

SHREWSBURY TOWN COUNCIL

SLA WORKING GROUP

HELD AT LIVESEY HOUSE

23 JANUARY 2025

PRESENT

Councillors Pam Moseley, Alan Mosley (chair), Alex Wagner & Rob Wilson

Andy Watkin (Head of Resources) Stuart Farmer (Operations Manager) & Danny Powell (Operations Manager)

37/24 DECLERATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS

All Councillors present declared personal interests in being members of Shropshire Council

38/24 NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Notes from the previous meeting were not available.

39/24 PROGRESS SO FAR

DP confirmed further meetings had occurred between Mike Pugh and Juan Hernandez during which a site visit of the general cemetery had been undertaken to view the requirements for grounds maintenance including grass cutting and grave digging.

Mike Pugh has also been working through the mapping system to resolve anomalies, as a result of this approximately twenty percent of the existing polygons have either been removed or altered to give a far more accurate layer for grounds maintenance going forward.

DP explained that since Shrewsbury Town Council has been in existence the areas being maintained were listed in the initial Service Level Agreement, meaning that removal of the areas from the mapping system would not have a negative impact on the overall costings for the devolution of the services.

The devolution of services would include STC maintaining areas that are the responsibility of Shropshire and potentially some private areas if permissions for the works can be sort.

Some of the areas removed from the mapping system have included recreation grounds that have always been the responsibility of STC but were input on the site during the SABC era or before.

DP explained that staff at the golf course have approached by JH regarding the takeover of the services by another provider, it is understood that service be sub-contracted further following the change. Shrewsbury Town Council have completed all of the necessary documentation for the TUPE arrangements, and it now falls to the new contractor to complete the remainder.

40/24 PUBLIC CONSULTATION

At present in excess of 700 responses to the public consultation have been received, in the region of Ninety Percent of respondents have given a positive response to the proposals put forward.

Overwhelmingly the respondents have confirmed that street cleaning, litter bin emptying and graffiti removal were a high priority that requires tackling.

Discussions were held around the formation of the new town team to tackle incidents and improving the street scene across the whole of Shrewsbury, previously some maps of the town had been shared dividing the town.

41/24 FUTURE OF SLA POST 01/04/25

The new legislation regarding simpler recycling was shared with the group however it appears that normal council functions will not be affected by this change. Thought will need to go into the waste collection from areas such as staff welfare locations and community centres to bring them in to line.

Rob Wilson asked about the reporting mechanism for this team going forward and if the reporting would be completed on Fix My Street to come in line with Shropshire Council, this would also minimize the possibility of task duplication that could occur if using differing applications.

The zones previously shared with the group will need to some work as members felt these could make the jobs too restrictive and affect the scope of the teams.

SF/DP will look into the job descriptions for the posts and will bring this back to a future meeting of this group.

The mobilization of the teams will be considered, and it is hoped that some of the tasks for the teams can commence as soon as possible with an alteration of the current team set ups.

Members asked if apprenticeships had been considered for these new roles, SF/DP will look into the possibility of aligning these roles with a college course which will be required.

It was proposed that name of this working group be changed going forward to the 'Service Development Working Group'.

42/24 FUTURE MEETING DATES

Meetings would continue to be fortnightly