

Clun Town Council with Chapel Lawn

MINUTES OF CLUN TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

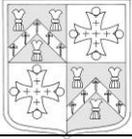
HELD AT THE MEMORIAL HALL ON TUESDAY 7th OCTOBER 2025 AT 7.30PM

PRESENT	APOLOGIES
Cllr. J. Limond	Cllr. R Davies
Cllr. J. McVicar	Cllr. D. Morris
Cllr. R. Bowles	Cllr. M. Jones
Cllr. C. Page	
Cllr. A. Martin	

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE	
Mr. Gwilym Rippon (clerk)	Shropshire Cllr. Sam Walmsley Police Inspector Damien Kelly

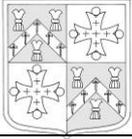
There was 1 member of the public present

	Agenda item	
137-2025	1.	<u>TO RECORD PERSONS PRESENT</u>
		Please see above. Cllr. Limond chaired the meeting.
138-2025	2.	<u>APOLOGIES</u>
		Please see above.
139-2025	3.	<u>DECLARATION OF ANY DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST IN A MATTER TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING</u>
		All members have an interest in the Clun Memorial Hall. No others.
140-2025	4.	<u>MAYOR'S REPORT</u>
		None
141-2025	5.	<u>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</u>
		Approved unanimously.
142-2025	6.	<u>PUBLIC SESSION</u>
		(i) Shropshire Councillor Report Andy Begley has stepped down as CEO of Shropshire Council. With the council facing very difficult times financially, this gives an opportunity to bring in somebody with the skills to lead the council and ensure the required savings are delivered. Recruitment is likely to take several months, while this



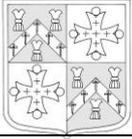
Clun Town Council with Chapel Lawn

		<p>process is completed. Tanya Miles, the Council’s executive director of people, will act as interim CEO.</p> <p>The financial report for Period 5 (August) was released yesterday (7th October) and showed a further deterioration in the forecast for the end of the financial year. On current projections we will have -£1.25m in reserve funds (i.e. negative) at the end of March and would be forced to put in a section 114 notice, effectively declaring the Council bankrupt. This period was prior to the declaration of the financial emergency on September 10th and we expect to see a more positive picture in the September report. In order to bring the finances back in line, three key steps are being taken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An improvement board is being set up to monitor all council spending • All Cabinet members and officers have been directed to identify specific savings within their areas of responsibility • The council is working to ensure all areas of revenue are maximised e.g. strengthening the Planning team, which will both bring direct revenue to the council and improve the broader economy in Shropshire as construction projects are completed. <p>(ii) Police Report</p> <p>Inspector Damien Kelly reported.</p> <p>Changes to the local police team following the Neighbourhood Policing Guarantee: South Shropshire now have 15 Safe Neighbourhood Police Officers (SNPO) and 15 PCSO’s instead of 7 and 15 respectively and 3 Sergeants instead of 1.</p> <p>Clun has 2 SNPO’s – Daryl McWatt and Simon Wilkie - and 2 PCSO’s.</p> <p>Recent focus on drug issues in South Shropshire has resulted in drugs worth £1.34 million being seized since June.</p> <p>Clun has had the lowest number of incidents in last 3 months. 20 incidents including 12 crimes, of which 8 were assaults.</p> <p>4 main current operations focusing on drugs, rural theft, speeding and anti-social driving. Resources are pooled for these as more effective than if many scattered separate operations.</p> <p>To contact please ring 101 or go online to neighbourhoodmatters.co.uk</p> <p>(iii) Public comments – none.</p>
143-2025	7.	INFORMATION FROM THE MINUTES
		<p>Cllr Bowles reported that Stephen Wallace has agreed to install the bins at the Bridge car park.</p> <p>Cllr. Bowles reported from attendance at SALC Nature Recovery conference and presented workbook provided to each parish. Action: Cllr. Bowles to request CCEG advise on possible next steps and to send all councillors the electronic version of workbook when received.</p>



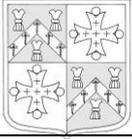
Clun Town Council with Chapel Lawn

		Actions list from previous meeting discussed and updated.
144-2025	8.	<u>CLERK'S REPORT</u>
		None
145-2025	9.	<u>PLANNING</u>
		To consider the following planning applications and other planning matters 1. 25/03120/FUL Application for retrospective planning for building including rest space for community infrastructure works and programs, Jenny Knoll Farm, Woodside, Clun, Shropshire. Unanimous decision to object to the application. Action: Cllr. McVicar to email Clerk written reasons for decision.
146-2025	10.	<u>ASSETS OF THE COUNCIL</u>
		a) Town Hall Cllr. Bowles reported that the electrical contractor will carry out the work on Mon 13 th October. b) Public Toilets Action: Clerk to contract Stephen Wallace for tap repair.
147-2025	11.	<u>POLICIES</u>
		1. To adopt the following procedures and policies discussed at the Personnel Committee in September: a) Grievance Policy b) Disciplinary Procedure c) Anti-harassment and Bullying Policy Approved unanimously 2. To consider amendments to the Terms of Reference for the Personnel Committee. Approved unanimously
148-2025	12.	<u>WEBSITE</u>
		Cllr. Bowles presented document of proposals produced by Cllrs. Bowles, Page and Martin. The following proposals were approved unanimously:



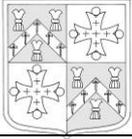
Clun Town Council with Chapel Lawn

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The initial changes to the home page given in Appendix 1 be made to the homepage as a matter of priority. 2. The council ratify a website working group to suggest further improvements. This group to report within agenda item “Groups attended” and make recommendations to council. 3. Minutes to be added to the website within 3 days of the meeting at which they were approved. 4. The working group, in consultation with the Clerk, to review the currently published documents for accuracy and whether up-to-date. <p>Action: Clerk to amend agenda item heading to: “To receive reports from groups attended and consider recommendations”</p> <p>The Clerk clarified that Matt Watson is technical support only. The Clerk suggested Vision ICT package to replace Parish Online.</p> <p>Action: Cllrs Bowles, Page, Martin to assess Abermule Parish website which uses Vision ICT and report views to Clerk</p> <p>Action: If opinions of Vision ICT are positive, Clerk to find out costs involved, including contractual obligation to Parish Online, and bring to November council meeting.</p>
149-2025	13.	<p><u>TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM GROUPS OR MEETINGS ATTENDED</u></p>
		<p>Cllr Bowles reported from Clun Climate and Environment Group:</p> <p>Himalayan Balsam pulling along the Clun from Waterloo to the coalyard has now concluded. Observation of the areas pulled last summer suggests that we intervened successfully and there is a significant reduction in the prevalence of this highly invasive species. A report will be placed on the Council website and an article in the Chronicle. Litter picking resumes on Oct 19th.</p> <p>The Clun in the Future event on Sunday 28th Sept was very successful, with 17 stalls, 7 speakers and approx. 130 people attended. Thank you to Shropshire Councillor Sam Walmsley for his excellent opening speech and to Cllr Davies for his valuable contribution to the opening speech in his absence. Thank you to the council for covering the cost of hiring the hall. A report will follow in due course, once CCEG have analysed the feedback and considered possible next steps.</p> <p>Response to herbicide question recommending a different chemical passed to Clerk.</p>



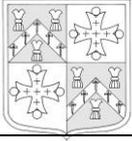
Clun Town Council with Chapel Lawn

		<p>Concern is expressed at CCEG minutes and other documents not being put on website.</p> <p>Action: Clerk to pass alternative herbicide suggestion to grasscutter.</p> <p>Action: Clerk to put all CCEG minutes and other documents sent by Cllr Bowles on to council website before next meeting.</p>																																																
150-2025	14.	FINANCE																																																
		<p>1. To receive the Bank Reconciliation Approved unanimously.</p> <p>2. To consider the grant application from the Dennis and Margaret Twist Memorial group for £150.00. Approved unanimously.</p> <p>3. To approve the following invoices for payment</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Invoice name</th> <th>Details</th> <th>Amount</th> <th>power</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>a. HMRC</td> <td></td> <td>£ 446.36</td> <td>S112 Local Government Act 1972</td> </tr> <tr> <td>b. G.J.Rippon</td> <td>expenses</td> <td>£ 121.99</td> <td>S112 Local Government Act 1972</td> </tr> <tr> <td>c. Glasdon</td> <td>Supply of bins</td> <td>£1007.95</td> <td>S5 Litter Act 1983</td> </tr> <tr> <td>d. Clun Memorial Hall</td> <td>Hire of hall for CCEG event</td> <td>£ 162.50</td> <td>S111 Local Government Act 1972</td> </tr> <tr> <td>e. Highline</td> <td>Street light repairs</td> <td>£ 216.12</td> <td>S111 Local Government Act 1972</td> </tr> <tr> <td>f. Shropshire Council</td> <td>License</td> <td>£70</td> <td>S111 Local Government Act 1972</td> </tr> <tr> <td>g. Mark Room</td> <td>Grass cutting of churchyard</td> <td>£102.85</td> <td>S111 Local Government Act 1972</td> </tr> <tr> <td>h. Andrew Wallace</td> <td>Strimming</td> <td>£40</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>i. SALC</td> <td>Training</td> <td>£80</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>For information:</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>j. J. Churchett</td> <td>Cleaner</td> <td>£ 600.00</td> <td>S111 Local Government Act 1972</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Approved unanimously.</p>	Invoice name	Details	Amount	power	a. HMRC		£ 446.36	S112 Local Government Act 1972	b. G.J.Rippon	expenses	£ 121.99	S112 Local Government Act 1972	c. Glasdon	Supply of bins	£1007.95	S5 Litter Act 1983	d. Clun Memorial Hall	Hire of hall for CCEG event	£ 162.50	S111 Local Government Act 1972	e. Highline	Street light repairs	£ 216.12	S111 Local Government Act 1972	f. Shropshire Council	License	£70	S111 Local Government Act 1972	g. Mark Room	Grass cutting of churchyard	£102.85	S111 Local Government Act 1972	h. Andrew Wallace	Strimming	£40		i. SALC	Training	£80		For information:				j. J. Churchett	Cleaner	£ 600.00	S111 Local Government Act 1972
Invoice name	Details	Amount	power																																															
a. HMRC		£ 446.36	S112 Local Government Act 1972																																															
b. G.J.Rippon	expenses	£ 121.99	S112 Local Government Act 1972																																															
c. Glasdon	Supply of bins	£1007.95	S5 Litter Act 1983																																															
d. Clun Memorial Hall	Hire of hall for CCEG event	£ 162.50	S111 Local Government Act 1972																																															
e. Highline	Street light repairs	£ 216.12	S111 Local Government Act 1972																																															
f. Shropshire Council	License	£70	S111 Local Government Act 1972																																															
g. Mark Room	Grass cutting of churchyard	£102.85	S111 Local Government Act 1972																																															
h. Andrew Wallace	Strimming	£40																																																
i. SALC	Training	£80																																																
For information:																																																		
j. J. Churchett	Cleaner	£ 600.00	S111 Local Government Act 1972																																															
151-2025	15.	<u>CORRESPONDENCE</u>																																																
		<p>Cllr. Martin reported an email received from Christina Anderson regarding the initiative by the Probation Service for volunteering by probationers. Other voluntary work in the Clun area is planned.</p> <p>Council response: no work available for council but suggest English Heritage might have suitable work available on castle grounds.</p> <p>Action: Cllr Martin to reply to Christina.</p>																																																



Clun Town Council with Chapel Lawn

		<p>Shropshire Cllr. Walmsley passed on request from Shropshire Council to put a wireless antenna sensor on a streetlight in Chapel Lawn owned by the town council, to take sense measures of the river level. All costs covered by Shropshire Council.</p> <p>Council response: defer decision to next meeting when see details, but agree in principle.</p> <p>Action: Shropshire Cllr Walmsley to email details to all councillors.</p>
152-2025	16.	<u>INFORMATION FROM COUNCILLORS</u>
		<p>Cllr Limond request to establish a Christmas Lights Group. Unanimously approved.</p> <p>Cllr Limond raised issue of broken signpost on Shropshire Way in area towards Bury Ditches.</p> <p>Action: Cllr Limond to send exact location to Shropshire Cllr Walmsley to pass on to relevant SC officer to ask that it be restored.</p>
153-2025	17.*	<u>STAFFING ISSUES</u>
		<p>To receive an update on progress towards the appointment of Assistant Clerk and to agree necessary actions.</p> <p>Cllr McVicar expressed frustration at lack of progress regarding agreed contact with candidate.</p> <p>Action: Clerk to email job offer to candidate by end of this week (i.e. 12th October) including hours minimum 5 and maximum 7.</p> <p>Action: Clerk to email job description to all councillors.</p>
154-2025	18.	<u>AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING</u>
		<p>Cllr Martin: discussion and decision on establishment of Tourism working group.</p> <p>Cllr McVicar: discussion and decision on date for award of Freeman of Clun certificate.</p> <p>Discussion and decision regarding sensor on streetlight in Chapel Lawn.</p>
155-2025	19.	<u>DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING</u>



Clun Town Council with Chapel Lawn

		Date of next meeting to be held on Tuesday 4 th November 2025 at Memorial Hall
		Signed by the Chair.
		Meeting closed 9.30pm