



Minutes of the meeting of Broseley Town Council
held at 7.00 pm on Tuesday, 8th March 2016
at the Birchmeadow Centre, Broseley

Standard abbreviations used throughout: Shropshire Council – SC
Local Joint Committee – LJC
Birchmeadow Centre - BMC

277. PRESENT

Councillors Burton, Childs, Cooke, L Garbett, M Garbett, Harris, Jones, Pickles, Scott, Smith, Taylor.

278. IN ATTENDANCE

Mrs T Barrett – Town Clerk, Mrs D Webb – RFO.
Shropshire Councillor D Turner, Mr D Pountney, CSO M Watkins, Mr T Wilson.

279. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- a. CSO M Watkins reported a recent spate of thefts from sheds and vehicles. There had been an unexplained death on the library car park the previous day. It was hoped to bring the mobile police station into Broseley for the day on 17th March. At present the local policing team worked out of Bridgnorth but it was likely that there would be a change to this.
- b. Mr Pountney provided an update on rights of way matters. Many paths were still very muddy. The fallen tree had not been moved.
- c. Shropshire Councillor D Turner reported that the application for work at 49 Crews Park had been approved. He had held a meeting with a local resident who was considering applying for a judicial review of the decision but had not encouraged this. Councillor Turner would keep the Council informed of any action.

280. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None.

281. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor	Agenda item	Subject	Type of interest	Reason	Minute no.
L Garbett	15c	Grant applications – Broseley Festival	Bias	Member of committee	293c
	16	Planning	Pecuniary	Owner of land subject to planning application	294
M Garbett	16	Planning	Pecuniary	Owner of land subject to planning application	294
Jones	13	MUGA	Bias	Secretary of MUGA Group	291
	18	SC Asset Transfer	Bias	Member of Shropshire Council	297
	15b	Grant application – Birchmeadow Park Management Cttee	Bias	SC Representative on committee	293b
Smith	20	Dark Lane Housing Development	Bias	Point of contact between own property and the development site	299

282. MEN IN SHEDS

Mr T Wilson gave an overview of the “Men in Sheds” initiative. The scheme aimed to help address problems of social isolation, mental and general health in older men, especially widowers, by providing an opportunity to socialise and take part in meaningful activities. It was hoped that a shed could be set up in Broseley but the impetus needed to come from the men

themselves. Premises were already available just outside the town. The activities undertaken depended very much on the interests and skills of the participants, e.g. woodworking, gardening, mechanics. Mr Wilson intended to time publicity about the initiative in Broseley with the “DIY SOS” in May. His attendance at the Council meeting was to make Councillors aware of the scheme and seek their support in principle.

Councillors indicated that this seemed a very positive initiative and wished Mr Wilson well with the scheme.

283. MAYOR’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor had recently attended a presentation by Boris Johnson, Mayor of London.

284. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9TH FEBRUARY 2016

RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 9th February 2016 as a true record of the proceedings.

285. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9TH FEBRUARY

Minute 255: Councillor L Garbett stressed that neither Councillors nor officers should approach her or Councillor M Garbett at any time regarding any planning matters due to their pecuniary interest.

Minute 271: Councillor Scott requested a copy of the information regarding flood assessments for residents.

286. MAYOR ELECT

Councillor S Harris was nominated as Mayor Elect. The appointment of Mayor would be confirmed at the May meeting.

287. DEPUTY MAYOR ELECT

Councillor J Jones was nominated as Deputy Mayor Elect. The appointment of Deputy Mayor would be confirmed at the May meeting.

288. ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Councillors noted arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting to be held on Thursday, 17th March. It had not been possible to obtain a speaker from Arriva or SC’s transport department. However, there would be a speaker on “Future Fit” to outline plans for the future of hospital services in Shropshire, as well as a representative from the Friendly Bus and Mrs H Fair, from the Health Centre, to give an overview of her role as Community and Care Co-ordinator in the town.

Councillor Cooke gave his apologies in advance and it was noted that Councillor Scott would be late in arriving.

289. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED to approve for payment the schedule of accounts.

290. BANK RECONCILIATION

RESOLVED to approve the bank reconciliation for January 2016.

291. MULTI-USE GAMES AREA (MUGA) RESERVES

a. Councillors noted information from the Chair of the MUGA Group that on current hire income there might be insufficient money in the sinking fund to meet the likely surface replacement costs in full.

b. It was noted that the present Chair of the Group wished to step down and that a successor was urgently needed. Usage of the MUGA also needed to be more strongly promoted. The Clerk was asked to add consideration of this item to the agenda of a forthcoming meeting following the next MUGA Group and Birchmeadow Park Management Committee meetings.

292. INTERNAL AUDITOR

Councillors considered two quotations for the provision of an internal audit service.

RESOLVED to appoint Bernard Townson as internal auditor for the financial year 2015/16.

293. GRANT APPLICATIONS

Councillors considered the following grant applications and **RESOLVED to make awards as follows:**

- a. **Citizens Advice Bureau: £2,500** to support the provision of a weekly advice surgery in Broseley.
- b. **Birchmeadow Park Management Committee: £2,000** to support the running of the Birchmeadow Park and essential drainage work.
- c. **Broseley Festival: decision deferred** until the April meeting. The RFO was asked to obtain audited accounts for the organisation and to invite a representative to the next Council meeting to speak about the event's funding.
- d. **Bridgnorth & South Shropshire Crucial Crew: decision deferred** until the April meeting. The RFO was asked to obtain audited accounts from the organisation.
- e. **Broseley Street Dancers: no award as the application did not meet the Council's criteria.** It was suggested that the applicant might contact Star Housing regarding a possible grant.

Having declared a pecuniary interest in the following item, Councillors L Garbett and M Garbett left the meeting.

294. PLANNING COMMITTEE

- a. Councillors noted the draft minutes of the meeting held on 25th February 2016.
- b. Councillor Smith commented on the excellent presentation from Mr P Tyler on the VisitBroseley website and the quality of the website. Concerns were expressed about the application for a house on Fox Lane. Councillor Jones had contacted the Highways Department at SC to request a site visit. A negative response had been received from SC with regard to training on CIL funding. SC did not have the resources to visit individual town and parish councils. A SALC training session for Clerks was scheduled for 28th April. The matter of CIL funding for projects would be discussed further at the next Planning Committee meeting.

Councillors L Garbett and M Garbett returned to the meeting.

295. IRONBRIDGE POWER STATION ARTEFACTS

- a. Councillors noted with pleasure that a number of artefacts from the Power Station, including large metal sculptures of figures engaged in mining activities, had been awarded to Broseley Town Council.
- b. **RESOLVED to set up a task and finish group of Councillors and others to manage the relocation of the items and advise the Council on the likely costs of this work.** Councillors Harris, L Garbett, Pickles, Childs, Jones (when available) and Burton (when available) agreed to be involved. Representatives from Broseley in Bloom, the Local History Society and the Church Heritage Centre Project would be invited to join. The Mayor and Clerk would arrange the first meeting.

296. **RESOLVED to suspend standing orders to allow the meeting to continue past 9.00pm.**

297. SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL ASSET TRANSFER

- a. Councillors noted that the library had closed for alterations to be carried out.
- b. **RESOLVED that the telephone line should be transferred from the current office to the library on 13th April and that the move should be completed on this date.**
- c. Councillors noted a report on the current position:
 - whilst the library was closed limited computer access would be available at the Victoria Hall.
 - a list of concerns about the condition of the building had been forwarded to SC but no response had been received to date.
 - a schedule of works for the car park was still awaited from SC.
 - the library and customer services Service Level Agreement was still under discussion.
 - the Lease was still under discussion.
 - draft leases for Maypole Green and the land off Guest Road were still awaited from SC.

- Councillor Pickles and the Clerk would be attending a meeting on library transfers the following day facilitated by "Locality."

It was noted that the responsibilities and schedule of meetings for the Estate Committee would need to be reviewed for the forthcoming year to take account of the library and car park management.

298. LOCAL COUNCIL MEETING WITH MALCOLM PATE, LEADER OF SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL, ON WORKING TOGETHER THROUGH FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES

Councillors noted a report from the Mayor on the above. Malcolm Pate had outlined the financial difficulties facing SC and how new ways of working would need to be found. Councillors agreed to explore collaborative working with Bridgnorth and Much Wenlock Town Councils.

299. DARK LANE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

The Taylor Wimpey (TW) representative had been unable to attend the last stakeholder meeting, which had therefore been rescheduled. There were recurrent problems with contractors parking in Dark Lane and the public car park. SC had admitted responsibility for the reservoir, which was to be filled in before the end of the year. Councillors noted that eight properties had already been sold on the development.

The Clerk had been asked to investigate the possibility of a drainage connection from the BMC to the new TW drains but did not have the information required by TW to make progress. Councillors agreed to raise the issue at the forthcoming stakeholder meeting.

300. PRIMARY SCHOOL ADMISSION FIGURES

Councillors noted the updated figures provided by SC on projected primary school admissions.

301. HIGHWAYS

- a. Councillors noted a report on highways matters:
 - SC had drawn up a scheme for improvements outside Broseley CofE Primary School however, despite pressure from the school, Shropshire Councillor and Town Council, SC had now determined that the scheme could not be implemented before summer 2017. Assurances had been given by SC that the funding would still be available.
 - a traffic calming scheme had been drawn up for John Wilkinson School which would be implemented in summer 2016. The narrow ends on the existing layby would be removed. This would result in fewer parking spaces, however, SC believed that there was sufficient parking in the neighbouring Tileries estate to accommodate school traffic.
 - a revised scheme for Ironbridge Road would be drawn up this year for implementation in 2017.
 - Councillor Jones had written to the leader of SC to complain about the lack of progress with the Cape Street pavements and parking provision in Edinburgh Road.
 - the HGV scheme for Much Wenlock/Broseley/Barrow was awaiting approval at SC.
 - a meeting had been arranged with the SC Highways Officer to discuss problem parking areas in the town.
 - the last meeting of the Jackfield Stabilisation Stakeholder group would be held this month.
 - SC had offered to install a non-slip surface on the junction of the Coalport sewage works road onto the Coalport Road as tankers leaving the site were finding this difficult to negotiate.
- b. Councillors noted that the A442 between Bridgnorth and Kidderminster would be closed overnight (7.00pm to 6.00am) from 20th March for three weeks while essential rock scouring works were carried out through the cutting north of Dudmaston Hall.
- c. Councillors noted that resurfacing work would be carried out on the B4376 Barrow Road commencing 14th March for two days during which time the road would be closed to through traffic.

- d. Councillors noted a report from Councillors L and M Garbett on the recently attended seminar “Traffic in Villages – what can help reduce speeds, improve safety and enhance village life.” The speaker, Ben Hamilton-Baillie, had outlined the benefits of shared space for vehicles and pedestrians in towns and villages. This approach aimed to reduce both vehicle speeds and accidents, however, it was hugely expensive to implement.

302. SPAR CAR PARK

A response had been received from Blakemore’s but this simply reported that no progress had been made. The issue would be further considered at the next meeting.

303. BUS SHELTER

Councillors L Garbett and Childs had considered various options for a replacement bus shelter for Bridgnorth Road but all were too wide for the pavement. The Clerk was asked to add this matter to the agenda of the next meeting.

304. COUNCIL WEBSITE OPTIONS

RESOLVED to defer this item to the next meeting.

305. EVERYBODY ACTIVE

Councillors noted a report about the recent presentation on the “Everybody Active” initiative and the proposed pilot scheme in Broseley.

306. TOWN TALK

- a. **RESOLVED to approve the draft copy of Town Talk.**
- b. **RESOLVED to distribute the newsletter as usual and to consider future distribution arrangements at the next meeting.**

307. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

Councillors noted the following correspondence:

- a. Shropshire Armed Forces Covenant Newsletter, second edition.
- b. Friendly Bus newsletter March 2016.
- c. Future Fit Digest March 2016
- d. Invitation to attend a Tourism Industry Open Day at Ironbridge Gorge Museums. Councillors Harris and Pickles expressed an interest in attending.

Chairman