

# Church Stretton Town Council

## MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC REALM COMMITTEE HELD IN SILVESTER HORNE INSTITUTE ON TUESDAY 25<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2022 AT 7.00p.m.

**Present:** *Councillors:* Cllr S Davies (Chair), Cllr L Antill, Cllr N Carter, Cllr B Welch, Cllr A Munro (Ex-Officio), Cllr R Foulkes

**Absent:** Cllr D Hartshorne

**In attendance:** *Officers:* Mrs H Merrett (Admin)  
*Councillor:* Cllr J Lawton  
*Members of the Public:* 2

### WELCOME

The Chair welcomed Councillors to the meeting and requested that input be brief as the agenda was very long

**PR.10 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES**  
**NONE**

**PR.11 TO DECLARE DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

Members are reminded that they are required to leave the meeting during discussing and voting on matters in which they have a disclosable pecuniary interest, whether or not the interest is entered into the register of members' interests maintained by the Monitoring Officer

**NONE**

**PR.12 TO RECEIVE QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**  
**NONE**

**PR.13 TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES**

Taken at the Public Realm Working Group Meeting on **9<sup>th</sup> November 2021**

Proposed by Cllr Antill., seconded by Cllr Munro and

**RESOLVED (unanimously) to confirm and adopt, the Minutes of the Public Realm Working Group meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2021 as correct, and these were duly signed, initialled and dated on each page by the Chairman as a true record.**

**PR.14 TO ELECT A DEPUTY CHAIR AND RESOLVE TO APPOINT TO THIS COMMITTEE**

THE TOWN CLERK ARRIVED IN THE MEETING

Proposed by Cllr Munro, seconded by Cllr Foulkes and

**RESOLVED (unanimously) to confirm and appoint Cllr Welch as Deputy Chair of the Public Realm Committee**

**PR.15 JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS****a) TO RECEIVE REPORT OF PROPOSALS FOR CELEBRATING THE 4 DAY BANK HOLIDAY**

Committee **NOTED** the report and were in favour of asking traders to put up flags around town and encouraging residents to organise street parties.

A Fun Day on Sandford Avenue Park on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June was welcomed and a budget is needed to pay costs in advance, although income from the event should cover this. Flooding may be a risk.

Further investigation will take place about a beacon event on evening of Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June with community singing.

Committee were not in favour of the "Help for Hero's" trail as they would rather the money be spent elsewhere.

Various local organisations will be contacted for input and a paper brought to the next full Council meeting (22<sup>nd</sup> February).

**b) TO RECEIVE VERBAL REPORT ON THE QUEENS CANOPY IN RUSSELLS MEADOW**

Committee **NOTED** the report. The Town Clerk reported that Connexus (the Leaseholder) wanted information on tree types to be planted. The Chair will forward this information to the Clerk.

**PR.16 TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON A PROPOSED COMPOSTING TOILET AT GREENHILLS ALLOTMENTS**

Committee were pleased to receive this report from the Allotments Society and **APPROVED** in principle. Further conversations needed to determine finance and insurance arrangements. The flooding risk in the proposed area needs to be investigated.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC (MoP) LEFT THE MEETING

**PR.17 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS****a) TO RECEIVE REPORT ON 2021 EVENTS INCLUDING INCOME AND COSTS**

Committee received this report. Total cost of lights was £3,971 (£770 higher than usual due to the lights damaged last year in Sandford Avenue). Cost of Santa's Grotto was offset by the income from donations, cakes and raffle. Income from Traders collection boxes was £400 (down from £700 in previous years). Cllrs agreed to do a street collection during 2022 switch on event

TOWN CLERK LEFT THE MEETING TEMPORARILY.

**b) TO CONSIDER THE DATE FOR 2022 LIGHTS SWITCH-ON.**

Committee agreed on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2022

**c) TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE REPORT ON THE PURCHASE OF NEW LIGHTS**

Committee **NOTED** verbal report. Welcome Back fund (£8,017) must be spent by late February 2022. It was noted that it would be unlikely to get permission to hang lights from listed buildings in Market Square. Application would need to be made to Shropshire Council for permission to mount light on lampposts and stress test them and there is not time to do this before the lights need to be ordered. Committee

agreed to order replacement festoon zig zag for Sandford Ave only spending any remainder Welcome Back money on benches, additional flagpole, or litterbins.

**PR.18 TO RECEIVE REPORTS ON OUTDOOR STAFF EQUIPMENT**

**a) PURCHASE OF GRASS CUTTER**

Committee received this report and proposed by Cllr Antill, seconded by Cllr Munro and

**RESOLVED (unanimously) to accept the quote from Dealer A for £32,000 + delivery + VAT with issue of purchase order for a Ransomes Parkway 3.**

**b) PURCHASE OF ATV (All-Terrain Vehicle)**

TOWN CLERK RE-JOINED THE MEETING

Committee received this report and proposed by Cllr Welch, seconded by Cllr Foulkes and

**RESOLVED (unanimously) to accept the quote from Dealer A for £17,500 + VAT with immediate issue of purchase order to secure delivery of Polaris Ranger Diesel as soon as one available.**

**PR.19 TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON THE ALL STRETTON PLAY AREA**

Committee **NOTED** this report and difficulties obtaining a response from Severn Trent Water on permission to work on site. It was agreed to send a formal letter of complaint to the Head of the Organisation.

**PR.20 TO RECEIVE REPORTS ON SANDFORD AVENUE RECREATION PARK**

Committee **NOTED** that Council approved £22,000 in June 2021 for repair/maintenance work in Sandford Avenue Park

**a. REPLACEMENT OF SAFETY MATTING UNDER PLAY EQUIPMENT**

Quotations for matting are being progressed.

**b. PROGRESS IN UPGRADING THE TENNIS PAVILLION**

Committee **NOTED** this report. The outcome of the application for The Community Asset Grant to upgrade the toilet is due at the end of January 2022. The Town Clerk is obtaining contractor quotes for interior sanding/ prep work for which £2,000 has been approved by the Sandford Avenue Recreation Park charity. Croquet Club has committed to undertake internal painting, preferably in February 2022, to be ready for the new season

**PR.21 TO CONSIDER THE WAY FORWARD ON BROOKSBURY RECREATION GROUND PLAY EQUIPMENT**

Committee **NOTED** much of the existing play equipment is coming to end of life and some has already been taken out of service. The Zip wire had to be taken out of service following recent annual safety inspection. In light of this, it was suggested we review the current internal monitoring procedures for play equipment and training requirements of staff.

Replacement cost is around £75,000 (£25,000 to replace sensory garden), and there is only £30,000 in Charity account budget. There is a possibility that CIL money may be available late in the year. Council need to fundraise so that new

equipment can be ordered in October for installation next Spring. Public engagement programme is required.

PR.22 Proposed by Cllr Munro., seconded by Cllr Welch and

**RESOLVED (unanimously) to suspend Standing Orders at 8.50pm**

**PR.23 TO NOTE CORRESPONDENCE:**

i) Permission for a Memorial Tree on Russell's Meadow playing fields. Whilst Committee were sympathetic to request it was felt this may set a precedent with influx of requests for memorial trees which Council may not be able to accommodate. Ground rules to be established. Chair will speak to Senior Tree Warden for an opinion on tree and possible site and will correspond with applicant.

ii) Notification that child fell in Pool in Rectory Wood by Ice House. Parent was unhappy with response suggesting risk warning signage at three entry points to Rectory Wood. The Town Clerk advised that fencing pool and barriers at the pond was detrimental to historic landscape. Committee agreed unanimously to signage at entrances warning of steep slopes, deep water, no motorbikes. Include in accident book in Council office. Council insurance to be checked as regards our liability in case on accidents.

iii) Arts Fest requested advertising banner to be displayed on Park Railings by the traffic lights. It was agreed to bring request for policy review to Council meeting. Committee recommend adverts for Town events ONLY, with NO commercial organisations, and to be at the discretion of the Town Clerk. Wording to be devised for approval by Council.

iv) Letter from MoP about tree management in Rectory wood. Town Clerk made comprehensive and prompt response to resident explaining trees are subject to annual survey, and following enquiry the sycamore had been checked by tree surgeon.

**PR.08 TO NOTE DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Councillors **NOTED** the next:

Planning committee meeting will be	Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> February 2022 at 7.00pm
Council meeting will be	Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February 2022 at 7.00pm
Public Realm committee meeting will be	Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> March 2022 at 7.00 pm
Strategy committee meeting will be	Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> March 2022 at 7.00pm

And from April 2022 Public Realm will be	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday in each month
Planning	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday in each month
Council	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday in each Month

The chair declared the meeting ended at 9.35pm.

Signed by ..... Date .....

Chair of Church Stretton Town Council Public Realm Working Group

As a true and accurate record of the above meeting.