

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Shotton Town Council held on Monday 2nd December 2019 at 6.45pm in the Gloucester Room, Deeside Enterprise Centre, Rowleys Drive, Shotton.

Present: Councillor Sean Bibby (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors E R Jones, Rob Dowie, N Brown, Ron Davies, Kelly Evans-Brown, Gary Cooper, D Evans, M Evans, Tom Oldfield and Wayne Jones (Streetscene)

19/083 Apologies:

Apologies had been received and accepted by Council from Councillors Doreen Mackie, Gillian Brockley, Steven Davies and Angela Phillips.

19/084 Declaration made by members in accordance with Councils Code of Conduct:

Councillor Gary Cooper declared interest on Ysgol Ty Ffynnon

Councillors Kelly Evans-Brown, Nigel Brown and Mike Evans declared interest on The Croft play group.

All relating to Financial Assistance agenda item number 9.

19/085 Minutes of Council:

The Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 4th November 2019 were approved as a true record and authorised to be signed by the Vice-Chairman (Cllr S Bibby)

Members raised points from minute's bench Charmley's Lane not mentioned Clerk advised that it was mentioned under Streetscene. Councillor Ron Davies said he was very disappointed with the amount agreed financial assistance Aston Senior citizens Association. He and Councillor Gary Cooper wished it to be recorded that they did not vote on the application when discussed.

19/086 Chair's Remarks:

The Chair Councillor Gillian Brockley had given her apologies for this evenings meeting. The Vice Chairman had met officers and John Weale regarding the Harry Weale plaques on the foot bridge Shotton, thanked the stone masons for the good work carried out and was happy to say plaques were in place on bridge.

Also, regarding homeless persons, lots of developments behind the scenes and wanted to assure members that lots were being done to provide suitable provision, the "out of reach team" were working with everyone concerned. Member advised there were lots of moves afoot but at this time very confidential.

Steve Jones, Neil Cockerton, Jenny and Yvonne were all involved with this situation.

19/087 Police Items:

There was no police presence and the following was reported and the Clerk would forward onto the Inspector.

- Vagrancy act applies to people who don't want help. People refusing, vagrancy act does look after this.

- Graffiti- changing rooms – residents fence – person painting over graffiti – done probation service – police unaware. Clerk said she had contacted the probation services and had to ring back the following day for any further update.
- Bikes on the higher estate – they are still out and about – concerns with dark nights someone could get hurt.
- The Vice Chairman advised he had spoken to the Inspector and some issues had been resolved. Pensioner's complex – neighbourhood wardens involved – pensioners feel safer.

19/088 Streetscene:

The following were reported to Mr Jones to make note of:

- Only one ASDA trolley on the estate – Wayne advised that he was in ASDA all the time with complaints.
- Ash Waste skip still not being emptied. The Biffa skips have been removed. B&M are having bin store at the rear of the shop. Enforcement working on these issues. Ash Waste – contracted to one of the shops. Enforcement inspecting bags – findings being pursued – enforcement doing job first ongoing investigations.
- Bags spread around streets (Chester Close) – anything is inspected, classed as fly tipping.
- Fence along Aston Road still not repaired- Wayne requested Councillor to send another email regarding this problem.
- Recycling clothes bank – member had reported problem – Clothes bank removed – clothes being put in glass bottle bank, problem ongoing.
- Clwyd Street / Terrig Street – mattress removed.
- Underpass in need of jet wash.
- Pot holes – being done – dropped curb Salisbury Street sorted.

Mr Jones advised members to ring with any problems, member asked if any further update on path Dee View Road. Member advised Councillor that Education own the land and it was a public footpath. Wayne would speak to education.

Cllr Rob Dowie gave his apologies and left the meeting 7.05pm

19/089 Clerk's Report:

The Clerk reported the following to Council:

- Correspondence received from Mr Gareth Owens (Chief Officer Governance FCC) in relation to visits to Town & Community Councils to observe practice and gain an understanding of how local Council business is conducted. The findings from one further visit, undertaken in October was received by the committee. (Meeting 7th October 2019) At the meeting, it was noted that a number of Councillors had arrived after the item for declaration of interests. Whilst this will inevitably happen on occasions, it does mean that the Councillors will have missed the prompt to declare any interest. It would, therefore, be good practice for the clerk or chair to ask these Councillors whether they have an interest before beginning the discussion of the next item on the agenda. Clerk advised that at future meetings if any councillor arrives late, meeting to be stopped and late arrival member(s) asked if they have a declaration to be made on any items on agenda that evening. Council agreed.
- County Forum dates for 2020 for members diaries. Thursday 13th February, Monday 13th July, and Tuesday 10th November Venues, tbc.
- Town / Community Council Precept (2020/2021) date to be received by FCC Friday 24th January 2020. Clerk advised that a meeting would be called for the Sub-Finance Committee to discuss proposed figures... The vice-chairman said the clerk had been doing these figures for the past 33years and thanked her for work, never any issues with internal or external auditors.
- Member reported that the notice board on Central Drive had been vandalised beyond repair member had had it removed. The Clerk advised that a new notice board was in the process of having lettering on and would be in place asap.

19/090 Planning Applications:

The attached planning observations were sent to the Chief Planning Officer to be reported to the next Planning Committee Meeting.

19/091 Financial Assistance – late applications:

Council agreed at the November meeting to discuss any late financial assistance applications this evening. The Clerk had received the following late applications and council agreed the following:

Ysgol Ty Ffynnon - £200.00

All Croft Nursery Group - £200.00

1st Shotton brownies - £50.00

Embroidery Group - £50.00

It was **RESOLVED** that the above financial assistance applications payment be made that evening.

There was one refusal CAB which is not in the Shotton area.

The Clerk reiterated what Councillor Davies had said last month regarding attendance to the Aston Senior Citizens Christmas Party. The cost for the party is £450.00 and over 40 OAP's will attend.

19/092 Lighting:

a) **Manweb** – None to report.

b) **General** – there was only one lighting fault which had been reported and the one which was on constant not to worry about if it goes off please report to the Clerk.

Clerk advised the Christmas Trees were up and working as of late last week. Member thanked the Clerk for getting the lights up earlier.

19/093 Accounts for Payment:

The accounts for payment were before council that evening. It was **RESOLVED** that the accounts before council be approved and payments made.

19/094 Members Information:

Member wanted to remind councillors of the Christmas Sleigh around higher Shotton on 18th December 2019 and the Christmas Tree switch on by the Melrose. All welcome and any donations welcome for the raffle.

19/095 Duration of Meeting:

The Ordinary meeting of Shotton Town Council commenced at 6.45pm and finished at 7.20pm.

Chair's Signature
Councillor Gillian Brockley