

11<sup>th</sup> July 2017

Sir/Madam

A meeting of the Town Council will be held on **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2017 at 7.00 pm in the Council Chamber of the Guildhall, Oswestry.**

David J Preston  
Town Clerk

---

Business of the meeting:

**PRAYERS**

Previous to the commencement of the meeting Prayers will be led by the Mayor's Chaplain.

**PUBLIC SESSION**

For 15 minutes previous to the commencement of the meeting, members of the public are invited to question the Council on local issues etc. Questions will be answered by The Mayor, Chairmen of Standing Committees or Town Clerk.

1. **APOLOGIES**
2. **DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

To receive declarations under consideration on this agenda in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 s32 and The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012.

**3. SPEAKERS**

- a) Simon Wright, Chief Executive of The Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust, has been invited, following representations made by The Mayor and the Council itself, to come and address the Council regarding the recent closures at the Maternity Unit and to discuss its longer term future.

**At the time of preparing the Council agenda a response was still awaited to the invitation.**

- b) Councillor Sue Schofield, St Martins Parish Council, and ex miner Terry Lewis have accepted the invitation from the Council to come and speak about the Ifton Colliery Project as originally presented to Members.

**Copy letter attached for information Appendix 'A'**

- c) Ian Follington, Chairman, Oswestry Business Improvement District (BID), will be in attendance to provide an update for the Council on progress with the BID and timescales in respect of referendum, consultation, involvement of Town Council, etc.

**4. MINUTES**

To confirm minutes of a meeting held on:

**22<sup>nd</sup> May 2017**

**Copy OTC/01/17 to follow**

**5. TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS**

To answer any questions in accordance with Standing Orders upon which formal notice has been given.

**6. SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL MATTERS**

Update from local Shropshire Councillors C Aspinall, V Hunt, D P Milner and J Price on any policies, consultation or general matter relating to Shropshire Council.

**7. STANDING COMMITTEES**

To adopt the below minutes:

Markets and Car Parks Committee

**22<sup>nd</sup> May 2017**

**31<sup>st</sup> May 2017**

**Copy MCP/01/17 previously supplied**

**Copy MCP/02/17 previously supplied**

Development and Planning Committee

22<sup>nd</sup> May 2017  
22<sup>nd</sup> May 2017  
7<sup>th</sup> June 2017

Copy DPC/01/17 previously supplied  
Copy DPC/02/17 previously supplied  
Copy DPC/03/17 previously supplied

Amenities Committee

22<sup>nd</sup> May 2017

Copy AC/01/17 previously supplied

Finance & General Purposes Committee

22<sup>nd</sup> May 2017  
19<sup>th</sup> June 2017

Copy FGP/01/17 previously supplied  
Copy FGP/02/17 attached

**Members are asked to bring to the meeting copies of minutes as previously circulated. Duplicate copies are available, if necessary, in advance of the meeting, from the Office.**

**8. WEST MERCIA FIRE GOVERNANCE CONSULTATION**

The Police and Crime Commissioner has issued a significant consultation suggesting that by changing governance arrangements for our local fire services, he can deliver more efficient effective, efficient services to our communities.

The Commissioner is proposing to take on the roles of the two local Fire Authorities, in order to significantly improve local police and fire services and save the taxpayer £4m a year without impacting frontline services.

The Commissioner is consulting local communities and partners on these proposals and wants to hear from as many people as possible before the closing date on the 11th of September. The Council is invited to formally respond.

The information in the link is designed to give you everything you need to understand the plans, the reasons behind them and to take part in the consultation.

Please find link below.

<https://www.westmercia-pcc.gov.uk/working-together/west-mercia-fire-governance-consultation/>

The latest newsletter from the Commissioner relating to the consultation can also be accessed here <http://mailchi.mp/westmercia/proposed-changes-to-fire-governance?e=f2afb7a27e>

9. **HERITAGE OPEN DAYS AND OSWESTRY TOWN MUSEUM**

As part of the Heritage Open Days Festival, Heritage Open Days are currently working on a joint project with Oswestry Town Museum.

**Information is provided for the Council – copy attached Appendix ‘B’**

10. **OSWESTRY TOWNSCAPE AND TRANSPORT GROUP - ENGLISH WALLS AND SMITHFIELD STREET**

The Townscape and Transport Group are arranging a meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2017 for all Shropshire and Town Councillors and representatives of the Townscape and Transport Group. The meeting will be the first opportunity when the consultants will feed back giving an outline of potential indicative projects and budget costings for discussion. An update will be given on arrangements for this meeting.

The Council have recently been a significant consultee regarding essential works to English Walls and Smithfield Street. An update will be provided following the representations and decisions as made at the recent Development & Planning Committee meeting.

11. **OSWESTRY TOWN CENTRE PARTNERSHIP**

Report on a meeting of the newly formed Partnership held on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2017.

**Copy OTCP/01/17 attached**

12. **SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL'S PARKING STRATEGY**

Shropshire Council have published a Parking Strategy that has significant implications in respect of each of the market towns. The link is below:

<http://shropshire.gov.uk/news/2017/07/people-set-to-be-asked-for-their-views-on-shropshire-councils-new-parking-strategy/>

A request has been made by Councillor S Davenport, Portfolio Holder for Highways, to meet with Councillors to discuss the proposals. It is suggested that an informal seminar be arranged at an early date.

13. **POTENTIAL SELL OFF OF COUNCIL HOUSING**

Councillor Mrs N Hughes has requested that this matter be included upon the Council agenda. Her request indicates that Shropshire Council, through the consultants, have now completed their review with regard to the potential sell off of Council housing. Further information is being requested to assist discussion of this matter.

**14. FRIENDS OF ST OSWALD**

For information, a Friends of St Oswald Group has been established following recent invitations and a launch event is to be held during the Heritage weekend in September.

Elected Councillors are invited to consider whether they would wish to subscribe to membership of this Group.

**15. NEW GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE**

The Council, in recent months, has put in place a process to consider the procurement of a new Garden of Remembrance at Oswestry Cemetery. This matter has been considered by the Cemetery Working Group and Amenities Committee. To date, a scheme has been promoted that has been the subject of consultation and is now presented to the Council, looking to formally go out to tender so that the Garden of Remembrance can be opened in 2018.

**Copy report TC/3381/17 from the Assistant Town Clerk to follow**

**16. SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL (LAND AT 32 UPPER CHURCH STREET, OSWESTRY) TREE PRESERVATION ORDER 2017**

Letter from the Tree and Woodland Amenity Protection Officer confirming that, in accordance with the Town and County Planning Act 1990, the above named Order and Notice have been made by the Council and any representations in writing are invited.

**Copy Notice and Site Plan attached Appendix 'C'**

**17. WILFRED OWEN FESTIVAL**

For information, invitations have been sent to various individuals including the Town Clerk to bring together a Group to explore the Festival, its components and its funding.

Some of the ideas associated with the Festival so far discussed include musical performances, drama productions, street theatre and living history re-enactments, poetry readings, exhibitions, guest speakers, arts and crafts, light shows, statue unveiling, Armistice Day Parade, national lighting of beacons, etc.

The initial meeting is to be held on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2017 and further reports will be provided for the Council as appropriate.

**18. HERITAGE ACTION ZONE**

Further to the meeting of Oswestry Town Centre Partnership, Shropshire Council have promised to provide a discussion document for the Town Council to consider its support, or otherwise, for the establishment of a Heritage Action Zone.

**Copy report to follow Appendix 'D'**

**19. MARKETS AND CAR PARKS COMMITTEE – THE FUTURE**

Report from the Town Clerk on a possible rebranding and terms of reference for the above Standing Committee of the Council.

**Copy report TC/3382/17 attached**

**20. BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT**

To consider any decision or action, as appropriate, following the presentation from the Chairman of Oswestry BID earlier in the meeting.

**21. IFTON COLLIERY PROJECT**

Following the presentation on this project at the outset of the meeting, Elected Members are invited to consider any further representations or action as a result of the presentation and discussion.

**22. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

In view of the confidential nature of business about to be transacted which would involve the likely disclosure of confidential information as defined in the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be temporarily excluded from the meeting and they be asked to withdraw.