

**OSWESTRY TOWN COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Oswestry Town Council held on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2013 at 7.00pm in the Council Chamber, the Guildhall, Oswestry.**

**PRESENT:** The Mayor, Councillor C Schofield.  
Councillors M Bennett, W Benyon, Mrs S Best,  
Mrs M E Chamberlain, Mrs E Channon,  
Mrs R Evans, Mrs C Hawksley, V Hunt, D Kerr,  
D P Milner, J Price, C Stokes and Mrs A Woof.

**In the Chair:** The Mayor, Councillor C Schofield

**In attendance:** David Preston, Town Clerk  
35 members of the public

**PUBLIC SESSION**

The Council had agreed that for 30 minutes previous to the commencement of the meeting, members of the public were invited to comment and question the Council on the issue of SAMDev that was the agenda item. Questions to be answered by the Mayor, Chairman of Committees, or Town Clerk, or specialist advisor.

**36. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from:

**Councillor P A Cherrington – holidays**  
**Councillor A Davis - holidays**  
**Councillor J G Jones - holidays**  
**Councillor M Lee - work commitments**

**RESOLVED** the apologies as submitted be accepted

**37. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

Declarations of Pecuniary Interests were invited in relation to matters on the agenda in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 s32 and The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012.

**RESOLVED** to note that no declarations of interest were made.

**38. SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL – SAMDev REVISED PREFERRED OPTIONS CONSULTATION JULY – AUGUST 2013**

The Council had responded at each stage of the SAMDev process.

A Specialist Seminar had been held for the Council to consider the response required by Shropshire Council to the SAMDev Revised Preferred Options Consultation and the Council was now invited to respond as appropriate.

During the public session a large number of speakers made passionate pleas about the importance of the Hillfort and the concerns, evident on a wide scale, regarding development that could be detrimental to a site of national and international importance.

The Mayor permitted each person in the room who wished to speak the opportunity to do so and confirmed that the Council had a statement that it would make at the end of that discussion with a way forward that hopefully would satisfy everyone.

The way forward centred around extending a process of consultation that was only available to the Town Council that could incorporate members of the public and the various interest and pressure groups. This to comprise of site visits to the Hillfort with Shropshire Council and proposed developer and also a drop-in session in the Guildhall.

As a way forward it was **RESOLVED:**

- The Council should accept an offer from Shropshire Council for a site visit with key local organisations and petition organisers followed by discussion and sharing of views back in the Guildhall;
- To accept the offer of a public drop-in session for members of the public to meet Shropshire Council representatives. Invitations to be extended to English Heritage and Selattyn & Gobowen Parish Council;
- The Town Council to agree a final response to the consultation process following the Council and public discussions to be held and a review of the latest professional information, as available. An initial Seminar to be held to discuss all issues and to form the draft response for discussion later in a meeting that can be attended by the public.

**Councillor C Schofield**  
**Mayor of the Town of Oswestry**