

## SHREWSBURY TOWN COUNCIL

### Meeting of the Council Held at the Walker Theatre, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury At 6.00pm on Monday 28 June 2021

#### **PRESENT**

Councillors J Dean (Mayor), B Bentick, R Dartnall, M Davies, P Gillam, N Green, K Halliday, C Lemon, P Moseley, A Mosley, K Pardy, E Roberts, A Wagner & R Wilson.

#### **IN ATTENDANCE**

Helen Ball (Town Clerk), Amanda Spencer (Deputy Town Clerk), Gary Farmer (Operations Manager), Andy Watkin (Responsible Finance Officer), Ruth Jones (Office Manager) & Carol Pullen (Committee Clerk).

#### **20/21 WELCOME FROM THE MAYOR**

The Mayor welcomed Councillors and Officers to the meeting and members of the public tuning in to the Council's live-streaming. He noted that the meeting was not being recorded and the Minutes would be published on the Town Council's website in the usual way.

#### **21/21 APOLOGIES**

##### **RESOLVED:**

**That apologies from Councillors Phillips, Vasmer, & Wall be accepted.**

#### **22/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Shropshire Councillors	Twin hatted members declared personal interests in matters relating to the Town Council's relationship with Shropshire Council.
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#### **23/21 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 17 May 2021 were circulated as read.

##### **RESOLVED**

**That the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 17 May 2021 be approved and signed as a correct record.**

## **24/21 MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising.

## **25/21 ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **25.1 MAYOR & DEPUTY MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS**

The Mayor reported that he had undertaken several engagements since taking Office and had just had his busiest weekend when he attended four events, including a Church Service to celebrate the centenary of the Shrewsbury Branch Royal British Legion and welcoming two cyclists who were cycling from Land's End to John O Groats to raise funds for Age UK.

He was hopeful that some of the Annual Civic Events would be able to take place later in the year including a possible visit from HMS Talent who were keen to rekindle their affiliation with Shrewsbury. He was also hoping to organise a music festival to welcome live music back into venues around the town.

### **25.2 ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE TOWN CLERK**

There were none.

## **26/21 PUBLIC QUESTIONS/COMMENTS**

The Town Clerk reported that standing orders had been followed in seeking questions ahead of the meeting, but she had accepted questions up until 4pm on the day of this meeting. No questions had been received.

## **27/21 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS**

None had been received.

## **28/21 SHROPSHIRE SUPPORTS REFUGEES**

The meeting was joined by Robert Douglas & Amanda Jones who gave a presentation on the work of Shropshire Supports Refugees and the principles and accreditation process of City of Sanctuary, what it wanted to achieve, what it would mean for Shrewsbury and how the Council would begin to work towards achieving it.

Shropshire Supports Refugees (SSR) was established as a not for profit company in 2016 in response to the migration crisis that was engulfing Europe. In response to international pressure the then UK Government, supported by local councils, agreed to take 20,000 refugees over a period of five years. Shropshire Council initially agreed to take 10 Syrian

refugee families – approximately 50 people including children. It now supported 20 families and fully expected to support more families and individuals over the coming years. As these families arrived there was a need to support the Council in helping them to resettle people who were severely traumatised, with no friends or wider family around them and to access clothes, toys for the children and basic household goods. In response to these needs SSR began to grow its volunteer base and to develop the range of support it provided and now had 40 very active volunteers providing a range of support as well as employing 2 full time and 2 part time staff. They were about to convert from a CIC to a CIO (charity) which would enable access a wider range of funding sources.

City of Sanctuary (CoS) holds the vision that the UK will be a welcoming place of safety for all and proud to offer sanctuary to people fleeing violence and persecution. In order to realise this vision, City of Sanctuary supported a network of groups, which included villages, towns, cities and regions across the UK. There were currently 115+ City of Sanctuary groups. In addition, CoS UK supported a number of Streams of Sanctuary. A Stream of Sanctuary encourages professionals or practitioners within 'communities of practice or interests' to come together to embed the concepts of welcome, safety and inclusion within their sectors or organisations. In supporting the motion put forward by Councillor Halliday this evening the Council would be signing up to support and implement the CoS Network principles.

There was no single formula for working towards becoming a Town of Sanctuary. All ideas and contributions would be welcomed. Local circumstances would vary and solutions that worked in one area may not be appropriate or feasible in another so advice and support could be sought from a town that had already achieved CoS status. Numbers of asylum seekers and refugees varied hugely from one location to another. However, this was about everyone coming together in support of displaced people all over the world, so it was not just about those who had resettled in Shropshire. In embarking upon the process of becoming a Town of Sanctuary the Council would be signaling its support for diversity and the values which helped to build strong, cohesive and empowered local communities.

Councillor Gillam gave his wholehearted support and thanked both Robert & Amanda for explaining so clearly and thanked everyone in Shropshire Supports Refugees and the CoS network. He commended them on doing a wonderful job in supporting families who had been forced to flee their homelands, many of whom would be desperate for safety, security and friendship.

Councillor Pardy asked how the success of the project was measured. Amanda Jones said it was difficult to quantify success given the trauma these people had suffered which often left them suffering severe mental health issues. Many of the men were working, the women were attending English classes and the children, many of whom had missed out on so much education were doing well. Despite the project being in year 5, there were still many hurdles. Support for the families would not stop and they would continue to seek funding to try and make lasting changes to their futures. Shropshire Council had promised their commitment to continue rehoming and group work would continue. It was hoped that Shrewsbury Town Council be mindful to come on board which would help raise the profile further.

Councillor Bentick offered his support and asked whether Amanda felt that refugees coming to the UK had adequate access to mental health services which were often difficult to obtain. Amanda reported that refugees did have access to public funding and access to the NHS and anything that a British National could access so they could get help but often it was

verbal and talked based therapy which could prove difficult for those with limited English language. There was also a pride barrier and it was often difficult to get people to engage in conventional mental health services. She personally felt there was not enough support and what was on offer was not always appropriate. She had set up group activities with people to support them in the background and that enabled them to help each other more than anything because they had many shared experiences.

There being no further questions the Mayor suggested that the Motion – Town of Sanctuary Status be discussed next on the Agenda.

*The following item was moved up the Agenda*

## **29/21 MOTION – TOWN OF SANCTUARY STATUS**

In putting forward the following motion, Councillor Halliday thanked Robert Douglas and Amanda Jones for their valuable work within Shrewsbury & Shropshire and for taking members through the process of Shrewsbury becoming a Town of Sanctuary. She had spoken to a Councillor, a former refugee herself, from the City of Sanctuary who had confirmed they would be very willing to offer help and support in developing a strategy. She hoped that members would support the principles of welcome, inclusion and diversity within their communities.

Motion:

**That this council is committed to support an initiative to make Shrewsbury into a recognised ‘Town of Sanctuary’ welcoming those fleeing violence and persecution in their own countries. We recognise their potential contribution to our town, and also recognise that a comprehensive, co-ordinated and forward-looking approach is needed if the welfare of people moving into the town, and community cohesion between new and existing communities, are to be supported effectively. To this end, we:**

- **Acknowledge the contribution of refugees and people seeking sanctuary to the town of Shrewsbury**
- **Are willing to add our organisation’s name to the list of supporters of City of Sanctuary**
- **This council will work to implement the City of Sanctuary pledges through its actions and policies, and with its partners in the statutory and voluntary sectors.**
- **This council is committed to support an initiative to make Shrewsbury into a recognised ‘Town of Sanctuary’**
- **We call on Shropshire Council to apply for ‘City of Sanctuary’ Status.**

The Town Clerk reported that she too had spoken to the same Councillor who was the West Midlands Adviser for City of Sanctuary. She had made suggestions of the sorts of things this Council may be able to offer such as gardens of sanctuary and public open spaces, perhaps a sanctuary allotment, youth activities, sports events and tournaments and use of its facilities for events and celebrations particularly around food the refuge weeks celebrations. She felt it was very much about a presence and raising awareness. Although there would be work involved, it need not be complex, it was about creating an accreditation that was fit for the Council and in order to pursue the motion and take it forward she suggested a member

working group be established. She added that the Council had already provided some grant funding to Shropshire Supports Refugees.

In supporting the motion Councillor Mosley applauded the work that was being done and nominated Councillor Gillam to be one of the member representatives.

It was agreed that the Town Clerk would speak with Councillor Halliday outside of the meeting to establish a small working group to take forward the Motion.

**RESOLVED:**

- (i) **That this council is committed to support an initiative to make Shrewsbury into a recognised ‘Town of Sanctuary’ welcoming those fleeing violence and persecution in their own countries. We recognise their potential contribution to our town, and also recognise that a comprehensive, co-ordinated and forward-looking approach is needed if the welfare of people moving into the town, and community cohesion between new and existing communities, are to be supported effectively. To this end, we:**
- **Acknowledge the contribution of refugees and people seeking sanctuary to the town of Shrewsbury**
  - **Are willing to add our organisation’s name to the list of supporters of City of Sanctuary**
  - **This council will work to implement the City of Sanctuary pledges through its actions and policies, and with its partners in the statutory and voluntary sectors.**
  - **This council is committed to support an initiative to make Shrewsbury into a recognised ‘Town of Sanctuary’**
  - **We call on Shropshire Council to apply for ‘City of Sanctuary’ Status.**
- (ii) **That a Councillor Working Group be established to take forward the Motion.**

**30/21 MOTION – MINI HOLLANDS**

Councillor Wilson gave some background to why he was putting forward this Motion. The Big Town Plan aimed to give priority to walking, cycling and public transport. At the recent Big Town Plan festival, making movement better was repeatedly stated as the key to unlocking further opportunities and this Council had agreed at a recent meeting. that the Movement strategy should be the top priority.

The mini-Holland scheme put forward by the Government aligned almost perfectly with the Big Town Plan. It offered 12 non-London local authorities the opportunity to transform the way their communities travel. In London, Waltham Forest was one of the original mini-Holland boroughs where cycling increased by 18 per cent and walking by 13 per cent in a single year. Vacancy rates for retailers were the lowest they had ever been and trade had significantly increased. Nor did congestion rise, because the changes allowed many people who had previously driven very short journeys to walk or cycle instead.

40% of car journeys in Shrewsbury were less than 2 miles and everywhere in the town was a 15-minute cycle from the centre, but many people didn't feel safe to do so. The proposal was not about the people who already cycled, it was about the much larger number who would if there was the right infrastructure in place to enable them making that journey.

With lower numbers of cars on the road, conditions would improve for those who needed to drive – the Netherlands topped a recent poll as the best country to drive in Europe.

The need for a shift in how we travel is recognised by the Government and the Transport Minister has stated that he wishes to see 50% of urban journeys walked or cycled by 2030.

The city of Ghent in Belgium had undertaken a citywide scheme on similar principles in 2017 costing just £3.4m:

Within 2 years:

- a. Car journeys reduced from 55% to 27%
- b. Cycle journeys increased from 22% to 35%
- c. There had been a 17% increase in restaurant and bar start-ups
- d. A previous fall in shop occupancy had been arrested
- e. Nitrogen Oxide levels had reduced by 20%
- f. Ghent had been more resilient to the effects of e-Commerce and Covid-19 when compared to Antwerp, Bruges and Brussels.

All members had backed improving active travel in Shrewsbury, so he hoped they would speak with one voice unanimously calling on Shropshire Council to put forward an ambitious bid for Shrewsbury to be one of the 12 mini-Hollands and kickstart the Big Town Plan. He also hoped that the Member of Parliament would lobby the Government on Shrewsbury's behalf for this funding.

Many towns across Northern Europe had already taken this approach and were thriving as a result. Waltham Forest in London was already benefitting from being one of the original Mini-Hollands in London. Shrewsbury prided itself on being the original one off and had the opportunity to be the first complete urban area in the UK to adopt this approach – a true original.

In 2020 the Department for Transport published "Gear Change – A Bold Vision for Cycling & Walking:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/904146/gear-change-a-bold-vision-for-cycling-and-walking.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/904146/gear-change-a-bold-vision-for-cycling-and-walking.pdf))

Shropshire Council voted unanimously to support this in September 2020.

Within the document (page 19) Government sets out its aspirations to create "Mini-Hollands":

***We will create more "Mini-Hollands"***

*In London, three outer boroughs with low levels of cycling were chosen through competition as "Mini-Hollands," with intensive, transformational spending on their roads and streetscapes to make them, over time, as cycle and pedestrian-friendly as their Dutch equivalents. Segregated lanes were installed on main roads, low-traffic neighbourhoods were put in, and pedestrians were given thousands of metres of extra space. In the first of the areas treated,*

*cycling increased by 18 per cent and walking by 13 per cent in a single year. Vacancy rates for retailers on the first of the shopping streets to be made low-traffic streets are the lowest they have ever been, according to the council, and trade on those streets has significantly increased. Nor did congestion rise, because the changes allowed many people who had previously driven very short journeys to walk or cycle instead. As in London, we expect to stimulate a large number of proposals across the country, from which we will choose up to 12 willing non-London local authority areas, to benefit from intensive investment in mini-Holland schemes on the same model. The main focus will be on replacing short car trips. They must be places where cycling is currently low and where there is serious political commitment to dramatic change – not just for cyclists, but for everyone who lives and works there.*

Given the huge aspirations of the Shrewsbury Big Town Plan to develop better walking and cycling links, Shrewsbury would lend itself to becoming a “Mini-Holland”.

Councillor Dartnall believed there was an urgent need to reduce the number of short car journeys within Shrewsbury and the best way to do that was through active travel and that simply building more roads would not actually deliver any improvement in traffic levels but providing safe and separate carriageways, proper secure parking and the proper infrastructure for cyclists and walkers in and around the town would induce demand for those far better methods of transport. If the infrastructure were provided people would use it and economically, environmentally and socially it would be a win-win.

In supporting the Motion Councillor Dean added the idea of creating neighbourhoods which reduced through traffic which was the ethos of many Holland schemes, should be an essential part of the process as was reducing speed limits to 20 miles per hour with the 20's plenty policy as a default in residential areas. In Shropshire there were currently no Sunday or evening buses and he believed in a rural county like Shropshire that this needed to be reviewed as part of active travel, but he also recognised the need to support the Motion as it stood, whilst there was an opportunity for Government funding.

He reported to members that Councillors representing the West and South of the town had gathered outside the Priory School earlier in the day to celebrate the beginning of their Active Travel Week which was a great initiative that teaching staff had worked hard to bring together. At the same time a new petition had been launched for a '20's plenty' scheme in surrounding residential areas and that petition would be live on the Shropshire Council website later in the week. He hoped that Shrewsbury Town Council and members would support the petition.

Councillor Roberts added to this that she was able to report that Shropshire Cycle Hub had donated a number of bikes to the Priory School for pupils use and that there were already a large number of pupils who did cycle to and from the school so this was a really good way to expand to ensure continuation.

Councillor Lemon reported that the Priory School had undertaken a consultation with parents and pupils ahead of launching their Active Travel week. This had identified inadequate infrastructure around the school as the reason why even more pupils did not walk or cycle so hoped the support of this motion would address some of those issues and start to move things forward.

Councillor Wagner supported the Motion and added that it had been fantastic to see so many people supporting the launch of the Priory's Active Travel week earlier. The success of the mini-Hollands pilots in other parts of the country should serve as a good example to follow. It would help the town breathe, be a boom to local traders and businesses and help develop the healthy lifestyle the town needed. Shrewsbury had a strong case to get some of the funding and these schemes were aimed at encouraging people who didn't already cycle to get cycling as well as those did. This was a scheme that would help people get around Shrewsbury and make walking and cycling a viable and enjoyable option. If Shrewsbury wanted to be one of those towns chosen it must demonstrate that it was ready, willing and able and the Town Council supporting this motion would be a step towards that.

Councillor Bentick reported that over the past year he had been in close contact with both the Priory and Meole Brace Secondary Schools to discuss how the infrastructure for cyclists and pedestrians throughout the Meole area could be improved, particularly in the Longden Road corridor and in January he had presented a petition to Shropshire Council calling for a report to be commissioned to investigate and find solutions to the multiple traffic issues in the Meole Brace and surrounding area and he would like to call on Shropshire Council to commission a formal report as part of active travel and in supporting the Motion he would like this comment put forward to Shropshire Council.

Councillor Dean summarised that there were many issues here along with supporting this motion and that all members had issues around the current provision of public transport and the forthcoming review of the Movement Strategy within the Big Town Plan which many had not been happy with including the East development so he proposed that a members working group be established to consider issues around travel and transport and ensure the Town Council's voice be heard both through this Motion and in any other forums so as to pursue members individual issues also.

Members expressed their support for forming a working group and it was agreed that the Town Clerk would contact members outside of the meeting to establish membership of a working group.

**RESOLVED:**

- (i) That Council calls on the Shrewsbury Big Town Partners (Shropshire Council, Shrewsbury Town Council and the Shrewsbury Business Improvement District) to bid to become a "Mini-Holland" once the Department for Transport launches Expressions of Interest for the expansion of the Scheme.**
- (ii) That a member working group be established to take forward members' ward issues around travel and transport.**

*Please note that all of the Committee Meetings which have been held since the Elections have been done under the resolutions of both Full Council in March and Finance & General Purpose Committee in April so the decisions in effect inform the delegated decision making of the Town Clerk.*

### **31/21 FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE**

The minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee meetings held on 12 April & 14 June 2021 were circulated as read.

In proposing the minutes of 14 June 2021 Councillor Mosley referred to the End of Year Accounts, presented at that meeting. He wished to record his thanks to the Responsible Finance Officer for the extensive and excellent report that he had given at that meeting and was pleased to report that the Council's finances were in good order.

Councillor Mosley referred to Minute 15/21 of the Minutes and the concerns around the future of CCTV in Shrewsbury. He felt that given the level of anti-social behaviour occurring at various times, some with significant levels of violence and disturbance within individual wards and the concerns that had been expressed by members when they were asked to provide their top three concerns within their ward, in relation item 20 on this Agenda, that the Council consider the purchase of moveable cameras that would provide adequate cover, act as a deterrent and assist the Police in their efforts. He asked that this be considered as an item at the next F&GP Committee meeting.

#### **RESOLVED:**

- (i) That the minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee meetings held on 12 April & 14 June 2021 be approved and signed as a correct record.**
- (ii) That thanks be given to the Responsible Finance Officer for his excellent work in the preparation of the Council's 2020/21 End of Year Accounts.**

### **32/21 RECREATION & LEISURE COMMITTEE**

The Minutes of the Recreation & Leisure Committee Meetings held on 31 March & 26 May 2021 were circulated as read.

#### **RESOLVED:**

**That the minutes of the Recreation & Leisure Committee meetings held on 31 March & 26 May 2021 be approved and signed as a correct record.**

### **33/21 PLANNING MEETINGS**

The minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 30 March, 27 April, 24 May, 25 May & 15 June 2021, were submitted as circulated and read.

#### **RESOLVED:**

**That the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 30 March, 27 April, 24 May, 25 May & 15 June 2021 be accepted and approved.**

## **34/21 END OF YEAR ACCOUNTS & SUPPORTING STATEMENTS**

### **34.1 End of Year Accounts**

The Responsible Finance Officer had prepared the End of Year Accounts in accordance with the Accounts & Audit Regulations 2011, which had been discussed and approved by the F&GP committee.

The Responsible Finance Officer summarised the current position of the accounts and circulated the reports prior to the meeting, bringing members' attention to the fact there had been no changes to accounting policies, the significant events in the Governance Statement, the treatment of S106 money and CIL in the Income and Expenditure Account, the notes on Reserves and proceeds of Capital Receipts.

#### **RESOLVED:**

- (i) That the Annual Report for the financial year 2020/21 be adopted.**
- (ii) That the Statement of Accounting Policies for the financial year 2020/21 be adopted.**
- (iii) That the Annual Governance Statement for the financial year 2020/21 be adopted.**
- (iv) That the Income & Expenditure Account for the financial year 2020/21 be adopted.**
- (v) That the Statement of Movement of Reserves for the financial year 2020/21 be adopted.**
- (vi) That the Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2021 be adopted.**

### **34.2 Annual Return**

Members approved the Annual Return for 2020/21 which would be signed off by the Mayor, Town Clerk & RFO and forwarded to the Town Council's External Auditor before 01 July. At this point the accounts and Annual Return would be made public.

#### **RESOLVED:**

**That the following sections of the Annual Return for the financial year 2020/21 be adopted:**

- (i) Section 1 – Annual Governance Report for 2020/21 and the Mayor & Town Clerk sign the appropriate page of the Return.**
- (ii) Section 2 – Annual Accounting Statements for 2020/21 and the Mayor and Responsible Financial Officer sign the appropriate page of the return.**

### 35/21 EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

Prior to the meeting a list of executive decisions made by the Town Clerk had been circulated to members. These were decisions that would ordinarily have been made by the Standing Committees but were currently informal meetings to inform the delegated decision making whilst current COVID regulations were still in place. There were no questions raised by members.

#### RESOLVED:

That the report be noted and decisions accepted.

### 36/21 OUTSIDE BODIES

#### RESOLVED:

That the following appointments to Outside Bodies be made for the period to Annual Council in May 2022:

BODY	ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES	OFFICER REPRESENTATIVES
Trustees of Berwick Almshouses	The Mayor (Ex-Officio) Cllr K Pardy Cllr P Moseley	
Burgess Turns Prize Scheme	Cllr P Moseley Cllr P Gillam	
Charity of W H K Gibbons	The Mayor (Ex-Officio)	
Darwin Steering Group	Cllr J Dean	Helen Ball - Town Clerk
Football Liaison Committee	Cllr P Gillam	
Gateway Management Committee	Cllr K Pardy Cllr P Moseley	
John Allatt's Educational Foundation	Cllr E Roberts	
Meole Estate Community Action	Cllr B Bentick	
National Association of British Market Authorities (NABMA)	Cllr P Moseley	Mike Cox – Outdoor Recreation & Assets Manager
RAF Shawbury - Helicopter Noise Liaison Group	Vacant	
Shopmobility	Cllr Pam Moseley	
Shrewsbury & District Arts Association	The Mayor (Ex-Officio) Cllr J Dean	
Shrewsbury Big Town Plan	Councillor Alan Mosley	Helen Ball - Town Clerk
Shrewsbury Business Improvement District Board of Directors		Helen Ball – Town Clerk

Shrewsbury Carnival Committee	The Mayor (Ex-Officio)	
Shrewsbury Dispensary Fund	Cllr R Dartnall	
Shrewsbury in Bloom Committee	Cllr B Wall Cllr K Halliday Cllr P Moseley Cllr A Wagner Cllr J Dean	Helen Ball – Town Clerk Gary Farmer – Operations Manager
Shrewsbury Fairtrade	Councillor J Dean	
Shrewsbury to Aberystwyth Rail Liaison Committee	Cllr P Gillam Cllr C Lemon	
Shropshire Association of Local Councils	Cllr A Mosley	Helen Ball - Town Clerk
Shropshire Community Leisure Trust	Cllr A Mosley	
Shropshire & West Midlands Agricultural Society	The Mayor (Vice President)	Town Clerk (Ex-Officio)
Shropshire Horticultural Society	The Mayor (Vice President)	
Shropshire Playing Fields Association	Cllr K Halliday	
Shropshire Welfare Trust	The Mayor (Ex-Officio) Cllr P Moseley	
St Chad's & St Alkmund's Charity	Cllr N Green Cllr B Wall	
The Gorsuch, Langley & Prynce Charity	Cllr R Dartnall	
The Hive	Cllr N Green	
The Mereside Community Centre Association	Cllr R Dartnall	
West Midlands Reserve Forces & Cadets Association	Cllr N Green	

### **37/21 CHANGES TO COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

It was proposed that Councillor Elizabeth Roberts replace Councillor Kate Halliday on the Recreation & Leisure Committee and that Councillor Halliday become a substitute for said Committee.

The Mayor noted that Councillor Halliday had been listed as the Vice-Chairman of the committee and sought clarification that Councillor Roberts would therefore be the Vice-Chairman.

Councillor Mosley confirmed that the Labour Group would submit a nomination for the changes outside of this meeting.

#### **RESOLVED**

- (i) That Councillor Roberts replace Councillor Halliday on the Recreation & Leisure Committee and Councillor Halliday become a substitute for that Committee.**
- (ii) That Councillor Mosley confirm with the Town Clerk the nomination of Vice-Chairman for the Recreation & Leisure Committee.**

### 38/21 LOCAL POLICING COMMUNITY CHARTER

Ahead of the meeting the Local Policing Community Charter had been circulated to members along with the opportunity for members to raise three areas of policing concern within their ward. The Town Clerk reported that there were several Ward Members who had not yet made their submission and she would contact them. Members were asked if they wished the Council to sign up to the Charter.

#### RESOLVED

- (i) That Shrewsbury Town Council sign up to the Local Policing Community Charter.
- (ii) That the three main policing concerns for each ward be submitted once the remaining wards had made their submissions.

### 39/21 BT PAYPHONE REMOVAL CONSULTATION

Prior to the meeting the following list of BT phone boxes that had been scheduled for decommissioning had been circulated to members and the Town Clerk had e-mailed those affected ward members for their views.

Location	Ward	Av/mth Calls	Status of Consultation
Mount Pleasant Road	Bagley	1	Proceed with closure on poor usage grounds
Lancaster Rd	Harlescott	0	Would like to see this box retained due proximity to vulnerable residents many of which do not have access to mobile phones, in the event of an emergency
Mount Pleasant Road	Bagley	26	Would like to see this box retained due to call usage and proximity to vulnerable residents in the event of an emergency
Sentinel Gardens, Whitchurch Rd	Battlefield	3	Proceed with closure on poor usage grounds but would wish to explore any potential community usage (book store or defibrillator station)
Berwick Avenue	Quarry & Coton Hill	0	Would like to see this box retained due to call usage and proximity to elderly residents in the event of an emergency
Greyfriars Bridge, Longden Coleham	Belle Vue	23	Proceed with closure on ASB grounds
Woodfield Rd	Porthill	0	Proceed with closure on poor usage grounds
Coton Hill	Quarry & Coton Hill	1	Proceed with closure on poor usage grounds
Pensfold Shopping Centre, Bicton	Bowbrook	13	Proceed with closure on poor usage grounds but would wish to explore any potential

			community usage (book store or defibrillator station)
Whitecroft Road	Sutton & Reabrook	1	Proceed with closure on poor usage grounds
Shopping Parade, Tilstock Crescent	Sutton & Reabrook	8	Proceed with closure on poor usage grounds

**RESOLVED:**

**That the Commentary on proposed closure of BT Phone boxes be submitted during the current consultation process.**

**40/21 CLOSING REMARKS**

In closing the meeting, the Mayor thanked members of the public for attending and those that had logged in. All papers relating to this meeting could be found on the website [www.shrewsburytowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.shrewsburytowncouncil.gov.uk) and the minutes would appear in draft on the website within the next month. He thanked Councillors attending and Theatre Severn and all staff involved in this meeting.