



Clun Town Council with Chapel Lawn

MINUTES OF CLUN TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

HELD AT THE MEMORIAL HALL ON TUESDAY 5th November 2024 AT 7.30PM

PRESENT	APOLOGIES
Cllr. R. Andrews	Cllr. R. Davies
Cllr. W. Shepherd	
Cllr. D Morris	
Cllr. J. Limond	
Cllr. M Jones	
Cllr. M. Duffee	
Cllr. R. Bowles	
Cllr. B. Angell	

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE	
PRESENT	APOLOGIES
Mr. Gwilym Rippon (Clerk)	
Tracey Amass (Minute taker)	
Nigel Hartin	

2 members of the public

+

	Agenda item	
167-2024	1.	ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES
		The Deputy Mayor thanked those in attendance and noted that apologies had been received from Ryan Davies.
168-2024	2.	DECLARATION OF ANY DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST IN A MATTER TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING AND WHICH IS NOT INCLUDED IN THE REGISTER OF INTERESTS

Chair's initials



Clun Town Council with Chapel Lawn

		(Members are reminded that they are required to leave the room during the discussion and voting on matters in which they have a disclosable pecuniary interest, whether or not the interest is entered in the register of members' interests maintained by the Monitoring Officer). <i>Please note that all members need to complete a new declaration of pecuniary interests register for the Council term, whether previously a councillor or not.</i>
		None reported.
169-2024	3.	MAYOR'S REPORT
		<p>Due to a family bereavement, I am unable to attend this evening so I send my apologies for not being able to attend tonight.</p> <p>Once again, much time has been spent liaising with other town Mayors concerning the Shropshire Council budget issues. Last month I raised the topic that SC had asked Towns and Parishes to raise precepts by 10% to help pay for local services. Happily, they have dropped this proposal as I think the penny dropped that this was an unworkable scheme. However, this issue isn't something that will disappear. Mark and myself will be meeting other Mayors alongside Lezley Picton next week to discuss the issues we face as the rural end of the county and we will report back once this has happened.</p> <p>We have two big events happening this month. Firstly the charity auction and cheese and wine on 16th November. I'd urge all councillors to attend. We need to get an approximate number for catering purposes as soon as possible. Some of the offerings have been extremely generous, which includes meals out, a BMW for the weekend, Newcastle United football tickets to name a few. So the more bids we get the better for the three charities which we are raising money for. (Clun AED Scheme, SpArC and Lingen Davies Cancer Ward at Shrewsbury Hospital. It's great that we have a few Deputy Lieutenants attending as well to support the night!</p> <p>We also have a visit from the High Sheriff at the end of the month. Thank you to Cllr Monika Jones for helping to pull this together. Its great that Brian Welti wishes to spend the day in Clun, which gives us the opportunity to showcase Clun and the wider parish.</p> <p>We have also been discussing the employment of a deputy clerk to assist the clerk with carrying out or ambitions as a council and I'm sure the Personnel committee will give more detail later this evening.</p>
170-2024	4.	PUBLIC SESSION
		(i) Shropshire Councillor Report – The council remains in financial difficulties. More savings are being sought and reserves are very low. Compulsory redundancies are to start. Shire Hall use is much scaled back to reduce costs,



Clun Town Council with Chapel Lawn

		<p>from 1st December councilors will move to Guildhall. Booking for the recycling systems is settling in. Green bin system is due to commence shortly.</p> <p>(ii) Police Report – no report received.</p> <p>(iii) Public comments – A member of the public expressed concerns regarding the issues with the county council and asked if parish councils could be included in any future meetings with county. Cllr. Duffee responded, reiterating that local mayors are meeting with county next week and said he would seek to invite the chair of Clunton Parish council. Cllr. Angell sought clarification that this meeting would be information gathering only and Cllr. Duffee was able to reassure that was the case.</p>
171-2024	5.	APPROVAL OF MINUTES
		<p>Cllr Angell item 8. There should be an action for the Clerk to follow up with the Land Registry to establish any current ownership of that strip of land. Item 9.4 second line should read current contract for the cemetery.</p> <p>Cllr Angell proposed sign off, Cllr Jones seconded.</p>
172-2024	6.	INFORMATION FROM THE MINUTES
		<p>Cllr. Angell item 14 action, there is a face-to-face meeting with WSP on the 19th November to discuss the issues at Waterloo. Cllrs Davies and Limond would also be in attendance. The matter of the drainage in the square being included in the discussions about Bridge St, it had been agreed that this was the case. Following the meeting the plans would be finalised with a view to scheduling the work.</p> <p>Cllr. Angell has written to SWT to say the council is willing to engage and wait a response.</p>
173-2024	7.	CLERK'S REPORT
		<p>Due to illness some of Clerk was behind with actions. Cllr. Angell asked if councillors could update the action log to make it a useful and meaningful document.</p>
174-2024	8.	CASTLE GROUNDS



Clun Town Council with Chapel Lawn

		<p>a) To discuss the land drainage around the Castle – deferred to next meeting. It was noted some drainage work had been done recently in the Castle Meadow. Cllr. Limond reported that the drainage work was done at the end of September under the supervision of English Heritage. This should provide a resolution for the time being. This now complete.</p> <p>b) To discuss the paper regarding taking ownership of the pathway between Buffalo Lane and the Castle. This will be addressed when the Land registry enquiry has concluded.</p>
175-2024	9.	<p>PLANNING</p> <p>a) To consider the following planning applications and other planning matters</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 24/04134/FUL Application for the erection of rear extension and alteration to existing front porch at 2 Newport Street, Clun, Craven Arms, Shropshire, SY7 8JZ. Cllr. Bowles said the request appeared to be reasonable. Cllr. Angell said that the materials specified seemed to be good quality and this work would improve the building. It was agreed that this should be supported. Agreed unanimously.
176-2024	10.	<p>ASSETS OF THE COUNCIL</p> <p>To update on the following and any action deemed necessary : -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Town Hall: summary of conclusions from the recent building report. Cllr. Shepherd provided an update. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Current position:- <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. West Elevation, application of the lime render is now complete and painting is likely to be completed shortly. A new deeper gutter is to be installed hopefully to mitigate water overflowing onto the pavement below. Scaffold is planned to be removed by 15 November. b. West and South Elevations, repairs to the sandstone; whilst work has been delayed due to extended lead times for the delivery of sandstone blocks, coupled with the fact that sandstone has had to be sourced from 3 different quarries, Reynolds have now received all of the sandstone blocks and are in the process of dressing and installing the blocks. Completion is expected to be by the end of November. c. Traffic Management:- Pedestrian Marshall system seems to be working satisfactorily. d. Repairs to the Clock Tower (Cupola):- Unfortunately, on close inspection of the structure, including the timber cladding, lead flashings and immediate roof slates adjacent to the



Clun Town Council with Chapel Lawn

		<p>Cupola, a number of design/installation faults have been identified. Tim Ratcliffe our Architectural Consultant has been involved and together with Reynolds Conservation a solution has been agreed and Reynolds are rectifying the problems as we speak. Inevitably there is an additional cost for undertaking the additional repairs, this is likely to be in the region of £800 + vat. Reynolds hope to finish early w/c 11 November.</p> <p>e. Programme:-</p> <p>i. All dates are conditional and subject to work being completed to plan and without any unforeseen hold-ups.</p> <p>ii. It is anticipated that all scaffolding will be removed before the end of November.</p> <p>iii. Project completion, by end-November.</p> <p>2. Other Items:-</p> <p>a. Clun Town Council (CTC) are to source the following:-</p> <p>i. Two parking spaces adjacent to the Town Hall, this will be ongoing and Reynolds are advising us on their specific parking needs, in case of any change.</p> <p>b. The Contract Finances:-</p> <p>i. Applications for payment from Reynolds Conservation and TR Associates will be submitted in December and January.</p> <p>ii. The Application/Valuation will be scrutinised by T R Associates prior to being approved for payment.</p> <p>iii. The full amount of the grant will shortly have been drawn from the Levelling Up Fund. Cllr. Bowles noted that the work is progressing well and it was good news. Cllr. Limond reported that a guilder was working on other items in the town and the weather vane could be guilded at the same time. Cllr. Shepherd questioned whether the practicalities were workable.</p> <p>Cllr. Limond noted that some houses in the square have been using the cones to reserve parking outside residences. Cllr. Shepherd agreed to remind the contractors to ensure the cones are where they should be at the end of each day.</p> <p>2. Public toilets: To discuss the rain water retrieval system. Cllr. Andrews had circulated Tony Martyr's report and councilors had had an opportunity to read the report. The essence of the report is that the pump had silted up and a new pump fitted. A new pump was available and could be fitted, testing and monitoring would be needed. It was estimated that the costs would not be substantial. Approximate cost would be £1500 unless a new tank is required. This would be a green solution. The proposed next step would be to undertake an internal inspection of the tank. Cllr. Limond asked what the saving would be</p>
--	--	--



Clun Town Council with Chapel Lawn

		<p>on the current water bill for the toilets. The Clerk said the costs was currently £460 per quarter which indicates any outlay would quickly be recouped. Cllr. Angell said it was worth getting firm figures for a decision to be made.</p> <p>3. To discuss and decided on using the Town Hall / Museum for Sant's Grotto. Cllr. Bowles reported that the Town Trust supported the matter.</p> <p>4. To discuss and decide on an additional streetlight in Ford Street. The Clerk reported that an email had been received from a resident asking for an additional street light in the middle of the Ford St. Cllr Morris noted that a light had been in place previously. Cllr. Angell noted that the previous light had been removed as it had been shining into a property.</p> <p>Cllr Angell reminded the Clerk that we needed confirmation that the agreed spec was being adhered to with all future implementations.</p> <p>Cllr. Morris asked if Shropshire Council had been asked about addressing the faulty light in the square. It was noted that the matter was ongoing and may be something which is transferred to the Town Council in the future. Cllr. Angell asked for the contract for the survey of the closed church yard to be confirmed.</p>
177-2024	11.	FINANCE
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To receive the Bank Reconciliation 2. To discuss the funding of the Memorial Hall. Cllr. Andrews reported that the work to make the wall around the tennis court had been completed. For 2025 the plans were to alter the entrance to the hall, move the bar and make improvements to sports facilities. If funding from the Recreational Trust fund were made available to the Memorial Hall this would be used to improve the entrance. It was believed that this would increase income as the building would be more attractive to those looking for a venue for events. Cllr. Limond declared a pecuniary interest and absented himself from the discussion. The Clerk noted that the terms of the fund appear to support the kind of work proposed. Cllr. Angell noted that a written request would be needed. It needed to be clear that this would need to be considered at a meeting of the Recreational Trust. 3. To discuss and decided on funding the children's Christmas presents (value max £135). This was unanimously supported. 4. To note the national pay rise of 2.5% backdated from April 2024. This was unanimously supported. 5. To approve the following invoices for payment. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. HMRC £265.21p (S1-S7 Localism Act 2011) b. G. J. Rippon £282.49 (expenses) (S1-S7 Localism Act 2011) c. T. Radcliffe 1522.96p (Town Hall) (S1-S7 Localism Act 2011) d. Mark Room £1700.00p (Closed Churchyard) (S1-S7 Localism Act 2011)



Clun Town Council with Chapel Lawn

		<p>e. Jon Churchett £90 Dealing with the aftermath of the flood water. (S1-S7 Localism Act 2011) For information</p> <p>f. Jon Churchett £500.00 Cleaner (S1-S7 Localism Act 2011)</p> <p>g. Tracey Amass £89.88 Minute taker (S1-S7 Localism Act 2011)</p> <p>All unanimously supported.</p> <p>The Clerk had received an email regarding a potential request for a grant for music festival for 2025. It was agreed that it would be added to the agenda for December.</p>
178-2024	12.	CORRESPONDENCE
		None.
179-2024	13.	INFORMATION FROM COUNCILLORS
		<p>Cllr. Angell reported that the new HGV signs had all been done other than those in Herefordshire and Powis. New signs are clear and should be helpful. The picnic benches and bins in the car park area are still to be secured to ensure they are not washed away in any future floods. All bins have now been washed away. This matter needs to be addressed and Cllr. Angell suggested the Town Council grasp the matter and pay a local contractor to undertake the necessary. Cllr. Limond asked for the bin in the square to be upgraded to a larger size to avoid over low.</p> <p>Cllr. Shepherd asked if the green bin at the cemetery could have a sticker o it will be collected in future.</p> <p>Cllr. Duffee reported that Cllr. Davies had been contacted regarding the sale of 22 The Square. The ownership of a retaining wall was being questioned and this was holding up the sale. Councilors were asked if they could help to clarify the situation. No one was able to clarify.</p> <p>Cllr. Davies had also been asked if the council could support the engagement of a legal advisor to help local farmers to understand the implication of the changes to inheritance tax. Cllr. Limond noted that there is a meeting of local farmers at the Memorial Hall on 23rd November, could an NFU representative be encouraged to attend. Cllr. Bowles noted it would be an opportunity to show support to the farming community. Cllr. Angell noted that there are specialist consultants who understand the wider matter of structuring inheritance. It was unanimously agreed that the Town Council would support this in principle subject to a clear proposal.</p> <p>Lord Powis is an ex officio Trustee on Clun Town Trust. The Trust recently contacted his son Viscount Clive to invite him to meet the Trust and visit the museum. He accepted and will visit on 5th December.</p>



Clun Town Council with Chapel Lawn

180-2024	14.	CLUN CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT GROUP
		Nothing to report from CCEG.
181-2024	15.	Agenda items for the next meeting
182-2024	16.	Date of next meeting
		Date of next meeting to be held 3 rd December 2024
		Signed by the Chair.
		Meeting closed at 21.12