Joint Parishes Burial Committee as part owners to let the workshop on the understanding all appropriate safeguards will be in place.

247/15 Casual Vacancies (4). Voting for the four casual vacancies on Ellesmere Town Council took place. (Six application letters have been received within the closing time and date). Letters received attached and numbered in receipt order, which will be the order voting will be made). The successful candidates will be invited to their first meeting on: Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April, 2015 and not Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2015 as printed on the 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2015 agenda.

Each Councillor will have 4 votes and voting will be by a show of hands.

Applicant 1 Applicant 2	Councillors: All 8 members voted. Councillors: Cllrs A Clarke, J Frost, R Hartley, Mrs J Williams. Mrs L Davies and Mrs E Edwards,
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Applicant 3	Councillors: All 8 members voted.
Applicant 4	Councillors: No Votes.
Applicant 5	Councillors: No Votes.
Applicant 6	Councillors: All 8 members voted.

It was: RESOLVED: to co-opt applicants 1, 2, 3 and 6 to Ellesmere Town Council. FURTHER RESOLVED: to complete Declaration of Office and Disclosable Pecuniary Interest Forms. FURTHER RESOLVED: to write to the successful applicants and invite them to their first meeting on Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> April, 2015 and to collect Councillor File prior to the meeting.

248/15 Ellesmere Station Closed to passengers on the 18<sup>th</sup> January, 1965. Next meeting has been arranged for Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> March, 2015 (1.30pm). The Clerk asked the press if they could do an article to publicise the event. (Historical information tabled). Town Hall booked Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> March, 2015 (10.00am – 4.00pm) for display, talks, slides, memories, recordings and refreshments served by Age Concern Day Centre. The Library will have a display during the month of March. RESOLVED: to note.

249/15 Market Hall. The Town Mayor, Cllr A Clarke and Cllr Mrs J Williams who declared an interest as members of All Together Ellesmere left the room whilst this item was discussed. Costings for the Tuesday Market:

- Healthmatic 1 Clean per week after the Tuesday Market £25.00 x 52 = £1,300.00
- Removal of skip and to be replaced with a wheel based "Euro Bin". To arrange weekly waste removal (to be reviewed) £676.00 compared to £1184.00 for the current skip waste removal. (Approximate costs).
- Salaries - £1663.48 per annum based on 52 weeks.
- Total = £3,639.48 approximately.

Members discussed taking over the costings at length and decided to take over the above payments for the Tuesday market only which would allow All Together Ellesmere time to promote the Market Hall therefore it was: RESOLVED: the Town Council are prepared to take over the financial cost for one year and to review after the first year. FURTHER RESOLVED: to request the year end accounts from All Together Ellesmere for 2014/2015 together with their Business Plan when completed.

250/15 Town Hall Drains/ Water. Work has been completed on the disabled toilet. Regarding the water loss the Clerks are awaiting the quote for replacing the pipe. Members agreed unanimously once the quote has been received: RESOLVED: to carry out the necessary works as soon as possible.

251/15 Asset Group. RESOLVED: that Cllr I Ward be elected on to this group. RESOLVED: to notify Sue Thomas, Community Enablement Officer, Shropshire Council.

252/15 Youth Champion. RESOLVED: that Cllr Mrs E Cross be elected and notify Sue Thomas, Community Enablement Officer, Shropshire Council

253/15 West Mercia Commissioner's Grant Scheme – Grant Offer. CCTV in Shropshire. Confirmation received from the Safer Communities Public Protection Team, Shropshire Council that the bid which was completed by the Clerk for a grant towards CCTV in Ellesmere has been successfully awarded £750.00 per year for the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year maintenance contract (1<sup>st</sup> year free) from the grant offer from the Police and Crime Commissioner West Mercia. RESOLVED: Members agreed to ring fence this amount £1,500.00 towards future CCTV costs.

254/15 Christmas Lighting Scheme. A new three year hire quotation has been received from Gala Lights as the previous scheme has expired.



(a) Option 1 Previous Scheme – Hire with installation £4,549.17 for 3 years.

Option 2 New 2015 Scheme White and Warm White with Glitter Garland £4,667.83 for three years.

Both include eye bolt testing, switch on and storage.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to Option 2 for the next 3 years.

(b) The Tree of Light infrastructure needs supply of new Residual Current Device (RCD) at £190.00 or to supply and fit RCD unit with time clock £240.00. RESOLVED: members agreed to supply and fit RCD with new time clock and to request a donation from the Ellesmere Rotary Club towards this cost.

(c) Members agreed to receive quotations for new LED lights for the Tree of Light and for the trees situated by the bus shelter at the Town Hall. RESOLVED: to seek quotations for both.

(d) It was also: RESOLVED: that Members from the Town Council who sit on the Members of the Mere Advisory Board will ask about lights down by the Mereside.

255/15 Grant Awarding Policy. To receive a report. (Draft Copies attached). Members agreed that: RESOLVED: the policy will be reviewed every year in October starting from budget deliberations for 2016/17 in October, 2015. FURTHER RESOLVED: to write to all existing grant organisations to explain the new procedure for 2016/17.

256/15 Staff Holidays. To receive a report. RESOLVED: to pay outstanding holidays as it has been budgeted for.

257/15 Payments for January, 2015 to be approved and confirmed. (To be tabled). RESOLVED: that Cllr R Harley proposed, Cllr Mrs L Davies seconded with all Members in agreement that the payments were approved, confirmed and signed as a true record.

258/15 Annual Dinner. Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> March, 2015 at: The Boathouse, Ellesmere. Only 6 acceptances have been received (12 in total) out of 29 invitations sent. Members were all in agreement due to the poor attendance to: RESOLVED: cancel the dinner for 2015.

259/15 Hybrid Black Poplar – Birch Road. To note that the tree has now been received from Shropshire Council Community Tree Scheme and was planted on: Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2015. RESOLVED: Members agreed to place a plaque that this tree was planted to commemorate World War 1.

260/15 Commonwealth Day – Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2015. (10.00am) at the Town Hall. RESOLVED: to note.

261/15 Risk Assessment Policy. To receive a report. RESOLVED: to note.

262/15 Date of next meeting – Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> April, 2015. RESOLVED: to note date of next meeting will be: **Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> April, 2015** due to Easter Break.

263/15 Exclusion of Press and Public. To resolve “That by the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and under Section 100 (A) of the Local Government Act 1992, the public and press be excluded for the remainder of the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the Acts”. Exempt Minutes will be kept. RESOLVED: it was proposed by Cllr I Ward, seconded by Cllr R Hartley with all members in favour to exclude the press and public.

264/15 Exempt Minutes. RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2015 were approved, confirmed and signed as a true record.



At : 10:28

## Town Council Current A/c

## List of Payments made between 01/01/2015 and 31/01/2015

<u>Date Paid</u>	<u>Payee Name</u>	<u>Cheque Ref</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>	<u>Authorized Ref</u>	<u>Transaction Detail</u>
05/01/2015	B Lewis	6520	661.66		Gardening Contract - January
05/01/2015	Shropshire Council Pensions	6521	988.62		Pensions Month 8
05/01/2015	Dynorod (A.Hand Services Ltd)	6522	462.00		CCTV Drain Survey
05/01/2015	Lily The Pink	6523	50.00		Wreath for B Knight
12/01/2015	Factor 21 (North) Ltd	6524	1,161.82		Street Lighting Maintenance
12/01/2015	British Telecom	6525	117.28		Clerk's Phone
13/01/2015	HM Revenue & Customs	6526	2,514.34		TAX & NI 3rd Qtr
14/01/2015	British Gas Business	DDR	494.00		Gas TH
15/01/2015	Shropshire Council Pensions	6527	729.34		Pensions Month 9
15/01/2015	Shropshire Council	DDR	892.00		Business Rates - TH
19/01/2015	Mrs Mandy Evans - Clerk	6528	1,400.46		Salary Month 10
19/01/2015	Miss Joanne Butterworth	6529	988.31		Salary Month 10
19/01/2015	Mr Des Harvey	6530	453.13		Wages Month 10
19/01/2015	Mr Clive Parry	6531	383.50		Wages Month 10
19/01/2015	Mrs Melanie Connor	6532	205.48		Wages Month 10
19/01/2015	Miss N Roberts	6533	205.48		Wages Month 10
19/01/2015	Shropshire Council Pensions	6534	720.81		Pensions Month 10
23/01/2015	Aps Boiler Services	6535	93.60		Boiler Repairs
23/01/2015	British Telecom	6536	168.92		Assistant Clerk's Phone
23/01/2015	Gala Lights	6538	5,036.89		Eyebolt Testing & Xmas Lights
23/01/2015	PG Skips Ltd	6539	89.22		Skip Hire - Dec
28/01/2015	Border Janitorial Supplies	6537	110.66		Cleaning Materials
28/01/2015	E.on Energy Solutions Ltd	6540	276.38		St Lighting Repairs
29/01/2015	The Ellesmere Gazette	6541	150.00		Place Plan Printing & Distribu
29/01/2015	LLoyds Bank	PAYMENT	20.70		Service Charges
<b>Total Payments</b>			<u>18,374.60</u>		

