

Clun Town Council with Chapel Lawn

MINUTES OF CLUN TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

HELD AT THE MEMORIAL HALL ON TUESDAY 3rd September 2024 AT 7.30PM

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

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

2 members of the public

	Agenda item	
130-2024	1.	ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES
		The Mayor thanked those in attendance and noted that apologies had been received from Cllrs. Limond and Duffee.
131-2024	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
		(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.
132-2024	3.	MAYOR'S REPORT
		September Mayors Report BBC Breakfast It was a pleasure to welcome Nick Eardsley from BBC Breakfast last week to highlight the significance of the YHA in Clun and the importance this site has on the wider community. I believe the new owners have big ambitions to use the site for a multitude of purposes to enhance the facility and I wish him every success with this. Atlas Tower Group I met recently with representatives from Atlas Tower Group concerning increasing mobile phone coverage in Clun town and surrounding area. This company do not wish to make any real moves into developing this venture without the backing of the Town Council and more importantly the wider community. The next move is for Atlas to meet with councillors to gauge our view before any consultation with the community. Natural England



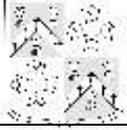
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		<p>I am still waiting to hear back from Natural England with regards to a meeting concerning planning and the river. The hold up here is the fact Emma Johnson wants to have a colleague with more experience on planning to join her. I did raise a public meeting about this and the wider planning impacts around Clun (including Turnpike Meadow), however I think it is wiser to have a fuller picture before we start.</p> <p>Stuart Anderson MP / AED Stuart Anderson MP paid a visit to Clun last week to talk through issues being experienced with the current AED scheme. A full press release will be published by the MP in due course and will be circulated as soon as it is released.</p> <p>Parking Parking remains a hot topic. Over the past few weeks I have had numerous complaints about parking, in particular the Square, Newport Road, Vicarage Road and Ford Street. This has been taken on board by the Local Policing Team, who have already given a number of cars some advice, and Shropshire Council's Civil Enforcement team have been alerted and will be making some random visits armed with their Penalty Notice Tickets. Be warned!</p> <p>South Shropshire Mayors Forum The group continue to meet regularly with the next meeting next week at Shire Hall. This to continue discussions and lobbying with regards to future spending in the south of the county. I will feed back to council at the next meeting.</p> <p>Shropshire Community Foundation I have been contacted by both Selina Graham DL and Mandy Thorn DL with regards to organising an event in Clun to promote the work of the Shropshire Community Foundation. This is likely to be towards the end of October / November time.</p> <p>Kings Award for Voluntary Service The KAVS has opened for another round of applications. Katherine Garnier DL is keen to see Clun make applications after the success of last year. If you are part of or know of any organisation which may be keen to apply, please try to encourage them!</p> <p>Town Cryer An interesting piece of correspondence arrived last week – I'll let the clerk run through this in his report.</p>
133-2024	4.	PUBLIC SESSION
		<p>(i) Shropshire Councillor Report – Cllr. Hartin reported that not a great deal had happened in the last two months. There would be a meeting at the end of September to discuss budget. There were still difficulties financially but this could change as a result of any decisions the new government might take for example decisions of the relief road.</p> <p>(ii) Police Report – nothing received.</p> <p>(iii) Public comments – A member of the public gave thanks for the recent documents posted on the website and asked if the TORs for working groups and committees could be added.</p>
134-2024	5.	APPROVAL OF MINUTES
		<p>To approve and confirm the minutes of the meetings held on 2nd July 2024.item Cllr Shepherd asked for amendment to item 8a, meeting had been with English Heritage.</p> <p>Minutes signed off unanimously.</p>



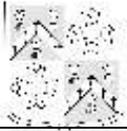
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135-2024	6.	INFORMATION FROM THE MINUTES
		Cllr. Angell reported that in relation to the Closed Church Yard a draft of the tender invitation has been issued.
136-2024	7.	CLERK'S REPORT
		The Clerk reported that the map of burial area is now available on the Town Website.
137-2024	8.	CASTLE GROUNDS
		a) To discuss the land drainage around the Castle
		b) To discuss the paper regarding taking ownership of the pathway between Buffalo Lane and the Castle
		Cllr. Angell noted that research shows that the ownership of the land involved had transferred from the Duke to the Town Council a number of years ago.
138-2024	9.	STANDING ORDERS To discuss and agree for the inclusion in the Council's Standing Orders the following rule. <i>That the elected Mayor can stand for election for only three occurrences. Following the three years consecutive service there has to be a break of one year before a Councillor can put their name forward for the election of Mayor.</i> Cllr. Davies mentioned that the limit on more than three consecutive terms is not currently included in SOs and it could be considered sensible for it to remain as good practice rather than an SO. It could be included in the SOs but with a caveat that it is good practice rather than an absolute rule. Voted carried with abstinence of Chair.
139-2024	10.	CHRISTMAS LIGHTS
		To discuss and decide on a Christmas lights and lighting event working group
		A paper had been circulated regarding the lights. Cllr. Angell asked for clarity regarding how long the working group would be in place. Would it be for one year only or would it be an annual group. Cllr. Davies agreed to ask Cllr. Limond to update to say the group is a "task and finish group". Cllr. Angell suggested that the Town Council should consult with the town's churches on matters relating to Christmas celebrations.
		Cllr. Shepherd asked if the activities that occur in the square at other times of year are also included in scope of the working group as these events are currently managed by the Green Man Committee. Clarity is needed. The lights are put up by the Fire service who are trained to do so safely. If the Council takes this on where would those skills come from.
		Cllr. Andrews asked if the working group would become the responsibility of a given councillor who would be appointed at the beginning of each year?
		Cllr Morris mentioned that the lights are now twenty years old and may need replacing in the near future, this should be considered.



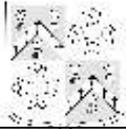
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		It was proposed that the matters set out in the paper could be supported in principle for this year's events, subject to the necessary clarifications and provision of more detail. Fuller consideration to be given in the new year. Agreed unanimously.
140-2024	11.	PLANNING
		Nothing to consider
141-2024	12.	ASSETS OF THE COUNCIL
		<p>1. Current position:-</p> <p>a. West Elevation, re-rendering is now completed and is waiting for drying, depending on the weather this could take up to 4 or 5 weeks. Next stage will be to repaint the render to match the existing. Scaffold will remain in place until after re-painting has taken place.</p> <p>b. During renovation to the West Elevation, an external cable was discovered to be live and was "capped-off" by Reynolds Conservation's electrician. National Grid are aware of the situation and will be returning to effect a permanent repair which will entail digging up the pavement. This will be carried out once the scaffold is removed.</p> <p>c. Repairs to the sandstone; removal of damaged sandstone is continuing and to ensue best colour matching, replacements are being sourced from a number of quarries around the country. This work will be on-going, lasting for a few weeks. We have also been warned that there may be a pause in work, due to delivery of sandstone blocks. Reynolds are to keep us advised of progress.</p> <p>d. Traffic Management:-</p> <p>i. Pedestrian Marshall system seems to be working satisfactorily.</p> <p>e. Programme:-</p> <p>i. Scaffolding to remain in place until around early October, dependant on weather conditions.</p> <p>ii. Repairs to Sandstone to take place at the same time, along with repairs to windows.</p> <p>iii. Erection of Scaffold to south elevation, subject to review, to be advised.</p> <p>iv. Completion, anticipated mid-November.</p> <p>2. Other Items:-</p> <p>a. Clun Town Council (CTC) are to source the following:-</p>



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		<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. Reynolds Conservation have submitted an Application for Payment of £23,882.53 exc VAT & 5% Retention.</p> <p>ii. As per the Contract Tim Ratcliffe will examine the Application/Valuation and will agree/adjust as necessary. In the meantime we will draw down an appropriate amount from the Levelling Up Fund.</p> <p>Cllr. Bowles noted that the new heater is 2kw which would be suitable for the new socket. The Town Trust are grateful to the renovation team for their understanding and support in keeping the museum open. There is a remaining concern regarding the state of the cupola as it puts the museum collection at risk. Cllr. Shepherd said there are currently no plans to repair the tower as there is no money budgeted. The cladding is failing and a new solution for this would be required.</p> <p>Cllr. Angell said it needs to be addressed, initially investigations into alternative solutions should be explored.</p> <p>Cllr. Davies sought the views of the group on how to approach this. Cllr. Shepherd suggested that the current team undertaking the renovations could be asked for an initial view.</p> <p>Cllr. Angell said thanks should be given to Cllr. Shepherd and team for the work so far. Also noting that the pedestrian marshal has been valuable.</p> <p>Toilets: Cllr. Andrews reported that the review conducted last year on the rain water capture system concluded that an internal inspection of the tank is needed and the pump would need to be tested. It is not anticipated that the costs would be great unless the tank needs to be replaced.</p> <p>QR code is still be investigated. The Clerk raised concerns regarding the recently highlighted issues with these codes being tampered with for fraudulent reasons. Cllr Angell suggested a weekly inspection of the code could be done by the cleaner.</p>
142-2024	13.	FINANCE
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To receive the Bank Reconciliation - Agreed 2. To approve the following invoices for payment. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. HMRC £418.64p (S1-S7 Localism Act 2011) b. G. J. Rippon £144.49 (expenses) (S1-S7 Localism Act 2011) c. Scripti £787.00p (burial records digitisation) (S1-S7 Localism Act 2011) d. A. Wallace £80.00 Grass cutting (S1-S7 Localism Act 2011) e. GWR £1308.51 (Fencing for The Memorial Hall) (S1-S7 Localism Act 2011) f. Shropshire Council £709.99p (Joint Electricity) (S1-S7 Localism Act 2011)



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		<p>g. A. Wallace £80.00 Grass cutting (S1-S7 Localism Act 2011)</p> <p>h. Shropshire Council £70.00p (licence) (S1-S7 Localism Act 2011)</p> <p>For Information</p> <p>i. John Churchett £500.00 Cleaner (S1-S7 Localism Act 2011)</p> <p>j. Tracey Amass £89.88 Minute Taker (S1-S7 Localism Act 2011)</p> <p>k. SSE £525.27 (Electricity) (S1-S7 Localism Act 2011)</p>
143-2024	14.	CORRESPONDENCE
		There was nothing to report under this heading.
144-2024	15.	INFORMATION FROM COUNCILLORS
		<p>Cllr Andrews presented a paper regarding potential work on the proposed Memorial Garden. Additionally work to re-site the entrance is being considered. Improvements to the Memorial Hall disabled toilet are also required and potential funding streams are being considered.</p> <p>Cllr Davies noted that the Town Council would seek to support these initiatives. The paper was noted and a fuller consideration would be discussed at the next Town Council and the Recreational Trust meeting.</p> <p>Cllr Angell noted that a review of funds given to the Memorial Hall this year should be undertaken and consideration be given to other potential organisations who may apply for grants.</p>
145-2024	16.	CLUN RECREATION TRUST
		No Update at this meeting. The Clerk provided a breakdown of finances which Clun Recreation Trust holds.
146-2024	17.	<p>Due to the confidential nature of the business of this agenda item, under Section (1) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 it is proposed to put forward a motion to exclude members of the public during discussion of this agenda item.</p> <p>Cllr. Angell proposed, Cllr. Bowels seconded, agreed unanimously.</p> <p>The minute taker left the meeting</p>
147-2024	18.	STAFFING
		Following discussion it was agreed that Council should advertise for an assistant to the clerk, the personnel group in conjunction with the clerk provide an advert and job description.
148 -2024	19.	Agenda items for the next meeting
148-2024	20.	Date of next meeting
		Date of next meeting to be held on Tuesday 1 st October 2024
		Signed by the Chair.
		Meeting closed at 21.22