



Broseley Town Council

The Library Building, Bridgnorth Road, Broseley, Shropshire TF12 5EL

Minutes of the Broseley Town Council Meeting held on **Tuesday 10th September 2019** commencing at **19:00 hours** in the Birchmeadow Centre, Broseley TF12 5LP.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors Burton (Mayor), West (Deputy Mayor), Childs, Harris, L Garbett, Mark Garbett, Goodall, Maltby, Taylor and Singh-Mohr.

IN ATTENDANCE: Andrea Williams (Responsible Finance Officer/Assistant Clerk), Councillor David Turner and 4 members of the public.

87. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Michael Garbett, Dr Kate Howe (Town Clerk).

88. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr Blenkiron read a statement regarding Coalport Road and offered a copy for the Council minutes and asked for his comments to be included in the minutes. Mr Blenkiron was concerned that 2 years ago a fault on the Coalport Road developed and deteriorated rapidly. It was understood that the landowner was required to pay. Eventually the road was repaired but the repairs didn't last. Residents pushed for further repairs but were informed that it was a big job and that the road needed to be closed for works to be done. The four days allocated to do this was insufficient and the work is still incomplete. He read out six questions and requested they be answered.

Cllr Harris requested to give his update under the Highways update 9f of the agenda. The Mayor agreed.

Mr Bould referred to a letter from the Clerk in response to his letter which concerned the accuracy of the July minutes and the level of noise in the Council chamber and his suggestion to record the Council Meetings. The Mayor agreed to look at the letters and respond to Mr Bould.

Mr Blenkiron asked if it was in the main agenda could he still ask questions, it was confirmed that he couldn't, he therefore asked for the answer to be given in the public participation so questions could be asked. Councillor Harris gave an update, documented in point 95f of these minutes.

89. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none which had not been previously recorded.

90. REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

There were none.

91. MAYOR & DEPUTY MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor informed the meeting he had been to a Mayors' and Clerks' meeting at Shirehall that day and there was nothing to update on. There were no further updates.

92. MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Council **APPROVED** the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 13th August 2019.

93. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

94. CLERK'S REPORT

Council **NOTED** the Clerks update from the RFO/Assistant Clerk in the Clerk's absence, on projects and correspondence:

- (a) Broseley & Seven Gorge Community First Responders - A thank you letter had been received for the grant received, a vehicle had now been purchased and the Mayor received an invite to the "thanks and celebration" event on the 30th September 2019.

- (b) SALC AGM would be on 15th November 2019 and all Councillors had been sent the information.
- (c) Telephone Kiosk Removal – Shropshire Council had sent out communication to say British Telecommunications were removing 135 Telephone Kiosks. It was not yet known if this would effect Broseley but further information was expected and would be passed on when received.
- (d) British Legion Request – a request had been received for help on Remembrance Sunday from the British Legion. Councillors agreed that information could be put up on notice boards and in the Town Talk asking for help on the day and Cllrs Childs, Mark Garbett, Goodall and Singh-Mohr would be available to help on the day. RFO to discuss with British Legion.
- (e) Gallery Opening – Councillors were reminded of the Gallery opening and to let the office know who would be attending.
- (f) Notice of Conclusion of Audit – Councillors were informed that the Conclusion of Audit had been received from the external Auditors and this would be displayed on the notice boards and website.
- (g) Red Church – Councillors were informed that permission had been given to Graham Hollox to form a volunteer group to work on the Red Church.

95. COMMITTEE & ADVISORY GROUP MEETINGS

(a) Committee Meetings –

- Council **NOTED** the Estates Committee would be meeting on the 17th September 2019
- Council **NOTED** Minutes of the Planning Committee – 29th August 2019
- Council **NOTED** Minutes of the Place Plan & Reserves – 28th August 2019
- Council **NOTED** the Broseley Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Group met on the 9th September but there was nothing to update.
- Council **NOTED** there had been no further MUGA meetings.

(b) **Matters Arising** – Council considered the following matters arising and recommendations requiring ratification from the minutes of the meetings held above not appearing elsewhere on the agenda

(c) **Estates Committee** – Councillor Harris gave a brief overview of the latest update from the Birchmeadow Drainage Project.

(d) **Planning Committee** – Council **NOTED** Chair of Planning Committee's verbal report: Councillor West informed the meeting that he was expecting Dark Lane affordable housing to come up at the next Planning Meeting.

(e) **Neighbourhood Plan** – Councillor West confirmed he would give an update, including the Advisory Group meeting at the next meeting.

(f) **Highways** – Councillor Harris gave an update:

The repairs on Coalport Road to the broken drain had been completed and had taken longer as there had been drain problems. The remainder of the Coalport Road problems would now be progressed at a later date due to the Seven Trent work in Ironbridge (see below). He confirmed he would be taking photos of the road as the increase in vehicles would have an impact on the road. Over the winter period Highways were looking to put pull-ins on the Coalport Road bank to allow a storage of grit to help with the winter ice. Christmas shutdown would mean roadworks would stop for two weeks. The Mayor asked why the work hadn't been completed in the school holidays, Councillor Harris said he didn't know. The Mayor stated that the town had been misled by Shropshire Council on what work would be completed.

Some confusion still surrounds the STW work in Ironbridge, which may result in the complete closure of the B4373 south of the Free Bridge for a short period. Light traffic might use the Coalport Bridge but other traffic would have to go through Much Wenlock. Councillor Harris continued that during Phase 1 of the road closure Arriva would be using mini buses to ensure buses could get through and the 8 and 18 bus would continue. A rough timetable had been produced and would be shared when it had been finalised. If problems occurred with the buses more buses would be put on to go via Wenlock. Councillor Childs asked all information regarding the road closure be sent to the Council Offices to be put on notice boards and the website. Councillor Harris said he would forward the information to the office on Thursday. A drop-in session is being held by STW at Coalport Village Hall on Tuesday 17 September, 4-7pm, which may provide some clarity. Councillor Harris also

informed the meeting of the HGV scheme signage being introduced around Broseley and passed information to the RFO to put on the notice boards and website. On a final note Councillor Harris informed the meeting that Shropshire Council now owned the lights at Calcutts Road and that new above-ground sensors were being put in, with Dovetail House getting its own sensor.

96. TOURISM

Council **NOTED** Councillor Singh-Mohr's verbal report:

The Heritage Committee had now set up a working groups and sub committee for fundraising and an Expression of Interest for funding had been completed and will go to the Lottery Fund which will then lead to a date for the funding application to be submitted.

97. FINANCES

(a) **Accounts Paid Statement** – Council **APPROVED** the accounts paid statement for September 2019, as presented at the meeting.

(b) **Bank Reconciliation** - Council reviewed and **APPROVED** the bank reconciliation as at 31st August 2019.

98. GRANT APPLICATIONS & FUNDING

Council **NOTED** there had been no further grant applications received.

99. MEET THE COUNCILLORS

Councillors **NOTED** the following items from the last "Meet the Councillors" session:

(a) **Empty Properties** – Councillor Harris confirmed Star Housing had been made aware of empty properties and that these would be filled. It was noted two houses belonging to Accord were vacant due to a water leak and not being repaired due to cost. **ACTION; Clerk to contact Accord and ask if the properties could be signed over to Broseley Town Council if they were being left vacant.**

(b) **Litter** – Discussion took place around litter and recycling, Mayor noted the town already had a good volunteer group of Litter Pickers and he had already requested the Clerk look at the Town's carbon footprint. Councillor Harris suggested an article in Town Talk relating to litter and recycling. Councillor West suggested the Council look at what other Councils do and that he would be happy to be involved in a working group in other Councillors wanted to investigate further. Councillors agreed this would not be additional workload for the office. The Mayor requested this issue was put back on the agenda and Councillors to email in any ideas to the office and for these to be shared and discussed before the next meeting so decisions could be made without lengthy discussions. **ACTION; Clerk to add to next meeting agenda.**

(c) **Climate Change** – included in above discussion.

(d) **Overgrown Trees** – Councillor Maltby informed the meeting the trees in issues were being addressed, the worst had been cut down and the remainder would be down soon.

(e) **Date of next meeting** – it was agreed the next Meet the Councillors event would be on Saturday 19th October. **ACTION; Administration Officer to advertise in Library and on Notice Boards/Website.**

100. COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

Councillors **NOTED** the response from Telford & Wrekin regarding the suggested Boundary Change. Councillor Harris requested the last paragraph of the letter be noted in the minutes – the last paragraph reads *"On a final note, you make reference in your letter to an informal discussion between your Cllr Garbett and Cllr Davies. Cllr Davies asked me to clarify that he has not participated in any formal or informal meetings with any of your Town Councillors in relation to this matter."*

101. POLICY REVIEW

Councillors **AGREED** the updated Mileage and Expense Policy and Claim Form, Register of Gifts and Hospitality Policy and Policy on Recording and Maintaining Meeting Minutes.

102. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Council **NOTED** the next Town Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday 8th October 2019 to commence at 7:00pm at the in the Birchmeadow Centre, Broseley TF12 5LP.

103. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Council **RESOLVED** that there were two items to be considered which required the consideration of exempt information "That, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded during the discussion of the matters referred to in the items listed below, on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information, as defined in the respective paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, and the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information".

104. STAFFING COMMITTEE UPDATE

Councillor Goodall gave an update from the last Staffing Committee Meeting.

APPROVED BY THE MAYOR (CHAIR):

DATE:

Draft for Approval