



Church Stretton

Town Council

**Minutes of the Town Council meeting held in the
Silvester Horne Institute, Church Stretton on
Tuesday 28th February 2023 commencing at 7:00pm**

- Present:** Councillors: Cllr J Burns, Cllr C Carson, Cllr N Carter, Cllr S Davies, Cllr R Foulkes, Cllr J Lawton, Cllr J Luck, Cllr M Morris, Cllr H Stowell, Cllr B Welch.
Cllr A Munro (Chair)
- In attendance:** Officers: Mrs N Hook (Locum Town Clerk), Mrs H Merrett (Committees and Finance Support)
Unitary Councillors: Cllr H Luff. Members of the Public 3

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting.

22.200 Apologies

None received.

22.201 Disclosable Interests

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

Declarations of disclosable interests were noted from: Cllrs Carson and Lawton with regard to the Grant application by Little Stretton Village Society, Cllrs Munro and Lawton with regard to the Grant application by Dementia Friends and Cllr Welch with regard to the Grant application by Stretton Arts Forum.

22.202 Questions from members of the public

None received.

22.203 Unitary and Parish ward matters

a) Unitary Issues

Report from Cllr Luff

- The Shrewsbury Rd outside the schools will be closed from 9.30 – 14.45 on both 20th and 21st April 2023 to allow repainting of the road markings.

- The GB Spring Clean (Litter Pick) will be from 17th March – 2nd April 2023.
- Still chasing the Little Stretton Yellow lines.
- Had a meeting with Glen Lovelock and Nick Newton re: Dropped Kerbs. The parking outside the Health and Wellbeing Centre will be amended shortly to improve access to the dropped kerb crossing point. It was pointed out that the dropped kerbs where Sandford Avenue meets the High Street are also in a bad state, Cllr Luff will make enquiries on this.
- Shropshire Council meeting of 2nd March will discuss the Budget.
- Shropshire Plan – there will be a briefing soon. Cllr Luck agreed to email the Local Plan to Cllr Luff as she has not yet received it.
- Work on the EV charging points in Essex Road is in progress.

b) Parish Ward Issues (Little Stretton, South, North, All Stretton)

Little Stretton

- There is a great deal of mud/manure on the roads. It was suggested that an item be inserted on Fix My Street on the Shropshire Portal.
- Town Brook is blocked – Shropshire Council needs to sort this.
- Cllr Luck will check the bank behind Ashes Cottage as cars are still trying to turn here and are getting stuck as there is insufficient room to do so. A more prominent “No Turning” notice might help.
- See item above on Yellow Lines.
- The old milestone opposite the Green Dragon needs refurbishing.

All Stretton

- There is an issue with parking outside the church – especially when there is a large funeral.
- The hedging issue has been resolved after posting it on Fix My Street
- The BT phone box needs repainting.
- Seed planting along Shrewsbury Road is in hand.
- Planning Enforcement Actions: Is the cabin at Nixons Wood in use - there are cars regularly parked there? Barnfield Site showers have been removed. Pond area – this is on hold at present.

c) Policing

Report from PCSO Julia St John – read by Cllr Luck

- The issue with sheep in Little Stretton is still being investigated by the Neighbourhood Team.
- A visitor to the Shepherds Hut at the allotments wanted to know if it was for sale. The Greenhills Allotments Association have been informed and no tools are now stored in the Hut.
- From 1st Jan 2023 – 22nd Feb 2023 there have been 35 logs recorded in the area (Church Stretton + Craven Arms) – including 23 crimes, mainly thefts and dangerous dogs.
- There has been a man with a tannoy outside Vines shop making loud misogynistic comments.

22.204 Minutes

The minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on **24th January 2023** were proposed by Cllr Davies, seconded by Cllr Morris and **RESOLVED unanimously FC 22/23 101** to approve the minutes. They were signed by the Chairman.

The minutes of the Extraordinary Town Council Meeting held on **14th February 2023** were proposed by Cllr Stowell, seconded by Cllr Burns and **RESOLVED unanimously FC 22/23 102** to approve the minutes. They were signed by the Chairman.

22.205 Public Realm Committee

Cllrs noted the minutes taken at the Public Realm Committee meeting on 7th February 2023.

22.206 Planning Committee

Cllrs noted the minutes taken at the Planning Committee meeting on 14th February 2023.

22.207 Planning Committee Co-Option

Andrew Williams agreed to be co-opted as a lay member to the Planning Committee and it was proposed by Cllr Luck, seconded by Cllr Munro and **RESOLVED unanimously FC 22/23 103** to approve this co-option.

22.208 Finance Committee

Cllrs noted the minutes taken at the Finance Committee Meeting held on 14th February 2023.

22.209 Grants

Cllrs received requests for grants from:

(a) Stretton Arts Forum

It was proposed by Cllr Stowell, seconded by Cllr Morris and **RESOLVED 10 in favour and 1 abstention FC 22/23 104** to approve a grant of £500.00, and it was proposed by Cllr Luck, seconded by Cllr Morris and **RESOLVED 10 in favour and 1 abstention FC 22/23 105** to make this grant subject to Council receiving a copy of Stretton Arts Forum bank statements and corrected application form.

(b) Little Stretton Village Society

It was proposed by Cllr Munro, seconded by Cllr Davies and **RESOLVED 9 in favour and 2 abstentions FC 22/23 106** to approve a grant of £316.40 for replacement batteries and pads for the defibrillator at the Ragleth pub.

(c) Church Stretton Dementia Friends

It was proposed by Cllr Carter, seconded by Cllr Davies and **RESOLVED 9 in favour and 2 abstentions FC 22/23 107** to approve a grant of £350.00 as initial funding for the group to allow it to raise awareness and further funds.

22.210 Sustainable Warmth Strategy

Cllrs received a report from Shropshire Council and agreed to delegate this item to the Strategy Committee.

22.211 Local Policing Community Charter

Cllrs received a request from Church Stretton Safer Communities Team. Cllr Luck advised that the Council's priorities had been forwarded to the Safer Communities Team with a request that this be reviewed in May 2023.

22.212 Neighbourhood Plan – EIP

Cllrs received a report on the Neighbourhood Plan EIP. It was noted that Shropshire Council approved on 15th February 2023 that Church Stretton can have its own Neighbourhood Plan. The HNS will feed into this and an excellent Chair is being recruited. There will be a report back to the Council soon.

22.213 King's Coronation

Cllrs received a report on the King's Coronation.

It was proposed by Cllr Stowell, seconded by Cllr Carter and **RESOLVED 8 in favour and 3 abstentions FC 22/23 109** to have a Charites and Communities Day (or alternative name) in the Market Square, with the SHI as a wet weather alternative, on Monday 8th May for which Cllr Stowell to lead publicity.

It was proposed by Cllr Carter, seconded by Cllr Burns and **RESOLVED unanimously FC22/23 110** to set a maximum budget of £500 to purchase new flags if required.

At 8.58pm it was it was proposed by Cllr Morris, seconded by Cllr Carson and **RESOLVED unanimously FC 22/23 111** to suspend standing orders.

It was proposed by Cllr Carter, seconded by Cllr Burns and **RESOLVED 9 in favour and 2 abstentions FC22/23 112** to purchase coronation mugs at a cost of £707.04 for all the Primary School children plus a few additional mugs for future sale or presentation.

It was agreed that the Council does not need to be involved in funding the Big Lunch.

Cllr Foulkes left the meeting at 9.15pm.

It was agreed to create a Coronation Trail which will include floral and shop window displays to cover as much of the Strettons as possible, and to budget £100 to finance the planting of a tree on Hazler Triangle – tree species yet to be decided

22.214 PRS Licence

Cllrs received a report on the need for a PRS Licence and It was proposed by Cllr Munro, seconded by Cllr Luck and **RESOLVED unanimously FC22/23 113** agreed to apply for this at a cost of £1,243 which will cover all Council premises and outdoor spaces.

22.215 Brooksbury

Cllrs noted the results of the tendering process for the replacement of Play Equipment on the Brooksbury Recreation Ground. The timetable for the tendering process to be extended to allow for site visits. An Extra-Ordinary Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday 6th March after the Charities Meeting for Council to confirm the successful tenderer. The Public Realm Committee meeting that day will start a little later.

22.216 Correspondence

To note any correspondence received.

(a) Parking at Crossways.

Cllrs noted that inconsiderate parking is not actually an offence. A reply will be made to the effect that CSTC have very limited ability to do anything about this problem.

(b) Planned Gorse Burning – Carding Mill Valley.

Cllrs noted that this will be taking place.

(c) High Sheriff of Shropshire.

Cllrs noted the very complimentary letter received from the High Sheriff.

22.217 Mayors Report

The new trains are fraught with issues and will not be in service before December 2023

SWS Broadband – fibre is already in place in large parts of the town and is now to be rolled out across the entire town (not All Stretton or Little Stretton). The Tourism Budget is still being discussed.

Civic Society – struggling with membership, new members would be gratefully welcomed if Councillors can think any possibilities.

Accountant – has now been sourced.

22.218 Mayors Diary

Cllrs noted the Mayors diary

22.219 Vice Chairs Diary

Cllrs noted the Vice Chairs diary is to follow.

22.220 Next meeting

To note the next meeting date on Tuesday 28th March 2023 at 7.00pm in the SHI

The public meeting closed at 9.50 pm.

22.221 Confidential Items

Under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 S1(2), It was proposed by Cllr Morris, seconded by Cllr Luck and **RESOLVED unanimously FC 22/23 114** to exclude Public and Press due to the confidential nature of business which may arise relating to Staffing and Property or as determined by the Town Council.

22.222 Update on Staffing Matter

The Chairman of Personnel Committee updated Council on the recruitment process for the Town Clerk. The decision of Personnel will be ratified at the Extra Ordinary Council meeting taking place on 7th March.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.00pm.

Signed by

Date 28th March 2023

As a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Draft