

SHREWSBURY TOWN COUNCIL

CIVICS WORKING GROUP

25 NOVEMBER 2021

PRESENT – Councillors Julian Dean & Elisabeth Roberts

IN ATTENDANCE – Helen Ball (Town Clerk, Amanda Spencer (Deputy Town Clerk) & Carol Pullen (Mayor's Secretary)

APOLOGIES – Councillors Chris Lemon & David Vasmer

19/21 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS

None declared

20/21 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the Civics Working Group held on Thursday 16 September were circulated

AGREED:

That the minutes of the Civics Working Group Meeting held on 16 September 2021 be signed as a true and accurate record

21/21 MAYORAL ACTIVITIES

The Mayor reported on his recent engagements, some of the more formal events had returned but so far it appeared that there was very little in the way of community invitations, although there were some Carol Services and Concerts in the diary for December.

He had been travelling to events on his electric bicycle and this was proving to be very successful.

He thanked the Deputy Mayor for chairing the recent Full Council meeting.

The Mayoral Chain was very bulky to carry in its current case and the Mayor enquired whether a more suitable soft carrying case could be purchased. The Mayor's Secretary investigate suitable options.

The Mayor updated the Committee on some of his other activities:

- The Walking Festival planned for the Easter weekend was going well
- He had a meeting with Lingen Davies to discuss other Mayoral activity
- He had attended the Street Pastor's 10th Birthday celebrations and had agreed to spend a night out with them

- His Climate Change Guide had been well received and he hoped that the content would spark a conversation with those who read it

22/21 MAYOR'S VEHICLE REPLACEMENT

The Town Clerk reported that delivery of the new electric vehicle had been delayed, this was originally expected in mid-November but was now looking to be nearer to Christmas.

23/21 RECRUITMENT OF MAYOR'S OFFICER

The Deputy Town Clerk reported that she was currently drafting a Job Description for the Mayor's Officer post and it was hoped to advertise in the New Year.

24/21 CIVIC REGALIA

Following the recent Remembrance Event the Civic Regalia was inspected. The Marshal's Baton requires some repairs and the formal Mayor Chain is in need of specialist cleaning. Both will be sent to Fattorini's in Birmingham to be inspected and a schedule of works and costs projections with a view to both hopefully being back by the beginning of March for the Shrewsbury School Service.

25/21 FUTURE CIVIC EVENTS

The Town Clerk outlined future Mayoral Events:

Mayor's Civic Service – Traditionally the Mayor's Service in State is held soon after Mayor Making, but this has not been possible. Discussions are ongoing with St Chad's to identify a date before the conclusion of the Mayoral Year.

Christmas Lights Switch-on & Carols in the Square – 24th November & 15th December – Lights Switch has already taken place with Carols in the Square scheduled for mid-December.

Shrewsbury School Service – A date has been set for the Annual Church Service at Shrewsbury School - 6th March 2022

Shropshire Yeomanry Freedom Parade – The Town Clerk is in discussions about setting a date for the Shropshire Yeomanry to exercise their Freedom Rights; this had been planned for May 2020, but had to be cancelled.

Installation of Freeman – A provisional date has been set for Installation of Freeman in March 2022. Members asked whether this could be done virtually. The Town Clerk thought unlikely given the need to physically sign the Freedom Register.

HMS Talent – Discussions have begun about a possible visit to HMS Talent in September 2022

26/21 DEPUTY MAYOR

The Deputy Mayor had begun to think about activities in her Mayoral year. She was keen to raise awareness of Child Mental Health and Isolation of the Elderly. She wanted to create a Mayoral Duck to raise fund for her nominated charities and she intended to run the London Marathon in October 2022 to raise funds for Harlescott Grange Community Hub

27/21 NEXT MEETING

Thursday 27th January 2022