



Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on Tuesday 8th October 2024 at 6.30pm in the Cleobury Country Centre, Cleobury Mortimer.

Present:

Cllr Martin Winward (Chair), Cllr Geoff Hainsworth, Cllr Guy James, Cllr Sally Burns, Cllr David Abbatiello, Cllr Tina Hobin, Town Clerk Mrs D McBride, Deputy Town Clerk Mrs A Shaw and Unitary Cllr Simon Harris.

Cllr Martin Winward welcomed everyone to the October meeting.

10.01.24 Election of Chair.

Cllr Martin Winward was elected Chair and duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office. Cllr David Abbatiello was elected Vice-Chair.

10.02.24 Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Cllr Ken Walsh and Unitary Councillor Gwilym Butler.

10.03.24 Declaration of interests.

There were no declarations of interest made.

10.04.24 Public Participation Session.

There were five members of public present.

- One resident asked for an introduction of all councillors and staff present. This was duly completed.
- Four other residents attended regarding Agenda item 10.09.24 (a) (3) Planning Reference: 24/03387/PMBPA. Written objections have been submitted to the Town Council and also made directly to Shropshire Council. Points raised: no reference to the footpath that runs across the property; no sign of the property having been used for agricultural purposes within the last 10 years; Mortimer Hill is an unadopted narrow road maintained by the residents; tight junction with Bayton Road which raises concerns regarding vehicles accessing the site with building materials and longer-term increases in general traffic.

Council brought the following item forward:

10.09.24 Planning Matters.

a) New Planning Applications:

3. Reference: 24/03387/PMBPA (validated: 12/09/2024)

Address: Proposed Residential Conversion Of Former Agricultural Building At, Mortimer Hill.
Proposal: Application for prior approval under Part 3, Class Q of the Town & Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 for the change of use from agricultural to form one residential unit to include all works.

Applicant: Mr Ian Swancott (3 Mortimer Hill, Cleobury Mortimer, Shropshire, DY14 8QQ)

Outcome: Council **RESOLVED** to object to the proposal due to the lack of evidence supplied regarding agricultural use during the required period; concerns regarding access along the single carriageway and the junction of Mortimer Hill with Bayton Road; lack of acknowledgement of footpath 0518/57/1 which runs beside the site and proximity to a hedge which, if removed would result in overlooking and loss of privacy of adjacent properties.

There should also be plans to improve biodiversity on the site should the hedge be removed.

10.05.24 Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Monday 2nd September 2024.

Council **RESOLVED** to approve the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 2nd September 2024, duly signed by the Chair.

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

- a) Council noted receipt of the Town Clerk/Deputy Town Clerk's Office Report. Four new benches have been installed in the QEII Park. Information is being sought from Shropshire Council regarding the proposed 20mph initiative outside Lacon Childe School due to the ongoing traffic concerns around the Primary School. A request for a disabled parking bay at the car park by the Playing Field is being followed up with local partners. The Primary School is undertaking a public consultation from 18th October – 29th November regarding their proposals to fence off part of the Playing Field. Severn Trent will be arranging a public drop-in soon to showcase the proposals for the new sewage treatment plant at Townsend.

Initials.....



- b) Committee Reports:
Cllr Hainsworth stated the need for councillors to attend Market Hall meetings. Council RESOLVED to hold a quarterly Market Hall Committee meeting before Town Council meetings. The next Market Hall meeting will be held on Monday 4th November 2024 at 6.30pm, with the Town Council meeting commencing at 7pm.
- c) Councillor Updates:
- Cllr Burns commented that the grass cutting is looking good. She also advised she is currently looking into quotes for planting wildflowers in the QE11 Park area.
 - Cllr Abbatiello has received some comments regarding the new benches in the QE11 Park not having backs and arms. He advised that more seats are being planned which will have backs and arms. There will also be some new picnic benches.
Cllr Abbatiello asked if recognition could be given to the volunteers who regularly litter pick the High Street each morning. This will be looked into.
 - Cllr James noted the weed growth on the High Street and asked if the Town Council could find a solution to this by spraying twice a year. Quotes can be obtained for this and discussed with Streetscene who normally undertake this task.
 - Cllr Hobin enquired about awards for cleanliness in town. It was noted that 2026 is the 800th anniversary of the Market Charter and this occasion may be a good opportunity to focus on for improving overall standards through publicity, community involvement and competitions.
 - Cllr Hainsworth had received a complaint regarding the overgrown hedge on Pinkham. It was noted that this issue is the responsibility of the adjacent landowner.
 - Cllr James informed the meeting that the new silent soldiers are at Mens' Shed to have structural supports fitted before being installed in the Memorial Garden.

10.07.24 Unitary Councillors' Reports.

Unitary Cllr Simon Harris advised the meeting that the planning application for the Old Medical Centre at Pinkham has been referred to the Planning Committee. There was some discussion regarding poor response times from some Shropshire Council departments. Cllr Harris noted concerns that there may be increases in fly tipping once the new green waste system is in place and advised there is no contingency for dealing with extra fly tipping. Cllr Harris stated that the revenue from the green waste subscription system has gone into the general revenue fund to assist Shropshire Council in providing its statutory services. Cllr Harris confirmed that the company who produced the substandard bin stickers will not be paid. Cllr Harris attended a presentation on the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) findings and will share this with the Town Council. The JSNA is a statutory requirement to establish the health and wellbeing of residents in each Place Plan area.

10.08.24 Financial Matters.

- a) **Council RESOLVED to approve the following invoices for payment:**
Cleobury Country – Meeting Room Hire - £60.00
Fresh Air Fitness – Replacement parts for Outdoor Gym equipment - £130.42
PKF Littlejohn LLP – External Audit Fee - £756.00
Crystal Thought – Website build - £900.00
Market Hall – Room Hire - £50.00
Payments for approved invoices received after the Agenda was published:
R Price – Grass Cutting (September) - £2,330.00
- b) **Council RESOLVED to approve the following \$1.37 payment:**
Friends of Cleobury Mortimer Primary School – Gardening Project - £555.00
- c) **Council noted receipt of the following income:**
Bank Interest - £157.55
- d) **Council RESOLVED to approve the following Debit Card payments made:**
Eco Green Communities – Dog Poo Bags - £168.84
Royal British Legion Industries - Tommy and Women in War Statues - £350.00
Clows Top Post Office - Postage - £5.99

Initials.....



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- e) **Council considered the External Auditor's Report and noted the conclusion of audit for 2023-24.** It was agreed the Town Clerk will write to SALC expressing concerns about the timing of correspondence from the external auditor with regard to statutory deadlines.
- f) **Council RESOLVED to install a new timer security system for public toilets opting for Quote 1 at £260.00 + VAT.**

10.09.24 Planning Matters.

a) New Planning Applications:

1. Reference: 24/02962/FUL (validated: 28/08/2024)
Address: Cleobury Mortimer Primary School, Langland Road, Cleobury Mortimer, DY14 8EH
Proposal: Installation of 63.5m replacement fencing (1.8m high) and gates and erection of a link canopy.
Applicant: Mrs Viv Hulme (Lacon Childe School, Love Lane, Cleobury Mortimer, DY14 8PE).
Outcome: Already granted permission by Shropshire Council.
2. Reference: 24/03360/HHE (validated: 05/09/2024)
Address: 91 Cleobury Meadows, Cleobury Mortimer, Kidderminster, Shropshire, DY14 8EY
Proposal: Erection of rear conservatory (dimensions 3.50 metres, 3.50 metres max. height, 2.40 metres high to eaves).
Applicant: Mr Alistair Howard (91 Cleobury Meadows, Cleobury Mortimer, DY14 8EY).
Outcome: Council RESOLVED to have no objection to the proposal.
3. Reference: 24/03387/PMBPA (validated: 12/09/2024)
Item covered earlier in the meeting.
4. Reference: 24/03536/LBC (validated: 16/09/2024)
Address: The Coach House, Mawley Hall, Cleobury Mortimer, Shropshire, DY14 8PN
Proposal: Internal and external alterations in association with works approved previously under application 18/03040/LBC.
Applicant: Mawley Hall LLP (C/o Agent).
Outcome: Council RESOLVED to support the proposal.
5. Reference: 24/02649/FUL (validated: 25/09/2024)
Address: Mawley Hall, Cleobury Mortimer, Kidderminster, Shropshire, DY14 8PN
Proposal: Installation of replacement and additional below-ground drainage infrastructure, to include replacement of existing drainage blanket with underground tank.
Applicant: Mawley Hall LLP (C/o Agent).
Outcome: Council RESOLVED to support the proposal.

b) Planning Decisions (For Information Only):

1. Reference: 24/02917/LBC (validated: 29/07/2024)
Address: North Lodge, Cleobury Mortimer, Kidderminster, Shropshire, DY14 8PW.
Proposal: Alterations and additions to dwelling (revised scheme).
Decision: Grant Permission.
2. Reference: 24/02158/FUL (validated: 13/06/2024)
Address: Proposed Dwelling Adjacent Enderby, Cleobury Mortimer, Shropshire.
Proposal: Erection of a dwelling with detached double garage.
Decision: Refuse.

10.10.24 Date of the next Town Council meeting.

The next Town Council meeting will be held on Monday 4th November 2024 at 7pm.

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 11 and 12.

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At 8.18pm there was a short break. The Meeting reconvened at 8.19pm.

10.11.24 Employment Matters

Cllr Abbatiello updated Council members on recent employment matters.

10.12.24 Correspondence Review

Council agreed on the process for responding to all written communications received.

The Meeting closed at 8.59pm.

Signed:.....Chair

Date.....