

SHREWSBURY TOWN COUNCIL

Meeting of the Operations Committee Held in Committee Room, Livesey House, 7 St John's Hill At 6.00pm on Wednesday 9 July 2025

PRESENT

Councillors D Vasmer (Chair), A Fejfer, K Halliday, B Jephcott (substitute for Councillor Wilson), V Moore and A Wagner.

IN ATTENDANCE

Clare Turner (Deputy Town Clerk), Danny Powell (Operations Manager) and Ruth Jones (Office Manager).

15/25 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

RESOLVED:

That apologies be received and accepted from Councillors Dean, Hancock-Davies, Tandy & Wilson.

Apologies were also received from Helen Ball (Town Clerk), Stuart Farmer (Operations Manager) and Michelle Farmer (Committee Officer).

16/25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (PECUNIARY & NON-PECUNIARY) IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CODE OF CONDUCT

Shropshire Councillors	Those twin-hatted members declared a personal interest in any matters relating to the Town Council's relationship with Shropshire Council.
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17/25 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the Operations Committee meeting held on 14 May 2025 were submitted as circulated and read.

Councillor Halliday requested an addition to these minutes under item 08/25 where parking was discussed. It was confirmed by the Police that when parking was an obstruction on the Highway it was a Police matter, but they did not necessarily respond to the matter as a priority.

RESOLVED:

That upon correction of Min 08/25, the minutes of the Operations Committee meeting held on 14 May 2025 be received and adopted.

18/25 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Min 11/3 – Fields in Trust. The Deputy Town Clerk informed the Committee that the Town Clerk was working on the detail and would defer to the next meeting when the Town Clerk would be present.

19/25 PLAY STRATEGY

The Deputy Town Clerk informed Committee that the development of a Play Strategy was the result of a call to action to all Town & Parish Councils by the Shropshire Playing Fields Association in light of the two unitary councils in Shropshire not having a play strategy. The Town Clerk had been working on the draft for distribution to Councillors prior to the meeting.

Play was at the heart of community wellbeing, children's development, and neighbourhood cohesion. The Town Council managed approximately sixty play areas, MUGA and wheel track facilities and they were the primary provider of play in the town. Having a clear Play Strategy ensured they protected, enhanced, and prioritised these valuable spaces.

It was explained why a strategy was required. Firstly, it provided a framework for investment and decision-making, it supported prioritisation of maintenance, safety upgrades, and inclusive design. It was a good evidence base for funding for external grant funders and partners wanted to see a clear strategy backing the bids. It also aligned with wider priorities like the Shrewsbury Big Town Plan, Youth Strategy, Health & Wellbeing initiatives, the Climate Emergency commitments, and the Movement Strategy.

The Town Council also needed to align with active travel strategies as it was important that children and young people could walk and cycle safely to play areas as part of a healthy, active lifestyle. This was very much a working strategy providing a vision for play across the town, supporting children's health, independence, and community connectedness. It set out the principles for inclusive, sustainable, and nature-friendly play provision and it provided a practical plan for the next 5 - 10 years, connected to Active Travel and movement priorities.

The Operations Committee was asked to support the development and consultation of the draft Play Strategy to ensure their play provision remained high quality, valued, connected, and resilient for Shrewsbury's children and families.

Councillor Vasmer read out comments received from Councillor Dean; “as you know, I am keen for us to develop ideas for 'play' for adults, as I think this could enhance connectedness and healthier living for older residents as well as being a good offer for visitors. Crazy Golf, Disc Golf and Pétanque are ideas I have promoted previously, so just wanted to remind members of that.

Councillor Halliday commended the report and that it was a good initiative with good principles, however a number of the aims may be ambitious.

A discussion took place regarding the play area classifications by the size and location including the distances for provision for the classifications, the Deputy Town Clerk confirmed that it was standard information details was as the crow flies.

The Operations Manager confirmed that play markings would not take place on pavements, as the pavement forms part of the carriageway, and would therefore not be classed as a safe environment. It was believed that play markings would take place on grassed areas.

Councillor Wagner added that Councillor Dean raised a good point regarding adult play and asked whether other authorities had adult play. The Deputy Town Clerk confirmed that it would depend on the parishes, however adult play may be prone to vandalism and would need to be located in the appropriate places.

The Operations Manager added that disc golf was currently available at Mereside.

Councillor Fejfer commented that play should be accessible for disabled children. The Deputy Town Clerk confirmed that during the consultation and tender process, inclusive play was evaluated and where possible included in designs for all ages and ability.

Councillor Fejfer commented on parks for girls. The Deputy Town Clerk advised that there was a National Strategy regarding girls visiting play areas, as girls were less likely to visit play areas. The Deputy Town Clerk confirmed that this would link into the Youth Strategy.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the Committee were happy to propose the development of a Play Strategy;**
- (ii) That consideration is taken into the development of adult play and where possible added to the Play Strategy.**

20/25 TREE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

The Deputy Town Clerk informed Committee that Officers had an opportunity to review the Council's Tree Management Plan. This formed the basis of how the Town Council managed not just their trees, but the trees they managed on behalf of Shropshire Council.

Trees were vital to Shrewsbury's identity, climate resilience, and the health of all residents. They improved air quality, supported biodiversity, mitigated flooding, and contributed to the beauty of the town. As the primary managers of trees across their parks, open spaces and cemeteries, it was essential that Shrewsbury Town Council had a clear, proactive Tree Strategy.

The Tree Strategy provided a framework for managing and enhancing their tree stock, ensuring safe, healthy and diverse tree cover across the town. It supported the Town Council's climate commitments, recognising the role of trees in carbon capture, cooling, and flood management. The Tree Strategy had been aligned to national policies and the Tree Charter, positioning the Council to access external funding and partnerships for planting and maintenance.

The strategy had also been linked to the Movement Strategy and Active Travel priorities, ensuring trees contributed to attractive, shaded walking and cycling routes which supported health and wellbeing. It protected and planned for the future, ensuring the right trees were planted in the right places, with structured maintenance and resilience against pests, disease and climate change. It also enabled community involvement, encouraging residents, schools, and local groups to take pride in and care for shared treescapes.

In short, a Tree Strategy helped the Town Council to plan, protect, and enhance one of the town's most valuable natural assets in a consistent, measurable way. It demonstrated that the Town Council took their environmental responsibilities seriously whilst delivering practical benefits for residents now and in the future.

Councillor Vasmer read out comments received from Councillor Dean; "I am increasingly aware of mobility issues in my area to do with pavement trees. I guess these are all Shropshire Council rather than Shrewsbury Town Council concerns, but think we need to recognise that mobility hazards from inappropriate trees need to be taken seriously. Street trees are great but should preferably be of a type that doesn't disrupt pavements or can be planted in build outs in the highway, rather than in the pavement."

Councillor Vasmer agreed that some pavements were difficult to manoeuvre around, due to the location of the trees.

Councillor Jephcott commended the detail of the report and added that Councillor Dean had raised some good points and that they should be proactive with their tree management. As a member of the Planning Committee, tree maintenance was

regularly discussed, due to conflicts with buildings. The Policy therefore made statement 17.2 unduly incorrect as trees could be managed with pruning, when trees were left unpruned, they become unmanageable. Councillor Jephcott added that the Stepping Up Team were receiving public support and asked whether Shrewsbury Town Council could consider taking on the management of the trees from Shropshire Council.

The Deputy Town Clerk commented that the Stepping Up Team was predominately looking after street cleansing and therefore not trained in tree management, however the Council had a tree team consisting of three members of staff. The Council followed a best practice approach, however developers plant trees as instructed by planners. Shrewsbury Town Council adopts where they can, and trees were relocated if required. Trying to maintain every tree correctly, would be a huge undertaking.

The Operations Manager advised that tree work was carried out following discussions with the County Tree Officers, ensuring that the correct guidelines were followed.

Councillor Jephcott added that the strategy should be adjusted to consider a couple of points, in particular 17.2 & 17.6.2.

Councillor Halliday agreed that Shrewsbury Town Council would provide an improved service and could trees be considered as part of the devolution of services.

The Deputy Town Clerk reiterated that the tree team only consisted of three members of staff and further discussions would have to take place regarding the devolution of services and be agreed at Full Council. Consideration would have to be given to training, safety measures and there would have to be an understanding on the connotations.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the Committee were happy support the adoption of the Tree Strategy in principle, however the adoption of the Tree Strategy would be deferred for further comments / amendments to be considered;**
- (ii) That the Committee continues to support and utilise the Tree Strategy to guide operational decisions and investments**

21/25 ASH DIEBACK STRATEGY

The Deputy Town Clerk reported that Ash Dieback was the most significant tree disease to affect the UK since Dutch Elm Disease, and it was having a major impact on Shrewsbury's landscape and biodiversity. Ash trees were among the most common species in Shrewsbury, providing essential ecosystem services, including carbon storage, flood mitigation, habitat provision for over nine hundred species, and contributed greatly to the character of the town.

The Town Council first implemented its Ash Dieback Action Plan in 2020 and had now updated it for 2025 to reflect the continuing spread and severity of the disease. Current evidence indicated that they may lose up to 70% of their ash trees, with the loss of over 8,000 trees under their management being a realistic scenario. This was a significant operational challenge for the Council, with no "do nothing" option available.

To date, the Town Council had proactively surveyed, risk-assessed, and managed over 469 trees, with replacement planting underway using a mix of species to protect the landscape and biodiversity for the future. However, Ash Dieback continued to present and pose serious health and safety risks to the public, staff, and property due to the brittleness of infected trees. It had environmental impacts through the loss of canopy cover, increased flood risk, and habitat loss. It had financial impacts due to increased tree management, removal, equipment costs, and replanting needs. There were reputational risks if action was delayed, including negative public perception and potential liabilities.

The updated action plan prioritised public safety, landscape recovery, biodiversity protection, and effective communication with residents. They were working closely with Shropshire Council to ensure alignment in their approach, particularly as future service delegation may increase their responsibilities in managing additional ash trees.

A robust and funded Ash Dieback response was essential to protect the safety of residents, the health of the environment, and the character of Shrewsbury's green spaces. The support of the Operations Committee in delivering this plan was critical to managing this unprecedented challenge for the Council over the coming years. Whilst they still had some of the budget set by the council in 2025, they may have to come back to that budget in future years.

Councillor Jephcott commended on the detail of the Ash Dieback Strategy and that the Strategy was an important piece of work.

The Operations Manager advised that the tree team was currently undertaking the Ash Dieback survey, any issues would be prioritised.

RESOLVED:

That the Operations Committee supported the adoption / delivery of the Ash Dieback Strategy.

22/25 CAPITAL PROGRAMME

The Deputy Town Clerk updated the Committee on the Capital Programme.

The Splash Park surfacing had been completed. Phase III of the Bus Shelter Programme had been commissioned. The Play Area Tenders for Tilstock & Raby Crescent were currently being reviewed.

CCTV work was ongoing, ten of the fifteen faulty cameras that the Town Council had inherited were now up and running and they would start looking at the new cameras which were funded by Safer Streets for Funding.

Councillor Halliday added that Raby Crescent was renamed to Hermitage Green and asked when the refurbishment works would begin. The Deputy Town Clerk advised that the contract was still to be awarded, with the works potentially taking place later this year after the school holidays.

Councillor Wagner commended Officers on the great work which had taken place in ensuring the CCTV cameras were up and running. He added that the Sutton & Reabrook ward no longer existed and asked whether the Capital Programme could be amended to reflect the Ward changes. The Deputy Town Clerk confirmed that the programme would be updated, detailing the new Wards.

Councillor Moore asked if there was any development with the play park on Sutton Grange. The Operations Manager advised that the Contracts & Arb Officer, Mike Pugh, had been discussing the progress with the developer, and it was progressing in the right direction.

Councillor Jephcott added that it was good to see lighting listed for Greenfields and asked whether there was any progress on the tenders. The Deputy Town Clerk added that discussions were taking place in developing a tender.

RESOLVED:

That the new Capital Programme update be noted.

23/25 FISHERIES

The Deputy Town Clerk updated the Committee on the work of Shrewsbury Town Council Fisheries.

The start of the river season on June 16 had once again been very busy. Permits sales were very good and they had anglers come to fish in Shrewsbury from as far as Kent and Scotland.

They had completed all repairs on fishing platforms and had strimmed around them for angling access. This was completed on the pools at Mousecroft, Radbrook and Oxon plus the river fisheries at Sydney Avenue, Monkmoor and Emstrey. The Quarry and County Ground was left for the insects and bees until the end of September when they would strim around the platforms ready for the winter fishing.

Staff had also been out on patrol with the fisheries bailiffs and the Police, to check permits and look at the issues with off road motor bikes on Monkmoor. They managed to stop one individual who was cautioned by the Police.

At Radbrook Pool they were still trying to catch the three domestic ducks and move them to a new home. Once the ducks were moved, they would start work on the new path areas as previously reported. The pool had also been closed for two weeks as the fish were spawning, and they had to leave them alone after their activity.

The first junior coaching session at Mousecroft Pool during half term was fully booked and went very well for all who took part.

At the start of the month, they hosted four 'Let's Fish' events for Canal and River Trust, hosting two local schools: Severndale Academy and Mount Pleasant Primary School. Each school supplied four students, who were coached on a one-to-one basis. Everybody involved caught fish, and on the second session they were issued tackle which was supplied by Canal and River Trust. They intended to develop this partnership for more schools to participate.

Bayston Hill cub scouts contacted the fisheries, and they had now run three of the four coaching sessions, each for four students coached on a one-to-one basis. Again, all students had caught fish, and the scheme had been a success.

Fish Talk Release Adult Health and Wellbeing Coaching - The first session on the river this year took place on Sunday 22 June at the Monkmoor fishery. The day was once again successful with all participants catching some super fish and learning the fishing technique.

They also had a very positive message on Facebook from past Olympian Dean Macey. He was hoping to attend one of the sessions this year to show his support.

Councillor Halliday commented that the Junior Coaching sessions at Mousecroft Pool was a great initiative, and she was pleased that young people were attending the programme.

RESOLVED

That the contents of the report are noted.

24/25 RECREATION GROUND MATTERS

24.1 Grounds Maintenance update

The Operations Manager updated the Committee on the Grounds Maintenance operations.

Once again, the weather gave them a different set of problems to deal with. From last year's wet to this year's heat waves, no year was the same. This week starts, we are told, that another period of hot weather was on its way. The weather this year had meant that they had held back on putting out our floral features to protect them from the heat and help them to keep them watered. Four hundred hanging baskets in the greenhouse were easier to water than if they were spread across the Town Centre.

The hot dry dust conditions were also starting to affect the machinery. Roller bearings were starting to brake because of the hard ground conditions and filters needed to be changed and cleaned more frequently because of the dust. There was also the staff welfare to consider, working in 30-degree heat did influence them. They were trying to carry work out, in the shade during the hottest part of the day and take on more fluids. Staff had been issued with factor fifty sunscreen.

The Countryside Team had carried out tree work at Springfield Mere to remove several trees to open up areas, to keep oxygen levels higher in the water. This work was recommended by the Environment Agency after the problems at the Mere last summer.

Hay making had been carried out, but the number of bales had reduced this year because of the dry spring.

Staff, with the help of volunteers had been Japanese Balsam pulling.

Countryside footpaths had been maintained, and their maintenance programme continued. Staff had been working with volunteers at other locations.

The Rural mowing team had been out on their rounds and had also been mowing some areas in the Town area.

Logistics Team - Darren Woods, Chris Kane and Dylan Bennett had been starting at 6am to put out the hanging baskets. This year they had sold over two hundred hanging baskets; this was on top of the baskets that were put on public buildings. Over the next week the other floral features would be placed around the town.

Playground inspections and maintenance were ongoing. The mechanics were carrying out general maintenance and repairs and they had fabricated an arm to carry the VE Day sign in the Dingle.

Amenity Team - All plants and floral features had been delivered to the Town and Parish Councils they supplied this year. The Team had finished planting the summer bedding across the Town. From this week the watering team would be starting, this would release staff back to their normal duties.

The regular maintenance programme would also resume now bedding out had finished.

The children who were winners of the 'design a planter' competition had been notified and were receiving their certificates from the Mayor and the Bloom Committee.

One of the Lime Trees in the Quarry had been removed as it was identified as having a disease.

The Nursery was now nearly empty of bedding plants, just stock plants were left. A deep clean would now take place before the Spring bedding plants were sown.

Contractors were working on the Greenhouse heating system to replace the pipe work which had rusted through after nearly 20 years.

Recreation Team - All summer sports fixtures were progressing; they were now into the second half of their seasons. Winter sports fixtures were now being set. Town Council football pitches would be available from the beginning of September.

With the continued hot weather, they were looking to stop the verge and large area mowing for a week or so. Staff would then move on to other work before returning to mowing later in the month.

With the end of the school year nearly here, they would be starting to mark out winter sports and cut hedges ready for the new term.

Some staff had been working on the Britain in Bloom route, strimming and carrying out general maintenance.

Maintenance of the general cemetery was on programme.

The Operations Manager concluded that the last few weeks had been extremely busy, and they were now in the countdown to Britain in Bloom judging. Once that had taken place, staff could then look forward to their summer holiday and the last weeks of summer before the Autumn/Winter work programmes started.

Once again, all staff had carried out their work to a high standard in difficult weather conditions and he wanted to thank them for this. Staff had been carrying out their duties during the mini heatwave and commended them on their support and dedication. The Deputy Town Clerk confirmed that the staff welfare was being taken into account during the hot weather.

Councillor Vasmer agreed that the staff had been undertaking their duties in exceptional weather.

Councillor Halliday added that the Town was looking fantastic with the vibrant floral poles and planters, which had been located around the Town.

The Operations Manager confirmed that the Bloom Judging takes place on:

- 22nd July – Heart of England in Bloom
- 31st July – Britain in Bloom

RESOLVED:

That the contents of the report be noted.

24.2 Artificial cricket wicket at Monkmoor Recreation Ground

The Operations Manager updated the Committee on a request received regarding the installation of an Artificial Cricket Wicket.

A number of organisations had approached Shrewsbury Town Council on the installation of artificial cricket wickets on public land, however the locations available were not deemed suitable, due to their locations and not having site security.

Councillor Vasmer declared an interest on this item.

The Operations Manager added that the Cricket Board installed an artificial cricket wicket on the Bower Recreation facilities in Shifnal, however the wicket was damaged from individuals having a BBQ.

The Operations Manager advised that cricket played on an artificial wicket, was played using a compressed soft ball, which would cause injury upon impact. As Shrewsbury Town Council facilities did not have site security, an actual cricket ball could be used resulting in physical harm to a member of the public. Liability and insurance would have to be carefully considered if the installation of an artificial cricket wicket were installed.

The Operations Manager advised that discussions were taking place with Shelton Cricket Ground and Pontesbury Cricket Club, as their facilities would be suitable for an artificial cricket wicket. Currently there was an artificial wicket available at Meole Brace School, however the school was requesting liability insurance, which organisations were not providing.

Councillor Wagner advised that there was a lack of playing space and agreed that the implications needed to be carefully considered.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the update be noted;**
- (ii) That the Committee were content for discussions to take place with other organisations with the appropriate facilities**

25/25 STEPPING UP TEAM

The Operations Managers provided an update on the Stepping Up Team.

Following a successful recruitment process, it was decided that all new members of the stepping up team would be asked to attend an induction morning. All new recruits accepted this invitation and were present on the morning of induction. The induction was arranged for Friday 23rd May with a starting date for the team on the following Tuesday (due to the bank holiday).

The induction involved a thorough briefing of Shrewsbury Town Council, this was presented by The Deputy Town Clerk, also in attendance was the Town Clerk and both Operations Managers.

Following the presentation section of the induction, the team were then transported to the main Weeping Cross depot and given a brief tour of the facility as well as meeting further colleagues. They were also issued with the works uniform and PPE, which allowed the team to attend ready for work on the Tuesday morning in the expected attire.

Since the team had been in place they had undertaken several training courses including:

- Handheld Machinery training
- First Aid Training

The team were also booked on the following training in the coming months

- Manual Handling
- Chapter 8 Roadworks Signage

- Sharps Awareness

A programme of works was currently being worked through and would be given to the team supervisor via a spreadsheet, issued by the Operations Managers when the previous work had been completed.

The team had a spreadsheet with all tasks that had been identified either by the staff themselves, by Councillors, by the public and of late, forwarded by Shropshire Council because their team had not the resources to do them.

Each task was reviewed to determine whether:

- (i) it was the responsibility of others and if it was, they were informed
- (ii) they had the capacity and resources to undertake the work
- (iii) there were any timeframes that needed to be considered for the work to be done (for example, working out of nesting periods, knowing when other traffic management functions were being undertaken at the same time, any embargos and whether there were clusters of work in one area). Upon that, staff allocated jobs to the Stepping up Team.

Works to date have included areas that had been identified by the routes mentioned above and had received some very positive feedback from the public and business owners across the whole of Shrewsbury, some of the works had included:

- Castle Walk Cycle Path
- Sparrow Lane footpath
- Black Bridge Footpath
- Cycle Path by Monkmoor Police Station
- Graffiti Cleaning

This list was by no means exhaustive and that the team had now carried out some work in all the seventeen wards of Shrewsbury. Before and after photographs of tasks were taken, a selection of these were shared on the Town Councils social media posts, once again these received welcoming comments and praise for completing the works.

As well as these bigger jobs, the members of the team who were rostered to work at the weekend also undertook a litter pick of the high footfall Town centre areas when time allowed. This had been very well received by residents and users alike. During the first weekend of operations, thirty bags of litter were collected from across the Town Centre.

The team should be commended for the work they had already achieved and the general can-do attitude of all to get these tasks completed.

The Operations Manager added that the 'Stepping Up' team had been carrying out a wide range of tasks across the Town. Trials were taking place on various equipment i.e. path clearing etc. Currently 205 jobs had been identified, as of the 7 July, 115 jobs had been completed. These were reported via a number of channels:

- Councillors – 96
- Residents – 33
- Shropshire Council – 3
- Staff - 73

The Operations Managers advised that jobs reported on Housing Association land or Private Landlords were referred to the appropriate party. It was noted that if traffic management was required, related works were placed on hold until additional jobs were identified. This allowed coordination with Shropshire Council works, as permits—incurring a fee—were necessary.

The initiative had been highly successful, with five tonnes of rubbish cleared from the Castle Walk Cycle path and thirty bags of litter collected during a Sunday clean-up in the Town Centre. Discussions were currently ongoing regarding the disposal of collected waste, as current arrangements involved a cost to the organisation.

Councillor Vasmer agreed that it was a great initiative, and residents were seeing a benefit, thanks to the team.

Councillor Halliday congratulated the team and asked whether there could be opportunities for volunteers to assist. The Operations Manager advised if volunteers would like to assist with litter picks, then information was to be forwarded to the Communications Officer, Max Ball, with the locations, date, time and how many people. This would then be programmed, and litter pickers / bags would be dropped off.

Councillor Wagner asked whether there were any liability issues. The Operations Manager confirmed that these issues were considered prior to carrying out the works i.e. graffiti removal as the type of chemicals used had to be considered.

A discussion took place on revisiting the jobs undertaken and the Operations Manager confirmed that areas would be revisited, however the maintenance time would be far less than the initial clearance.

RESOLVED

That the contents of the report are noted.

26/25 COMMUTED SUMS

The Deputy Town Clerk provided an update on negotiations with developers and transfer arrangements. They had not reached any trigger points for any further Town Council involvement and would continue to liaise with planners on development progress:

- (i) **Copthorne Barracks Play and Open Space** – offsite contributions to play (£30,498 - £20498 for Shorncliffe Drive & £10000 for Silks Meadow – to be paid on 75% occupancy) and open space (£115,000 for sports pitches & associated facilities at County Ground – paid on 50% occupancy) - funds in relation to landscaping at the County Ground have been drawn down
- (ii) **Barratt Homes/Bovis Homes – Mytton Oak Road** – Phase 1 adopted; Snagging Phase 2/3 commenced. No identified date for transfer. Significant work has been made on site, and it is hoped transfer will take place later in the year. The developer has also asked us to adopt the railings on site.
- (iii) **Shrewsbury South Urban**
 - 1. Sutton Grange site – ongoing – likely transfer in 2024/25 – recent meeting with Taylor Wimpey to discuss logistics for transfer. Following a hiatus in work the Technical Director of Taylor Wimpey is pressing adoption. Solicitors have been appointed to develop transfer documents.
 - 2. Bellway Homes site – discussion on land adoption and adoption of acoustic fencing
 - 3. Galliers site – early discussions on land adoption
 - 4. Community Centre – location on the site
- (iv) **Radbrook College site** – Open space adoption – officers met with Floreat Homes on site – likely adoption once all phases are completed, however no indication of time.
- (v) **Weir Hill** – Agreements to adopt the land at a future time have been signed -meeting with Taylor Wimpey looking at the possibility of the countryside land to be transferred ahead of the POS on the development site. Persimmon has sought solicitors to develop transfer documents, and it is hoped transfer will take place later in the year. Taylor Wimpey were leading on the initial Phase III works and they are keen to have a conversation about the possible adoption of that countryside space so that it links up with Phase I & II land.

Councillor Vasmer read out comments received from Councillor Dean; “I would like an opportunity to engage with plans for both Silks Meadow and the

Cricket Ground as both are in my ward. So far, I haven't had a chance to discuss options or look at how to engage residents.”

A discussion took place on the process for commuted sums. The Operations Manager confirmed that the contributions depended on the developers, as some developers utilised their own management companies. The above was a rolling list on the progress of the developments.

The Deputy Town Clerk added that the commuted sums link with planning obligations which have to be confirmed by the planning authority.

RESOLVED:

That the update be noted.

27/25 CLOSING REMARKS

In closing the meeting, the Chair thanked Councillors for attending and taking part in this Town Council meeting and thanked the staff involved in this meeting. All papers related to the meeting could be found on the website www.shrewsburytowncouncil.gov.uk.