

Church Stretton Town Council

MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SILVESTER HORNE INSTITUTE ON TUESDAY 18th MAY 2021 at 7.00 p.m.

Those present: *Councillors:* Cllr L Antill, Cllr C Carson, Cllr N Carter, Cllr S Davies, Cllr R Foulkes, Cllr D Hartshorne, Cllr J Lawton, Cllr J Luck, Cllr M Morris, Cllr A Munro, Cllr H Stowell and Cllr B Welch
Officers: Mr. C Maclean (Locum Town Clerk)
Unitary Councillors: Cllr D. Evans and Cllr H Luff
Members of the Public: 4

21.001 **WELCOME**

Cllr Welch took the Chair and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

21.002 **TO APPOINT CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL (TOWN MAYOR)**

Proposed by Cllr Welch, seconded by Cllr Morris, that Cllr Munro be appointed as Town Mayor/Chairman of Church Stretton Town Council.

As there were no other nominations, Cllr Munro was unanimously declared Chairman/Town Mayor of Church Stretton Town Council.

21.003 **TO RECEIVE CHAIRMAN'S DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE**

Cllr Munro took the chair and thanked everyone. He stated that he looked forward to working with fellow Councillors to serve the interests of the community. He signed the Chairman's Declaration of Office, which was duly witnessed by the Town Clerk and is attached herewith in the minute book.

21.004 **TO APPOINT VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL (DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR)**

Proposed by Cllr Welch, seconded by Cllr Stowell, that Cllr Davies be appointed as Vice Chairman/Deputy Town Mayor of Church Stretton Town Council.

As there were no other nominations, Cllr Davies was unanimously declared Vice Chairman/Deputy Town Mayor of Church Stretton Town Council

21.005 **TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES**

None

21.006 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To declare any disclosable pecuniary interest in a matter to be discussed at the meeting and which is not included in the register of interests (in accordance with the new code of Conduct adopted by Church Stretton Town Council on 26th June 2012). **NONE**

21.007 **COUNCIL STRUCTURE**

Councillors noted the committee structure and links to external organisations maintained by the previous Council. Discussion was held on the appropriate allocation of responsibilities between Councillors and desire to prevent an imbalance of workload.

Councillors agreed that time should be spent to reflect on the best way forward and for the time being all matters should be presented to full Council to enable Councillors to see the bigger picture. This would also enable Councillors to identify areas of specific interest where their skills may benefit the Council and the Community.

Councillors noted the proposals by Cllr Lawton suggesting reorganisation of Committees based around Personnel, Finance and General Purposes; Local Development and Amenities; and Planning, Conservation and the Environment.

Councillors noted the contents and discussion points detailed in Cllr Munro's paper setting out proposals on fixing the past, living in the present and planning for the future.

Councillors agreed to consider the papers and proposals to identify a structure for the future. Cllr Davies noted that early focus on communications would be useful to ensure the community were aware of the Council's priorities and that support would be given to the key areas such as promoting volunteer interest in the Park and events in the Silvester Horne Institute.

Councillors noted the early priority to install a new Town Clerk and Cllr Munro requested Councillors to consider whether they would like to be part of a recruitment panel to execute this requirement.

Councillors agreed that the next meeting of the Council should take place on Tuesday, 1st June.

21.008 REPRESENTATION ON EXTERNAL BODIES

Councillors reviewed the list of Bodies that currently involved representation by members of the Council. It was agreed that this be considered at a future meeting.

Councillors noted the work being done by Shropshire Climate Action Partnership and Cllr Antill recommended to Councillors their participation in an upcoming webinar.

Cllr Luff recommended to Councillors increased focus on the youth of the community.

Meeting Ended 8.10pm

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