**SHREWSBURY TOWN COUNCIL**

Agenda No

**3**

 **Meeting of the Council**

 **Held at The Guildhall, Frankwell Quay, Shrewsbury**

 **At 6.00pm on Monday 13th November 2017**

**PRESENT**

Councillors Ms J Mackenzie (Mayor), P Nutting (Deputy Mayor), J Dean, N Green, Mrs H Fraser, P Gillam, I Jones, N Laurens, Mrs P Moseley, A Mosley, K Pardy, A Phillips, H Taylor & D Vasmer

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Helen Ball (Town Clerk), Gary Farmer (Operations Manager) & Andy Watkin (Responsible Financial Officer)

**APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillor P Adams and K Roberts.

**PRAYERS**

In the absence of the Council Chaplain prayers were not said.

**46/17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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| Shropshire Councillors | Twin hatted members declared personal interests in matters relating to the Town Council’s relationship with Shropshire Council |
| Councillor Fraser | Declared a personal interest in the debate on the Council Tax Benefit Scheme as she is a member of the Scrutiny Committee looking at CTBS |
| Councillors Nutting & Laurens | Declared personal interests in the debate on the Council Tax Benefit Scheme, as they are members of Cabinet, which has requested the Consultation exercise. |
| Councillor Pardy | Declared a personal interest in the presentation on CAMHS as he is a member of the Children’s Scrutiny Committee |
| Councillor Jones | Declared a personal interest in the presentation on CAMHS as he is a member of the South Staffordshire & Shropshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust |

**47/17 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 4 September 2017 were submitted as circulated and read.

Councillor Gillam advised that he was reported as both in attendance and having given apologies; he was at the meeting.

**RESOLVED:**

**That upon the deletion of Councillors Gillam as giving apologies, the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 4 September 2017 be approved and signed as a correct record.**

**48/17 MATTERS ARISING**

**48.1 Re Min 34.3 – End of Year Accounts**

The Town Clerk confirmed that the End of Year Accounts had been published.

**48.2 Re Min 38.2 – Henry Close**

The Town Clerk confirmed that all negotiations had been completed and agreements signed. The new Tenant had moved into the property.

**48.3 Re Min 43 – Quarry Pool**

The Town Clerk confirmed that the residue funds had been returned by Shrewsbury BID.

**49/17 ANNOUNCEMENTS**

* 1. **Mayor & Deputy Mayor’s Engagements -** Details of the Mayor & Deputy Mayor’s engagements for September and October were circulated to members.

**RESOLVED:**

**That the Mayor and Deputy Mayor’s schedule of engagements be noted**

* 1. **Planning & The Civic Society -** The Mayor reported that she had met with the Civic Society to discuss Town Planning in Shrewsbury as they had concerns about the level and quality of development. They were looking to hold an a-political public meeting in the new year to allow the public to have their say.

The Deputy Mayor advised that this was likely to be too late as any concerns about the number and quality of development would have to be fed into the Local Plan Review, which was currently open.

Members had concern about the perceived developer-led approach to planning and the future of management of highways and open space on new developments with leisure provision being an afterthought.

Councillor Phillips reported that during his time on the Central Planning Committee members were pushing back applications where they believed standards were below par.

The Mayor agreed to discuss this further with the Civic Society and report to a future meeting of the Planning Committee.

**50/17 PUBLIC QUESTIONS/COMMENTS**

There were no questions received from members of the public

**51/17 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS**

**51.1** **Twenty is Plenty Campaign**

Members considered the following motion proposed by Councillors Mrs Moseley, Green and Dean:

*"Shrewsbury Town Council recognises the benefits associated with a 20 miles per hour speed limit in residential areas, rather than a default limit of 30mph, which exists in most parts of the town, and County.*

*There are fewer fatalities and injuries, greater survivability in traffic collisions, improved air quality, reduced fuel use, and a greater willingness of the population to walk or cycle - which has associated health benefits.*

*The Town Council therefore supports the "20 is Plenty" campaign and asks that Shropshire Council investigates how best the 20 miles per hour limit can be introduced to the streets of Shrewsbury."*

**RESOLVED:**

**That the motion as proposed be supported**

**52/17 PRESENTATION – CHILDREN & ADULT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE**

 The meeting was joined by Alex Critchell (General Manager of the new 0-25 Emotional Health and Wellbeing Service) both of the South Staffordshire & Shropshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (SSSFT). They made a presentation on a new approach to the Children & Adult Mental Health Service.

The 0-25 Emotional Health & Wellbeing Service, soon to be rebranded “BeeU” has been developed by SSSFT with staff TUPE transferring from Shropcom on 1 May 2017.

This service had been extended from 0-18 to cover up to 25 year olds.

Much of their work has being around identifying those waiting to access the service, whether they still required the service and whether their circumstances had changed. They had worked to reducing a backlog of 830 individuals identified in March 2017 down to 32 in October 2017.

The service now has 4 distinct partner areas managed under SSSFT; these included:

1. **Children’s Society** – were running drop in sessions in both Telford and Shrewsbury with the local service running from Palmers Coffee Shop on Claremont Street on Thursdays between 1.45-6.00pm. Trained staff were available to provide support and signposts to other parts of the service. This informal approach was designed to reduce stigma rather than a more formal referral route and looked to address low levels of need for depression, anxiety and self-harm
2. **Kooth** – had developed an on-line portal which provided support to young people when and where they need it. The service includes an on-line web-chat and counselling service and provided lots of support and information. This facility was proving very useful with 297 young people registered in Quarter 1, 513 in Quarter 2 and 449 in October alone.
3. **Healios** – provides pathways through to CAMHS with psychological therapists supporting CBT for anxiety and low mood, young people with ADHD and Autism as well as eating disorders. Families were also supported alongside the young people. Waiting times to access this service was now around 2 weeks.
4. **SSSFT** – delivered the CAMHS Service. Work was ongoing in developing one integrated access pathway to services addressing the failures of the original service

Members welcomed the changes to the service but acknowledged that there was still a long way to go to make the service perfect. Alex agreed that SSSFT was trying to address the problems of which had built up over many years and it was likely to take about 3 years to fix.

Alex was thanked for his attendance; he duly left the meeting.

**53/17 FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE – (MINUTES ENCLOSED)**

The minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held on

02 October 2017 were submitted as circulated and read.

**RESOLVED:**

**That the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 02 October 2017 be accepted and approved.**

**54/17 RECREATION & LEISURE COMMITTEE – (MINUTES ENCLOSED)**

The minutes of the Recreation & Leisure Committee meeting held on 04 October 2017 were submitted as circulated and read.

Councillor Fraser enquired how the Open Space Working Group would engage with other members. The Town Clerk reported that the first meeting had been convened and this would be an opportunity for the Working Group to look at locations of open space and the Terms of Reference for engagement.

**RESOLVED:**

**That the minutes of the Recreation & Leisure Committee meeting held on 04 October 2017 be accepted and approved.**

**55/17 PLANNING COMMITTEE**

The minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 29 August, 19 September, 10 and 31 October 2017 were submitted as circulated and read.

**RESOLVED:**

**That the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 29 August, 19 September, 10 and 31 October 2017** **be accepted and approved.**

**56/17 JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE**

The minutes of the Joint Consultative Committee meeting held on 11 October 2017 were submitted as circulated and read.

**RESOLVED:**

**That the minutes of the Joint Consultative Committee meeting held on 11 October 2017 be accepted and approved.**

**57/17 COUNCIL TAX BENEFIT SCHEME**

Members considered Shropshire Council’s proposed changes to the Council Tax Benefit scheme. Members noted that the impact on these proposals would likely impact on the precepting of the Town Council as these changes feed through to the Tax Base.

Members discussed how this would impact on those individuals on very low incomes whereby the council tax was a huge percentage of their weekly income. In his capacity of Leader of Shropshire Council the Deputy Mayor detailed the rationale of everyone having to contribute in some way shape or form to the services they wished to make use of. Shropshire Council had looked at other schemes elsewhere in the country and many including Telford & Wrekin Council had taken a more robust stance.

Councillors Nutting & Laurens request that their decisions not to vote on this matter be noted.

**RESOLVED:**

**That the Town Council’s regrets the reductions in Council Tax Benefits which will inevitably lead to additional hardship for many of the most vulnerable people in society. It questions the political and economic policies on which these decisions have been based.**

**58/17 NEW CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES IN THE WEST MIDLANDS**

Members considered Shropshire Council’s proposed new constituency boundaries in the West Midlands. The recommendations for the Shropshire Constituency was that the existing area would be expanded to include the Chirbury & Worthen Ward of Shropshire Council. Councillor Jones requested that his opposition be noted.

It was proposed and seconded that:

The Town Council supports the amendments to the Shrewsbury Constituency as proposed.

Motion Lost. No representations would be made to the public consultation.