

21st October 2014

Sir/Madam

A meeting of the Town Council will be held on **Monday 27th October 2014 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, Reverend Simon Thorburn or a clergy assistant.

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. SPEAKER – OSWESTRY TOWNSCAPE AND TRANSPORT FORUM

Following recent meetings of the newly formed Oswestry Townscape and Transport Forum and the visit to Oswestry by Ben Hamilton Bailee, the Leader of Shropshire Council, Councillor Keith Barrow, will provide an update for the Town Council on discussions to date, programme, and the role and influence of the Town Council.

4. MINUTES

To confirm minutes of a meeting held on:

28th July 2014 - **Copy OTC/04/14 attached**

5. TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS

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

6. STANDING COMMITTEES

To adopt the below minutes:

Markets and Car Parks Committee

16th July 2014 - **MCP/04/14 (previously supplied)**

Finance and General Purposes Committee

16th July 2014 - **FGP/02/14 (previously supplied)**
8th September 2014 - **FGP/03/14 (previously supplied)**

Development and Planning

9th July 2014 - **DPC/05/14 (previously supplied)**
13th August 2014 - **DPC/06/14 (previously supplied)**
10th September 2014 - **DPC/07/14 (previously supplied)**
24th September 2014 - **DPC/08/14 (previously supplied)**

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.

7. NOTICES OF MOTION

a) Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor D Kerr:

“This Council affirms that it will use the proceeds from the Smithfield development for the regeneration of the town centre and allocates the £2M already received in the following proportions to deliver the objectives of the Oswestry 2020 vision identified in brackets.

- *Securing the re-use of empty town-centre properties (.5m) (1,2,6,9 and 11)*
- *Improving the civic spaces and public realm in the town centre (£1.2m) (4,8,9,11, 15, 16, 18 and 19)*
- *Regeneration of the markets (.3m) (3,9,10,15 and 16)*

The Council further resolves that three task and finish groups (one for each of the above allocations) with six members each be formed immediately. The remit of each group shall be to identify the most effective and efficient projects for securing the stated objectives within their remit. They shall also undertake consultation with local residents and report back to the Council by the end of January 2015.

In order to utilise the talents of the entire Council it is also resolved that every Councillor shall have the opportunity of being a member of one of these working parties.”

- b) Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor W Benyon:

Regeneration Central Car Park

- *“Creation of a Business Information Centre in conjunction with a Tourism Information Centre. Much needed to promote town centre businesses.*
- *Construction of new and modern toilets.*
- *A review of methods of entry and exit strategies possibly also convert to pay on exit.”*

8. SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL MATTERS

Update on any policy consultation or general matter relating to Shropshire Council from our local elected Members.

9. TOWN COUNCIL ISSUES

Request from Councillor M Bennett to consider a couple of issues.

These are listed below:

a) **Clawdd Du**

Following the recent incidents of bins being set alight, can the Council discuss how the area could be made safer and perhaps more attractive? The primary issue is the refuse bins which, if they cannot be enclosed/protected, should moves be put in hand to close off the alleyways with lockable gates – safety issues allowing?

b) **Castle Bank**

I am concerned over the steps on Castle Bank which are difficult to negotiate and seem to be showing signs of wear. Consultations with English Heritage need to be undertaken to see if the steps could be regarded to make them easier to use.

The area in front of Castle Bank, as shown in early postcards, depicts an attractive area, fenced in, with a spectacular water feature. Fencing might help with security at night, while restoring the area to the way it looked in Edwardian times would be consistent with efforts to improve the general look of the location. However while this may be feasible, it may not be wholly desirable. The question is raised for general debate as to the pros and cons of returning the front of Castle Bank to its pre- WW1 look.

10. **NABMA – WUWM LONDON 2014**

Letter from Graham Wilson OBE, Chief Executive of NABMA, recording formal thanks to the Town Council for its involvement and support to the NABMA and WUWM Conferences held in London in September 2014.

Copy letter attached Appendix ‘A’

11. **OPENNESS AND ACCOUNTABLE LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

Report on the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulation 2014 that sets out new requirements to allow the public greater access to Local Government decision making.

Copy report attached TC/2880/14

12. **OSWESTRY SCHOOL – GOVERNING BODY**

Letter from Phil Bowd, Bursar of Oswestry School, confirming that, with the arrival of the new Headmaster, the School is reviewing the composition of its external nominations on its governing body.

“We are very grateful for the continued long-standing support of the Town Council, but note that your representative, Elaine Channon, has been on our board since 2010, and her position on the board is due for election at our next AGM in February 2015. The normal period of time that governors are on our board is 5 years.”

The Council is therefore invited to formally review its representation on the Board due for election at the AGM in February 2015.

13. PUBLIC OPEN SPACES IN OSWESTRY

Letter from Mark Blount, Parks & Greenspace Team Leader of Shropshire Council, confirming that Shropshire Council is reviewing its grounds maintenance on public green space sites within all Shropshire Market Towns.

In summary, the Larger Town Councils are invited to consider taking on public open space facilities within their areas.

At this stage the Town Council is invited to consider “*an in principle decision*” as to whether they will be interested in the proposal or not.

Copy email attached Appendix ‘B’

14. PLACE PLAN – ANNUAL REVIEW 2014-2015

Information from Hayley Deighton, Principal Policy Officer at Shropshire Council, regarding the review of the Place Plan and timescale.

Copy information attached Appendix ‘C’

15. SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL PLANNING SERVICE – PLANNING DECISIONS BRIEFING NOTE FOR PARISH & TOWN COUNCILS

For information, Councillor Mal Price, Portfolio Holder for Planning, and Ian Kilby, Planning Services Manager at Shropshire Council, have responded to requests from Parish Councils requesting clarification on the question of how planning decisions are being taken in advance of the SAMDev Plan adopted.

Copy information attached Appendix ‘D’

16. PLANNING BRIEFING

For information, Ian Kilby, Planning Services Manager at Shropshire Council, attended a Planning Briefing Meeting for Parish and Town Council Clerks on the 5th September 2014.

Information from that briefing is attached Appendix 'E'

17. OSWESTRY TOWN COUNCIL CORPORATE PLAN 2014-17

To formally adopt the Corporate Plan following consultation, seminar and review by the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

Final copy document attached Appendix 'F'

18. FOOTWAY LIGHTING

The Lighting Task & Finish Group of the Council will be meeting in the near future to review changes as now introduced to the Town Council's lighting regime and progress with the introduction of LED lighting to various sites.

Requests have been made from Elected Members for the lighting issue to be discussed by Council and this opportunity is provided.

19. SALC AGM

Letter from Karen Roger of SALC inviting the Council to appoint delegates to attend a SALC AGM on 1st November 2014.

The agenda includes the normal items required by the annual AGM, and also a presentation on "Future Fit" by Dr Caron Morton and David Evans.

It is also anticipated that the new Chief Executive of NALC will be in attendance to answer questions and inform of future plans and also thoughts for the future of NALC and our sector as a whole.

Delegate fee is £20 per member with lunch included.

20. FUTURE LOCAL – NALC'S LARGER COUNCILS CONFERENCE

For information, the Council is asked to note that a session has been included on *Future Local – NALC's Larger Councils Conference* entitled "*Town Council Striving Regeneration and Local Economic Development*". The session is advertised as a focus on Town Councils and our work on helping revitalized the high street and retail offer, boosting tourism and playing a central role in economic development.

The Council is asked to note that the Town Clerk has been invited to lead on two Workshops.

21. 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.