

**Minutes of the Meeting of Ellesmere Town Council held on Monday, 3rd November, 2014
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 J Williams, R Hartley, I Ward.

In attendance: Jo Butterworth, Assistant Clerk.

Public Participation Session. Mark Davies, from Ellesmere Amateur Dramatics explained to members that they would like to ask the Town Council for funding towards erecting a new lighting system for the main hall. Mr Davies believes that a new lighting system would also be of benefit to other users. Mrs Davies also asked the Town Council to contribute towards the cost of black out blinds for the main hall, which he believes would also benefit the Masons and Reels on Wheels and feels that they could also be asked to contribute. Finally Mr Davies asked if the sound system could have a service and if it is possible information on the equipment such as hand held and headphone microphones be made available, as they were unaware that we had them to be used. Quotations for the lighting system were passed to the Assistant Clerk and Mr Davies pointed out that there is also a quote for a sound system in the information that he has supplied, but he feels that the system in the Town Hall is adequate for the moment.

138/14 To receive apologies and reason for absence. Town Clerk, Mrs Mandy Evans, Cllrs B Knight and G Elner – All Unwell. RESOLVED: Apologies accepted. Cllrs Phillips and Mrs E Cross absent – No apologies received.

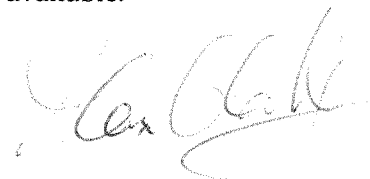
139/14 Disclosure of Personal and Prejudicial Interest. To receive declarations under consideration on this agenda in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 s32 and The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012. RESOLVED: Cllr Mrs L Davies declared an interest in item 18 on the agenda.

140/14 Grant Dispensations. RESOLVED: to note.

141/14 Public Participation Session. Mr Davies proposal will be discussed by members when they are read the letter from Ellesmere Amateur Dramatics under correspondence. RESOLVED: to note.

142/14 Police Matters. CSO Liz Walmsley reported that there has been the odd burglary in town during the month in Cambria Avenue and Brownlow Road and 2 males have been apprehended as possible suspects.

143/14 Shropshire Council Report. Shropshire Cllr Mrs A Hartley informed members that Jim Hawkins from BBC Radio Shropshire will be on the bench outside Bowen Son & Watson in Ellesmere on Tuesday 4th November between 12.45pm – 1.30pm interviewing and talking to locals for his show on Thursday afternoon, a great opportunity to promote our wonderful town. Cllr Hartley also went on to report that Ellesmere has a new Area Commissioning Officer – Neil Wilcox, which is a plus for the council as Neil has a good local knowledge and has worked with the Town Council in the past. Cllr Hartley regularly meets with Neil Wilcox and Sue Thomas and feels that the Town Council need to work collaboratively with Shropshire Council so that they do not get left behind with future plans and she believes it would be a benefit to invite along the Clerks and possibly Council members. One of the blunt messages coming across is that if the Town Council does not get more involved we could possibly lose All Together Ellesmere and the Market Hall, so they need to help market the Market. The Market is run on behalf of the Town Council as the Town Council owns the Market Rights and there is funding available.



144/14 Minutes. To read and confirm the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on: Monday, 6th October, 2014. RESOLVED: that the minutes were read, confirmed and signed as a true copy.

145/14 Meetings/Training Courses. Cllr Clarke reported that he had attend a Shropshire Housing Alliance meeting this morning (3rd November), but has nothing to report at this time. Cllr I Ward informed members that there is a Mere Advisory Board meeting on Thursday if members have any issues they would like to have raised. RESOLVED: to note.

146/14 Matters Arising from the Minutes.

- a) Progress Report – for consideration. (No Report). RESOLVED: to note.

147/14 Correspondence.

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

Ellesmere Amateur Dramatic Society. The letter was read to members and they agreed to pass the matter onto the Civic Amenities Committee for consideration together with a few other matters that they would like looked at in the Town Hall such as the possibility of soundproofing the door between the Small Hall and the Main Hall. Members also agreed that it may be prudent to invite along representatives of groups that would benefit from the improvements proposed by the EADS to see if they would be interested in offering some funding towards the possible enhancements to the Town Hall. Cllr Mrs Williams asked if she could be involved with this project as she was involved with the upgrading of technical equipment at Rhyn Park School. Cllr Ward Chair of Civic Amenities agreed that she could be invited along to the meeting. RESOLVED: Civic Amenities Committee to look at proposals and invite Cllr Williams along. FURTHER RESOLVED: look to possibly invite representatives of local organisations to a future meeting.

The Meres Day Centre. Members were read the letter from the Day Centre asking for a donation towards their comfort fund and agreed to donate £400, the same amount that they gave to Swan Mere Day Centre in September. RESOLVED: to donate £400 to The Meres Day Centre.

(b) Correspondence Circulated during the month:

Shropshire Council Planning Service – Planning Decisions Briefing Note for Parish & Town Councils. RESOLVED: to note.

Health & Wellbeing E-News, Special Edition – Children & Young People. RESOLVED: to note.

Community Health News – NHS Trust. RESOLVED: to note.

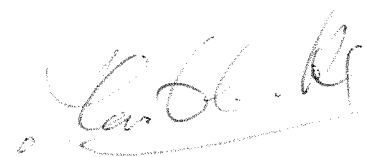
(c) Other Correspondence received after the Agenda being sent out.

Scope – Notification of Scope house- to- house collection dates for 2015 and 2016. 30th March to 19th April 2015 and 4th April to 24th April 2016. RESOLVED: to note and display poster on the notice board.

Shropshire Council Planning Alert – 14/03274/FUL The Coppice, Elson Road, Ellesmere. Erection of a 2 storey extension; including insertion of roof lights, balcony and canopy over front entrance; erection of a detached 2 bay garage with room over, improved parking and turning area.

Decision: Grant Permission. RESOLVED: to note.

SALC Information Bulletin 27th October. Members were informed that the SALC AGM has been cancelled. RESOLVED: to note.



Reducing Flood Risk – Your responsibilities as a Riparian Landowner Poster.

RESOLVED: to display on the Town Hall noticeboard.

Community Space Half Day Conference – Tuesday 11th November, 9am – 1pm.

Whitehouse Hotel, Telford. RESOLVED: to note only due to it being on Armistice Day.

Arriva Midlands – Service 53: Oswestry – Ifton Heath – Ellesmere. Members were read a letter sent from Arriva informing them that as of 30th November Service 53 will be running a regular 40 minutes service from Criftins to Ellesmere and same to Oswestry from 10am each. Prior to 10am the service will operate a 45 minute service to allow us to ensure that children are transported to school at the correct times. Cllr Ward believes that this will be better than the hourly service that they had before. RESOLVED. To note.

Chris Hickman – Email informing members that the directional signs by the Red Bridge, Birch Road are pointing in the wrong direction and are inaccurate. RESOLVED: contact Highways at Shropshire Council.

Complaint from Cllr A G Lea via ERPC Clerk Anne Howls regarding vehicles parking on Birch Road and causing an obstruction and a suggestion to extend the double yellow lines. Cllr Clarke said that this is an ongoing problem that he can't see a solution while the properties have to park on the road. Cllr Ward commented that the problem seems to be seasonal when farm vehicles are used later in the evening after residents have arrived home and parked on the road outside of the time restrictions. Members agreed that may well be the problem and would like Shropshire Council to monitor the parking issues to try and establish if the problems occur seasonally. Members would also like to check with PC Crump that the area is being regularly patrolled. RESOLVED: contact Highways at Shropshire Council to see if they are able to monitor the parking issues in Birch Road. FURTHER RESOLVED: contact PC Crump to ensure that Birch Road is being patrolled regularly.

Casual Vacancies: The Assistant Clerk reported that since receiving resignations from Cllrs R Harrington and Mrs S McMullan the 14 day notices to electors were posted. The notice for Cllrs Mrs McMullan ended on 31st October and we have been notified by Shropshire Council that 10 electors have requested an election for this seat which is provisionally booked for 18th December. The Notice for Councillor Harrington's seat ends on 7th November and Shropshire Council will be in touch on Monday to inform us if they have had a request from 10 electors for an election of this seat. If not then this seat can be filled by co-option. RESOLVED: to note.

148/14 Planning.

(a) Planning Application Decisions (for information only)

14/03731/TCA – The Granary, Birch Road, Ellesmere SY12 0ET. To fell one Ash tree within Ellesmere Conservation Area.

Decision: No Objection. RESOLVED: to note.

14/03955/ADV – Tesco Stores Ltd. Canal Way, Ellesmere SY12 0EJ. Erect and display free standing advertisement and directional signage.

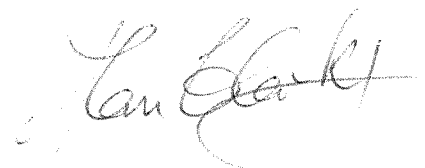
Decision: Grant Permission. RESOLVED: to note.

14/03990/TPO – Land at the rear of 69 Cherry Drive, Ellesmere SY12 9PF. Removal of one branch of one Oak tree protected by The North Shropshire District Council (Elson Park, Ellesmere) TPO 1987.

Decision: Grant Permission. RESOLVED: to note.

(b) Planning Applications for consideration: RESOLVED: None Received.

(c) Planning Response – Circulated to members during the month:



Ellesmere Town Council Response to - 14/03934/FUL – Land at Church Street, Ellesmere. Erection of 10 dwellings to include alterations to pedestrian footpath link to Cremorne Gardens; works to brick wall.

Ellesmere Town Council Response to - 14/03934/FUL – Land at Church Street, Ellesmere. Erection of 10 dwellings to include alterations to pedestrian footpath link to Cremorne Gardens; works to brick wall.

Ellesmere Town Council were unhappy that they were not included in earlier discussions on this development and were less happy to find that the plans were presented to other groups within the town at the beginning of the application. Members believe that this was as a result of the sensitive nature of this site and their endeavours to protect it from development in the past, as a result the Town Council had to ask the Planning Department for an extension to submit their comments so that they could have the development presented to them too so that they were able to make a fully informed decision but leaving them less than 24 hours to submit their comments.

The Town Council strongly objects to this application for the following reasons:

When the Town Council started looking at the development process back in 2010, site ELL009 was of the first sites that they decided to take out of the Samdev a decision which they upheld in 2012. In 2012 members looked at the development boundary and agreed that it was in the best interests for the long-term protection of the Mere curtilage to prevent further development any closer to the Mere. The reasons for this were to protect the natural environment of the mere and the tourist amenity thereby supporting the long term economic, social and natural assets of the mere with the long term benefits of the town in mind. This was supported by a wide range of community groups including, Shropshire Wildlife Trust, Friends of the Mere, together with Shropshire Council. The retention of site ELL009 within the Shropshire Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment is of concern to the Town Council as it conflicts with the decision made by Shropshire Council within the Samdev to redraw the development boundary, a site which was marked as protected land by the Town Council. Members believe that when considering a decision on this application a greater weighing should be given the development boundary in the SAMDev rather than the Shropshire Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment because the final pre application submission of the SAMDev was supported by both Shropshire Council, the Town Council. Members of the community were also consulted in the SAMDev process and so their opinion should also be counted as it will be impacting on their community lives. The Town Council also objected to the previous Swan Hill development on site ELL016, which together with Shropshire Council and others was refused on appeal and this site has a greater direct negative impact and is even closer to the mere.

4 of the houses within this proposal fall outside the new development boundary. Members feel that they provide no social, economic or any other benefits to the town, on the contrary the Town Council believes that they will have a detrimental and visual impact on the Mere. The houses are double front and will be very obtrusive and spread out, the design appearance and materials will not be appropriate placed within our beautiful green flagged Conservation Area because of the overbearing nature of the proposal. We have been told during a presentation that from the Mereside only glimpses of these house would be seen, however due to the scale of these properties we feel that this description is inaccurate and that the existing visual amenities would irrevocably be affected. The development proposes balconies for the frontage properties which would not only overlook the Mere, children's playground and children's BMX track but also all visitors and users of the Cremorne Gardens due to this proposed development is approximately only 39 metres from the mere and even closer to the Cremorne Gardens, we wouldn't want to lose one of ecological habitats which is one of the main attraction to visitors and residents of the town. The dwellings are very close to the Cremorne Gardens which is host to a number community events throughout the year, members are concerned of the noise generated through such events will cause new residents to complain and are equally worried



about any adverse effects that noise generated from the dwellings will have on the Cremorne Gardens.

Looking at the proposals there does not appear to be any street lighting presumably due to the scale of the development, members are worried that residents are likely to compensate for this lack of lighting by protecting their homes with high level security lighting which would spill out illuminating the Mere and disturbing its natural balance.

Landscaping proposals show that there will be a loss of some of the current trees to introduce a buffer to the mere which include dense planting, shrub planting, a wildlife corridor and wildlife verges. We do not believe that this will be sustainable because although it would need to be maintained it will need to be kept looking natural, once the development is completed we believe that it would very quickly be converted to mown area due to the natural and not necessarily tidy garden like appearance. Also there would be no way to enforce the appropriate maintenance of this area.

The current access in Church Street is inadequate and would require major changes to the pedestrian crossing points and pavements, which will have detrimental effect to the current access of the Mere. We don't feel that the proposals to mix pedestrians to road traffic is desirable due to the high volumes of pedestrians and families with children and dogs that would be using the pathway. The access starting at Talbot Lane and going through to Occupation Lane is inadequate to support additional traffic generation which will be created by this site due to the structure and narrow single track width. It is also too narrow for certain emergency service vehicles and refuse vehicles to access and exit safely which raises concerns over highway and pedestrian safety. It is impossible for 2 vehicles to pass on Talbot or Occupation Lane so if the application is granted permission solution this this would need to be sought.

Within the design and access statement there is mention of upgrading the road system at Church Street, which should not be taken into consideration in this application because unless there are funds in Shropshire Council's Highways Scheme the plans will never come into fruition. Part of the design statement is dependent on the use of CIL money which is not within the gift of the architect, developer or land owner, it is to be decided by Ellesmere Town Council and the community as detailed in the Place Plan. RESOLVED: to note.

(c) To consider any other planning applications received after the issue of the Agenda. RESOLVED: none received.

149/14 Annual Place Plan Review. Cllr Clarke reported that a questionnaire to be completed by residents will be in the December issue for the Ellesmere Gazette and he thinks that a meeting should be called to consider the responses when they are received. The Assistant Clerk reported that the Town Council can apply for a Community Led Planning Funding but they would be expected to match fund the project if they are successful with the application. The Assistant Clerk thought that the maximum funding available would be a maximum of £1,200. Cllr Clarke proposed that the Town Council should be willing to match fund 50% of the amount it needed. Members agreed to budget a maximum of £600 towards the costs if necessary. The Assistant Clerk also asked suggested that prior to any Place Plan meetings, that they read though it as outside bodies have had an input into the 2014/2015 plan that possibly have not been seen by members. RESOLVED: Arrange a meeting to discuss the Place Plan again when the responses from the questionnaire are in and collated. FURTHER RESOLVED: Budget £600 towards match funding if required.

150/14 Payments for September, 2014 to be approved and confirmed. RESOLVED: to note that payments were approved, confirmed and signed.

151/14 Ellesmere Station closed to passengers on the 18 January 1965. Cllr Ward pointed out that next year it will be 50 years since Ellesmere lost its rail links and the station closed down, he feels that something should be done in commemoration. Cllrs discussed the possibility of a



display or memory day, it was then agreed to pass the item to Civic Amenities to be looked into further. RESOLVED: to be passed to Civic Amenities Committee to look into further.

152/14 Art Festival. Cllr Clarke reported that it was Cllr Elner who requested this item be included on the agenda so he could report back to Council but he is unwell, so he reported that the Art Festival was a wonderful success and with Cllr Elner's help the Town Council saved money on sourcing materials for the event. RESOLVED: to note.

153/14 Remembrance Sunday. 9th November, 2014. To meet at Talbot Street Car Park at 10.30am followed by Church Service at: St. Mary's Church. Refreshments will be served at Ellesmere Town Hall after the Church Service. On Tuesday, 11th November, 2014 (11.00am) a short service will take place outside the Old Town Hall. RESOLVED: to note.

154/14 Ellesmere Christmas Winter Festival – Friday, 28th November, 2014 at 6.15pm. Ellesmere Timber Company have kindly donated again the "Tree of Light". RESOLVED: to send a thank you letter to ETC Sawmills for their continued support.

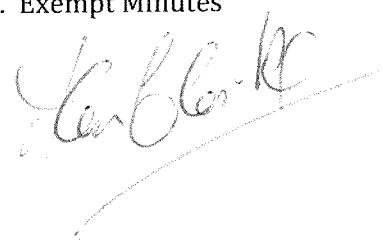
155/14 Christmas Window Competition. Members agreed to invite the Head Teacher of The Lakelands Academy to judge the competition the week commencing 8th December at a time convenient to the Head. RESOLVED: to invite the Head Teacher of The Lakelands Academy to judge the completion.

156/14 Annual Dinner. Members agreed to host the dinner at The Boathouse in February, preferably as late in the month as possible. RESOLVED: to contact them for menu choices and costs and to report back at the December meeting.

157/14 Risk Assessment Policy. RESOLVED: no amendments to be made.

158/14 Date of next meeting – **Monday, 1st December, 2014.** RESOLVED: to note.

159/14 Exclusion of Press and Public. 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: to note.



At : 12:10

Town Council Current A/c

List of Payments made between 01/09/2014 and 30/09/2014

<u>Date Paid</u>	<u>Payee Name</u>	<u>Cheque Ref</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>	<u>Authorized Ref</u>	<u>Transaction Detail</u>
01/09/2014	B Lewis	6408	661.66		Gardening Contract - September
04/09/2014	PE & HJ Jones	6410	64.80		Green Waste Recycling
04/09/2014	Princes Electrical Contracting	6411	108.00		New Emergency Light
04/09/2014	Altodigital	6412	146.71		Qtrly Meter Clicks - Printer
04/09/2014	Swan Mere Day Centre	6413	400.00		Grant for New Furniture
08/09/2014	Reliant UK Ltd	6414	72.00		Computer Repairs
08/09/2014	Waterclean Services	6415	25.00		Removing Dead legs - TH
08/09/2014	Tudor Griffiths	6416	32.58		Repairs at Kingfisher Walk
08/09/2014	Shropshire Tourism	6417	336.00		Annual Website Support
08/09/2014	Waterclean Services	6415	5.00		Remove Dead Legs - TH
09/09/2014	Reliant UK Ltd	6418	93.60		Computer Repairs
10/09/2014	Npower	DDR	1,351.93		Electricity - TH 2nd Qtr
15/09/2014	Mrs Mandy Evans - Clerk	6419	129.42		Reimbursed for Art Exhibition
15/09/2014	J H Warham	6420	111.94		Cheese for Art Exhibition
15/09/2014	Cllr G Elner	6422	88.94		Reimbursed for Art Fest Equipt
15/09/2014	Siemens Financial Services	DDR	58.95		Qtrly Lease Rental - Printer
15/09/2014	British Gas Business	DDR	494.00		Gas - TH
15/09/2014	Shropshire Council	DDR	892.00		Business Rates - TH
16/09/2014	Jim Edwards	6421	40.00		Bin at Beech Grove Replaced
22/09/2014	Mrs Mandy Evans - Clerk	6423	1,341.03		Salary Month 6
22/09/2014	Mr Des Harvey	6424	443.38		Wages Month 6
22/09/2014	Miss Joanne Butterworth	6425	946.58		Salary Month 6
22/09/2014	Mr Clive Parry	6426	375.19		Wages Month 6
22/09/2014	Mrs Melanie Connor	6427	199.63		Wages Month 6
22/09/2014	Miss N Roberts	6428	254.91		Wages Month 6
23/09/2014	Staples	6429	110.19		Stationery & Stamps
23/09/2014	PE & HJ Jones	6430	21.60		Green Waste Recycling
23/09/2014	J C Dyke	6431	13.80		Door Locks & Bulbs
23/09/2014	PG Skips Ltd	6432	71.38		Skip Hire
23/09/2014	Shrops Assoc of Local Councils	6433	20.00		Planning Training - GE
23/09/2014	Mazars	6434	720.00		External Audit 2013/2014
23/09/2014	J W Plant	6435	69.60		Commonwealth Flag
26/09/2014	Staples	109.99	109.99		New Office Chair
26/09/2014	LLoyds Bank	PAYMENT	31.26		Service Charges
30/09/2014	Public Works Loan Board	DDR	4,578.94		Loan Repayments

Total Payments	<u>14,420.01</u>
-----------------------	------------------

