

**Minutes of the Meeting of Ellesmere Town Council held on Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> July, 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, Mrs S McMullan, Miss E Edwards, I Ward, G Elner, B Phillips, R Hartley and R Harrington.

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

Public Participation Session.

1. Mr P Hickson is concerned about the planning application for drilling and proposed fracking which is close to where he farms in Dudleston as there are springs of water under the land and he is concerned about the chemicals they use going into water courses on his land and the impact this would have on his animals. Mr Hickson is unable to object even though it is on his land and informed members that the access and roads are not good, the proposed road goes past a two and half gallon slurry lagoon. Mr C Hickson then confirmed that the planning application was for a test drill at this stage and there are serious environmental concerns which the planning application takes light of. The Government has published research on the whole of this area which does state this location is unsuitable to work for coal bed methane.

2. Mr Alan Davies representative from Ellesmere Rangers Football Club (ERFC) answered one of the questions made from members following the Special Town Council meeting on: 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2014 - It would not be possible to re-start the application as it is not possible to fund anyone who is not leasing the building. A joint venture may be possible but would have to check this out with the funders. ERFC are looking into being VAT registered.

The Clerk replied that she had contacted the business line HMRC who have requested a Non-Statutory Clearance Form be completed with details of the project. This will be forwarded within the next 2 days. The Clerk had also left a message for the contact name from the Football Association given to her by Mr Davies.

Mr Davies said he had been informed by the HMRC if the final invoice was received by the Town Council they can reclaim the VAT, the Clerk responded to await the response from the clearance form as this was the advice given to the Clerk. Funding events have started by the ERFC towards the £25,000.00.

Cllr G Elner asked for clarification on a statement made earlier which he did not understand. Mr Davies had said that the town council could not apply for funding because we didn't lease the building unless we own it, therefore we could. Mr Davies replied that he had added this statement on and should not have but clarified the point to members that if they had to re-start the application again in the Town Council name the grant representatives said it would have to be the persons who are actually leasing the building which is the Football Club.

Mr Davies asked if the Town Council could come up with any money towards the work.

61/14 To receive apologies and reason for absence. Cllr B Knight – away. RESOLVED: to note.

62/14 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: to note.

63/14 Grant Dispensations. RESOLVED: to note none received.

64/14 Public Participation Session.



1. Members agreed to place this item on an agenda for the next meeting as although it is in the rural area it will still have an impact on the town. The consultation period for the planning application closes on the 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2014, Cllr I Ward has been asked to forward the link for members of the Town Council to make their comments. RESOLVED: to so do. FURTHER RESOLVED: to forward the link onto members once received by the Clerk.
2. Members agreed to wait for the response from HMRC and if necessary call a Special Meeting. RESOLVED: to note.

65/14 Police Matters. Pc Paul Crump reported that there has been a total of 11 crimes during the month of June, 2014. (4 Criminal damage/3 thefts/1 trailer theft/1 motor vehicle theft/1 assault and 1 house burglary). Cllr R Harrington asked PC P Crump is he knew anything more about mini motos on the football field, PC P Crump will follow this up. RESOLVED: to note.

66/14 Shropshire Council Report. RESOLVED: to note no report. Shropshire Cllr Mrs A Hartley has forwarded her apologies for absence to the Clerk.

67/14 Minutes. To read and confirm the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> June, 2014. (Attached). RESOLVED: that the minutes were approved, confirmed and signed as a true copy.

68/14 Special Town Council Meeting – Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2014. To read and confirm the minutes. (To be tabled). ). RESOLVED: that the minutes were approved, confirmed and signed as a true copy.

69/14 Meetings/Training Courses. The Town Mayor, Cllr A Clarke reported the following: there is to be a new fire engine in Ellesmere. British Ironworks are interested in designing a badge for the Honorary Townspeople. The design for the plaque to commemorate WW1 will be received soon. Following the Mere Advisory Board meeting it was discussed that the toilets at Tricia's soak away is defective and they are having to have 2 visits a week. It was: RESOLVED: to write a letter in support to Severn Trent to link this onto the main sewage due to health implications and hazards.

Following the Mere Advisory Board meeting Cllr I Ward is to look at a bid for land between the garage and mere on Church Street and land adjacent to the Cemetery under the Community Right to Bid as an asset of community land value. It was: FURTHER RESOLVED: to take this formally to the Policy and Resources Committee.

70/14 70/14 Matters Arising from the Minutes.

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

#### 71/14 Correspondence.

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

Heating Oil Club. Syndicate for people who need to purchase oil to heat their homes. [www.oil-club.co.uk](http://www.oil-club.co.uk). RESOLVED: to forward onto the Ellesmere Gazette.

Shropshire RCC Fuel Buying Scheme. Many parishes taking advantage of cheaper oil prices due to the Shropshire RCC Fuel Buying Scheme. RESOLVED: to forward onto the Ellesmere Gazette.

Public Spaces Protection Order. Replaces the Designated Public Place Order. RESOLVED: to note.

Lorries Obstructing Access to Talbot Gardens. Letter received from Talbot Gardens Management Company Ltd. The Clerk reported that the letter had been forwarded to Highways, Shropshire Council and the Police. Highways have replied that the local Police can take some action on this due to the safety issues this is causing and the fact that it could be causing delays with through traffic, and they will also raise

this matter with their Parking Enforcement Team. Members agreed to: RESOLVED: to write to Highways, Shropshire Council to request a new traffic order in place from Sparbridge to Watergate Street entrance for no unloading in this area. FURTHER RESOLVED: to write to Tudor Griffiths highlighting this problem. FURTHER RESOLVED: to write back to Mr Upton.

Ellesmere District Brownies. Contribution request towards taking the Brownies away on a trip to celebrate their centenary. RESOLVED: members were all in agreement to forward £300.00.

Rural Affordable Housing. Rural Housing Policy Review – Questionnaire for Parish Council. RESOLVED: to forward onto Planning, Economic, Development of Land Committee.

Empowering Parish Councils to sell electricity. Request for the Town Council to submit a proposal under the Sustainable Communities Act asking for the government to give all parish and town councils the right to sell electricity that they generate from local schemes. Members agreed to: RESOLVED: support although they do not have this facility they may initiate a scheme in the future.

Shropshire Building Preservation Trust. Notification letter informing members that this trust has now folded. RESOLVED: to note.

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

Dart Energy's Proposed Planning Application for Criftins 1. Email received from resident in Fir Tree Close dated 6th June was read to members who has concern regarding drilling coal bed methane in Dudleston, the amount of traffic movements and regard to sustainability of the area geologically. Members agreed to: RESOLVED: ask for the criteria for granting the licence for possible risk and consequences to help them understand how licences are obtained.

Peat Coring Visit – 18<sup>th</sup> June, 2014. RESOLVED: to note.

SALC Information Bulletin – 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 2014. RESOLVED: to note.

State of the Art New £28 million Women and Children's Centre. Press Release from the Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital. RESOLVED: to note.

Tricia's Pavilion. Email from Shropshire Council informing the Council of the use of the pavilion to sell teas and cakes. RESOLVED: to note.

Shropshire Flood Debate – 6-8pm 4<sup>th</sup> July, 2014. Royal Shropshire Conference Centre, Royal Shrewsbury Hospital. RESOLVED: to note.

SALC Information Bulletin – 20<sup>th</sup> June, 2014. RESOLVED: to note.

Tourism Walking Workshop – 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2014. (10.30-3.30). RESOLVED: to note.

Community Tree Packs, Shropshire Council. RESOLVED: to note.

Ellesmere Yard Consultation. Canal & River Trust Waterway Yard, Birch Road, Ellesmere on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 2014 (1pm – 4pm). RESOLVED: to note.

Parish Views sought on rural housing. Rural Services Network. RESOLVED:

Notice of Review of Polling Districts, Polling Places and Polling Stations – Shropshire Council. RESOLVED: the questionnaire was completed and will be forwarded.

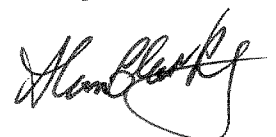
Shropshire Council Empty Homes Strategy 2014/2017 Consultation. On line comments by 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2014. <http://new.shropshire.gov.uk/get-involved/empty-homes-strategy-2014-217/> RESOLVED: to note.

Wildflower Verge Reporting Webpage.

<http://shropshire.gov.uk/sustainability/reporting-wildflower-rich-roadside-verges/>. RESOLVED: to support and look at suitable planting areas.

Integrated Risk Management Plan. Shropshire Fire & Rescue Service. Sessions around the County to discuss its phase 3 options. Oswestry Fire Station, 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2014. (6.30pm). RESOLVED: that Cllr Miss E Edwards will attend this session.

Ellesmere Tourist Information Centre at Fashelles. Contribution request. The Clerk will look at completing a Service Level Agreement between both parties and upon



completion it was: RESOLVED: to forward the annual contribution of £1200.00 towards tourism in Ellesmere. FURTHER RESOLVED: to include in the agreement specific opening times.

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

Letter received from Mr. R Bennett. Vehicles mounting kerb outside Cambridge Court on Scotland Street. RESOLVED: that the letter has been forwarded onto the Traffic Engineer, Shropshire Council for his attention.

Diksmuide Drive. Confirmation received from Developing Highways, Shropshire Council that the adoption of Diksmuide Drive will be completed within a month and they are also pushing Persimmon to progress the Hillcrest development road adoption. RESOLVED: to note.

Road Safety Policy. Confirmation has been received and logged on to the Town/Parish Council Community LED Concerns database following our road safety concerns on Brownlow Road, Lakelands Academy, Stanham Drive and Cambria Avenue. Shropshire Council are hoping that these requests can be dealt with through funding from local area budgets as part of this year's works programme.

Ellesmere Music Festival 2014. A thank you letter received for sponsoring this event which is due to start at The Market Hall at 11.30am until 6.00pm then continue through the evening on the new waterside stage by the Mere at The Boathouse from 7.30pm. RESOLVED: to note.

Shropshire Housing Group. Board member vacancies. RESOLVED: that Cllr G Elner will put himself forward to sit on this group.

Public Square, Wharf Road. Quotation received from our grounds maintenance contractors to dig out and remove 100mm of soil and lay woven polypropylene mulch matting around each tree and lay ornamental stone/gravel. £428.00 plus VAT. RESOLVED: members agreed to await a second quote from our grounds maintenance contractor for resin bound gravel.

Road Closure – Shropshire Council. Swan Hill to junction opposite Lion Lane (bridge deck over old railway line). 8<sup>th</sup> September, 2014 for 5 days. Core samples from bridge deck. RESOLVED: to note.

LEADER, Shropshire Wildlife Trust. LEADER is a rural economic development programme part of the England Rural Development Programme. Responses: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/L3PHTG9>. RESOLVED: to forward to Cllr I Ward.

Cadet Hut and Path. A proposal from the Ellesmere Detachment to repair the path from the kissing gate onto the recreational area which runs parallel down the side of the green fence which is the boundary for the ACF hut and grounds. Members agreed to: RESOLVED: ask who will maintain the path and if they have completed a risk assessment as it is in a well-used public area.

**72/14 Planning.**

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

14/01687/TPO – Land adjacent to Diamond Way, Ellesmere SY12 0FH. To crown clean 3 Mature Oak; Remedial Prune 2 Mature Oak; Crown Reduce 1 Mature Oak; cut ivy from 1 Hawthorn and 1 Sycamore and Remove 1 Oak protected by Shropshire Council (Land at Former Dairy Crest Site Wharf Road, Ellesmere) TPO 2011.

Decision: Grant Permission.

14/01674/FUL – The Lakelands School, Oswestry Road, Ellesmere SY 12 0EA. Erection of a single storey front extension to provide a "Special Educational Needs" (SEN) Hub.

Decision: Grant Permission.



14/02121/TCA – 4 St. John’s Hill, Ellesmere SY12 0HL. Removal of one Ash tree, removal of dead branches of one Cherry tree and lop by a quarter one Holly tree within Ellesmere Conservation Area.

Decision: No Objection.

RESOLVED: to note all decisions.

**(b) Planning Applications for consideration:** RESOLVED: to note none received.

**(c) To consider any other planning applications received after the issue of the Agenda.** (To be notified at Meeting). RESOLVED: to note none received.

73/14 Land Rear of Berwyn View. Following the request by members to write to Mr Thorns if it would be possible to access this area from the new development, it highlighted that this area is currently not included for development of housing land within the Site Allocations Management of Development. Members agreed: RESOLVED: to approach Lakelands Academy to see if they are interested in buying the land at a commercial rate. FURTHER RESOLVED: should Lakelands Academy not be interested then this land will be included in the next Site Allocations Management of Development.

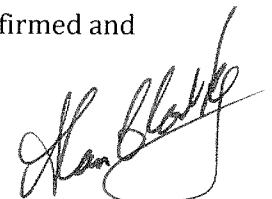
74/14 Ellesmere Rangers Football Club Project. The Clerk has spoken to the HMRC and explained the request from the FC to manage the project, they have advised to complete a Non Statutory Clearance Form giving the relevant information, documentation to be returned back to them Letter dated: 4<sup>th</sup> July, 2014 received from Ellesmere Rangers Football Club was read to members. RESOLVED: to complete the Clearance Form with the necessary information. FURTHER RESOLVED: to contact the Shropshire Association of Local Councils for their advice.

75/14 Hybrid Black Poplar (Populus x Canadensis), Birch Road Recreation Area. The Clerk instructed Shropshire Council to undertake a second opinion report following recommendations from the tree survey. The report has recommended no work required but it appears that the tree is approaching its Safe Useful Life and it may be prudent to take this into consideration and plant a new tree which could establish and act as a replacement in a nearby location. RESOLVED: to re-inspect the tree in 12 months or following any major weather events. FURTHER RESOLVED: to contact Shropshire Council for their recommendations on the species of tree which would suit be planted in this area.

76/14 Display Energy Certificate. Public authorities require to raise public awareness to display information about their buildings energy use. The Advisory Report outlines recommendations for improvement of energy use and is valid for 7 years, but the Display Energy Certificate is revised annually. The largest impact on energy appears to be associated with heating for the town hall and should be addressed with wall/roof installation, windows and draft proofing. Energy efficiency is currently being looked into under the roof project. RESOLVED: certificate is on display in the reception area of the town hall.

77/14 Art Festival. To confirm Ellesmere Town Council will be hosting this event for 2014. RESOLVED: that Ellesmere Town Council will host the Art Festival for 2014.

78/14 Payments for May, 2014 to be approved and confirmed. Members asked the Clerks if they could look into heating/water systems, water management for the town hall. RESOLVED: to so do. FURTHER RESOLVED: that the payments for May, 2014 were approved, confirmed and signed.



79/14 Powers to Act – Summer Recess. Members agreed to grant powers to act to: The Town Mayor, Cllr A Clarke, The Deputy Mayor, Cllr J Frost, Chairman of Planning, Economic, Development & Land Committee, Cllr G Elner and the Clerk. RESOLVED: to note.

80/14 Risk Assessment Policy. The annual risk assessment for water chlorination will take place in August for the town hall and cross street toilets. RESOLVED: to note.

81/14 Date of next meeting – **Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2014.** RESOLVED: to note.

82/14 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.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. Clarke', written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.