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Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024 at 6.30pm in the Cleobury Country Centre, Cleobury Mortimer.

**Present:**

Cllr Neil Tysall (Chair), Cllr Geoff Hainsworth, Cllr Guy James, Cllr Sally Burns, Cllr Ken Walsh and Town Clerk Mrs D McBride.

Cllr Neil Tysall welcomed everyone to the September meeting.

**09.01.24 Apologies for absence.**

Apologies were received from Cllr David Abbatiello, Cllr Tina Hobin and Unitary Councillor Gwilym Butler.

**09.02.24 Declaration of interests.**

There were no declarations of interest made.

**09.03.24 Public Participation Session.**

There were three members of public present.

- A resident made the Council aware of an issue with the number of heavy vehicles passing very close to his property on Redthorne Hill. Utility work in the road next to the boundary wall has raised further concerns as the property wall and a shed are becoming unstable. Cllr James will have a look and report back to Council with his findings.
- Mr Smith, Tree Warden, supported the Town Council's proposal to review the Place Plan and to respond to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) consultation. Mr Smith feels the Council should highlight the importance of our Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) in the NPPF consultation, and state how it was undertaken to ensure the views and needs of the community now, and for future generations, are protected. The Chair invited Mr Smith to write to the Clerk with his thoughts on this consultation as the Town Council has invested a lot of time and money into the NDP.

**09.04.24 Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> August 2024.**

Council **RESOLVED** to approve the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> August 2024, duly signed by the Chair.

**09.05.24 Matters arising from the Minutes / Update since last Council meeting.**

- a) Council noted receipt of the Town Clerk/Deputy Town Clerk's Office Report. Council agreed that an in-person meeting with Severn Trent to discuss their plans for the new treatment plant is preferred. Severn Trent also intend to hold another public open session for residents. We will ask that they do this one evening or weekend to allow for wider accessibility. Clarification was given on the ownership of the Playing Field and issues around the new Public Space Protection Orders were discussed. The Cricket Club will be formally asked to remove their equipment off the Playing Field. The Clerk will chase up planned work at the public car parks and request that the fence at the rear of Childe Road West Car Park is made properly secure and robust; alternatively it could be completely removed to open up access to the path above. We continue to request updates on the Post Office situation and have received further comments about the Manor House. Our Unitary Councillors have been kept informed.
- b) Committee Reports:  
There were no Committee reports.
- c) Councillor Updates:
  - Cllr Walsh commented that the ex-Mawley Oak Garage site is an eyesore and hopes it will be regenerated soon. Cllr Walsh expressed safety concerns that some vehicles had been driven along the pavement to properties in Viols Walk.
  - Cllr Hainsworth informed the Council that the footbridge at Lower Forge has been removed. Shropshire Council are aware of this and are keeping a watching brief on the matter. The Footpath Association are also taking their concerns up with Shropshire Council.
  - Cllr James asked if outdoor table tennis tables could be added to the Playing Field equipment improvements.
  - Cllr Burns asked about the permission requirements for the various signs on the highway verges. It is noted that these signs need permission from Shropshire Council. A number of other signs around town need updating including the Cleobury Country signs at the Cemetery and the Love Cleobury banners.

*Initials.....*



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**09.06.24 Unitary Councillors' Reports.**

Unitary Cllrs Simon Harris and Gwilym Butler were not present and there has been no report since their Summer Report. Cllr Burns asked for clarification from our unitary councillors on what contingency is in place to deal with fly-tipping if residents do not comply with the new Green Waste Subscription policy. There are concerns that fly-tipping will increase, at a cost to Shropshire Council. The Clerk will raise this with our unitary councillors.

**09.07.24 Financial Matters.**

**a) Council RESOLVED to approve the following invoices for payment:**

Cleobury Country – Meeting Room Hire - £30.00  
Morris Bufton – Maintenance Spares - £151.24  
NBB Recycled Furniture – Anchor Kits for Benches (QEII Park) - £211.20  
N J Plumbing & Heating – parts for pressure expansion vessel (Toilets) - £118.56

Payments for approved invoices received after the Agenda was published:

Unity Trust Bank – Opening Deposit - £500.00  
R Price – Grass Cutting and Tree Work (August) - £1,720.00  
Cleobury Country – Office Rent (Sept-Nov) - £1,199.99  
NBB Recycled Furniture – Four benches (QEII Park) - £2,179.20  
Market Hall Trust – Room Hire (Police/CCTV – August) - £50.00

**b) Council noted receipt of the following income:**

Bank Interest - £180.28

**c) Council RESOLVED to approve the following Debit Card payments made:**

Burgoynes – Marquee (Festival 2024 & 2025) - £541.80  
Viking – Office, Toilets and Maintenance Supplies - £281.59  
Co-op – Cash Withdrawal (Petty Cash) - £200.00  
Signomatic – Decals for High Street sign - £22.46  
Screwfix – Maintenance Tools and Equipment - £180.10

**d) Council RESOLVED to purchase an 'unknown Tommy' and a 'Women in War' pair of silhouettes from the Royal British Legion for the Memorial Garden at a total cost of £325.00. The current silhouette will be moved up to the Cemetery.**

**09.08.24 Planning Matters.**

**a) New Planning Applications:**

1. Reference: 24/02917/LBC (validated: 29/07/2024)  
Address: North Lodge, Cleobury Mortimer, Kidderminster, Shropshire, DY14 8PW.  
Proposal: Alteration and additions to North Lodge (revised scheme).  
Applicant: Mawley Hall LLP.  
Outcome: Council RESOLVED to have no objection to the proposals.

**b) Planning Decisions (For Information Only):**

1. Reference: 24/02645/TCA (validated: 12/07/2024)  
Address: 8 Simon Evans Close, Cleobury Mortimer, Kidderminster, Shropshire, DY14 8AX  
Proposal: Crown reduction of 1no. Beech by approx 2-3m within the Conservation Area.  
Decision: No Objection.

**09.09.24 National Planning Policy**

Council agreed to hold a Working Group Meeting on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September to discuss the National Planning Policy Framework consultation and formulate a response. Lead members of the Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) Steering Group will be invited to contribute.

**09.10.24 Place Plan Projects**

Council reviewed all the projects listed in the current Place Plan. The Clerk will write to the Place Plan Officer and advise them of our queries and offer updates. Additional projects for inclusion in the Plan will include the Tenbury Road junction with the A4117 and the Newhouse Farm Industrial Estate junction and surrounding area infrastructure, including the installation of a pavement from the Estate entrance to Whitcomb's Orchard.

*Initials.....*



**09.11.24 Committees Terms of Reference**

Council resolved to approve the updated Committees Terms of Reference following recent amendments to Councillors' Roles, Appointments to Committees and Working Groups.

**09.12.24 Date of the next Town Council meeting.**

The next Town Council meeting will be held on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2024.

**EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 S1(2)**

The public and press shall be excluded from the following items on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted under items 13.

**At 8.36pm there was a short break.**

**The Meeting reconvened at 8.37pm.**

**09.13.24 Maintenance Contracts**

Cllr Hainsworth gave an update on the current grass-cutting and grounds maintenance contracts. The Clerk confirmed that the specification for tender for the next contract period has been prepared and will be made available in the next few weeks.

**The Meeting closed at 8.50pm.**

**Signed:.....Chair**

**Date.....**