

SHREWSBURY TOWN COUNCIL

Meeting of the Operations Committee Held in Committee Room, Livesey House, 7 St John's Hill At 6.00pm on Wednesday 14 January 2026

PRESENT

Councillors A Wagner (Vice Chair), K Halliday, B Jephcott (substitute for D Vasmer), V Moore, A Mosley, J Tandy, and R Wilson.

IN ATTENDANCE

Helen Ball (Town Clerk), Clare Turner (Deputy Town Clerk), Stuart Farmer (Operations Manager), Danny Powell (Operations Manager), and Michelle Farmer (Committee Officer).

55/25 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

RESOLVED:

That apologies be received and accepted from Councillor Dean and Vasmer.

56/25 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.
Councillor Halliday	Declared she was the Vice chairman of the Audit Committee at Shropshire Council
Councillor Wagner	Declared in interest in Item 8 of the agenda – Service Devolution Plans. Due to his Shropshire Council Cabinet role, he would not take part in this item.

Councillor Mosley reported that the members of the Policy & Resources Committee had agreed to declare any positions they help at Shropshire Council. The Town Clerk advised that this was for that single meeting and did not change policy on declaration across all Standing Committees.

57/25 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the Operations Committee meeting held on 5 November 2025 were submitted as circulated and read.

Councillor Halliday commented that under 51/25 of the minutes that whilst she said she was confident in the Town Council taking on services, she had mentioned there was need for scrutiny; this had not been mentioned. The Town Clerk looked at her notes from that meeting and advised that she had not made reference to Scrutiny; she had mentioned Risk Assessments. Councillor Halliday asked for that to be added

RESOLVED:

That upon correction of the wording on Minute 51/25 to make reference to Councillor Halliday suggesting the need for Risk Assessments, the minutes of the Operations Committee meeting held on 5 November 2025 be received and adopted.

58/25 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

There were no Matters Arising for consideration.

59/25 RECREATION GROUND MATTERS

59.1 Grounds Maintenance Update

Danny Powell, Operations Manager, updated the Committee on Grounds Maintenance.

This being the first update of the year, the report covered the work that the staff undertook at the end of 2025. He did mention the snow clearing and tree work that the Town Council undertook on Friday 9 January. The Team Tree were busy removing fallen trees from across the Town which were on roads and paths and worked closely with the Shropshire Council Highways team to complete this work. At the same time the rest of the Operational staff were deployed in the Town Centre to clear paths of snow and slush. They concentrated their efforts on the Bus Station, Train Station, and main streets to start with and then moved to some of the back streets. It was hoped that this went some way to keeping the Town Centre open.

In the lead up to Christmas, staff were involved in the setting up and road closures for Christmas Lights Switch On and Carols in the Square. Staff worked until 8pm on both nights.

In the week before Christmas, they had removed six mature lime trees from the Quarry which had been identified as having a disease in the roots and lower trunk. This work was expected to take five days but the contractors who undertook the work only took three days. At the same time, they also removed three mature Ash trees from Bowbrook Allotments as these trees had Ash Die Back disease.

Severn Trent Water were starting a sewer pipe relining programme from 12 January 2026. This work was to reline the sewer which ran through the Quarry from Greyfriars Bridge to the Lower Quarry toilets. The work should take approximately three weeks depending on river levels. During this time Severn Trent would have a number of vehicles and staff working in the Quarry.

Amenity Team - Staff had been working on the summer bedding schemes, compiling lists of seeds and plug plants which would be required this summer. They had started to take cuttings from their stock plants and were advanced in this area compared to last year.

In October they purchased six White Heliotrope plants which they had not seen before and through the taking of cuttings from these, they now had fifteen more plants and hoped to maybe have around forty by May.

In the Dingle, the Rockery area path had new path edgings put in and a new gravel topcoat to the path. This work was carried out by the staff on site. Two teams were out in the suburbs pruning the shrub beds.

The Amenity team would be continuing with the winter maintenance programmes until the end of February.

Countryside Team - The Tree Team had worked booked now until March. This involved the use of MEWPs in a number of locations to undertake work on very tall trees. The countryside team had nine trees which had fallen on the Beaver compound on Friday from the snow. These were removed and fence repairs were carried out. The monitoring of the Beavers was ongoing.

Countryside staff were expecting to find a number of fallen trees on their sites. Once they had been identified, a programme of removal would start. They were also working through their Winter maintenance programme across the Countryside sites.

Recs and Greenspace Team - This team were also working through their Winter maintenance programme (shrub pruning, path edging etc.) When ground conditions allowed, sports surface aeration would continue.

Senior and Junior football fixtures were going well with an end day of late April. They had already received rounders fixtures for this summer and expected cricket and bowls fixtures to be sent through in the near future. The bowling greens, croquet lawns and grass tennis courts would be ready from early April depending on the weather.

Staff had worked closely with Bereavement services at Shropshire Council to ensure Funerals had taken place over the last two months. This had involved road salting,

snow clearing, grave digging and working closely with the bereaved families on refilling of the graves after the service. Also at this time, staff were cutting the internal hedges in the Cemetery.

Logistics Team - Winter servicing of grass cutting machinery was ongoing and on playgrounds, weekly checks and emptying of bins was ongoing.

Contractors had moved on to site to start the refurbishment of two playground sites and had started work on the Pump Track at Mary Webb Road.

Toilet cleaning and checks were ongoing and the hedge cutting programme had been completed. They had also started to clear green waste from their Recreation Grounds ready for the summer.

Councillor Wilson thanked the team for the snow clearing. He enquired about the Christmas tree in the Quarry that came down and would the tree this year be more secure. Danny explained that the trees last year were under stress due to the hot weather they had so the winds would have had no problem bring the tree down, which was what had happened.

Councillor Halliday asked if the sewer pipe would go to the Pumping Station at Coleham. The Operations Manager was unsure of this as he could only comment on what was happening on Town Council land, but it was believed it would eventually reach the pumping station.

Councillor Tandy commented on Ash Die back and asked how many trees had this. Danny confirmed he did not have the exact figure, but a report was brought to a previous Operations Committee meeting not long ago that showed the exact figures, but it was a considerable number.

Councillor Jephcott enquired as to who the Town Council were dealing with at Severn Trent as there was a sewer at Bagley Brook and the outflow was damaged. He had tried to get this reported but was not getting any responses from Severn Trent. Danny confirmed that they were dealing with contractors for Severn Trent as it appeared there were different teams for different projects. He said he would pass him the contact details he had for Severn Trent if it would help.

RESOLVED:

That the update be noted.

59.2 Solar lighting progress at Greenfields

Stuart Farmer, Operations Manager, provided the Committee with an update on the solar lighting at Greenfields.

The Town Council were pushing for a quick build on this project. The poles had been ordered; battery packs were being produced at present and the solar panel frameworks had also been ordered. The PIR's and control gears that were currently under test. All cables and connections were due by the end of this month. The date given for completion was March.

Councillor Jephcott thanked Stuart for the update. The project was eagerly awaited by the Greenfields residents and although he hoped it would have been completed earlier, he hoped to see the lights in place as soon as possible.

RESOLVED:

That the update be noted

59.3 Possible Pétanque Course at Monkmoor Recreation Ground

The Town Clerk reported that she and Councillor Vasmer had a meeting with the representatives of the group this week.

The group played at Shelton, but they were being evicted from this location and were looking for a new place to play. They contacted the Town Council as they had noticed an old tennis court that was located at Monkmoor Recreation ground and asked if the Town Council would create a pitch there.

Operational staff had previously costed this, and it was around £20,000. The group were not in a position to fund the project but stated they could contribute.

The Town Clerk asked Committee if this was a reasonable proposal and did this location warrant a pétanque pitch and did they have permission to go ahead and seek up to date costings.

The Town Clerk commented that there was a lack of facilities on the west side of town and that Shorncliffe could also be considered as a possible location.

Councillor Halliday asked if they knew how many members they had. The Town Clerk believed there were around 25-30 regular members but that the sport was gaining interest and the possible pitch may bring in new participants.

The Town Clerk confirmed that the tennis court in question was located in the corner of the recreation ground which was close to residential properties so also needed to ensure that a pitch in this location would not be noisy to residents.

Councillor Tandy commented that this was a great idea and they needed to consider a sport that the older person may wish to participate in.

Councillor Mosley asked if the possibility of a padel court could still be considered at a site. The Town Clerk confirmed that other sites were being looked at.

RESOLVED:

That the Town Council investigate costings for the pétanque pitch and bring back to a future meeting.

59.4 Request for footpath lighting by Councillor Fejfer

The Town Clerk reported to Members that she had received a request from Councillor Fejfer to add footpath lighting relating to Upton Lane Park & Monkmoor.

He would like to install appropriate lighting along the main path to improve visibility during darker hours, enhance public safety, and help deter vandalism affecting the play area.

Also, could the Town Council look at installing a few solar lamps, like those used in Meole Brace (Stanley Lane Recreation), along the pedestrian path between Abington Road and Galton Drive. This path was quite long and currently had only three streetlamps, which meant that after sunset it became very poorly lit. The lack of lighting raised significant safety concerns for residents, particularly those walking alone, parents with children, and individuals with mobility issues.

Improved lighting would:

- Enhance personal safety by reducing the risk of trips and falls on uneven surfaces in low visibility.
- Deter anti-social behaviour and vandalism, which often occurred in poorly lit areas.
- Increase community confidence in using the path during early mornings and evenings, especially in winter when daylight hours are short.

Solar lamps offered an environmentally friendly and cost-effective solution, requiring minimal ongoing maintenance and no major electrical infrastructure. Installing a few strategically placed units would make a noticeable difference to safety and accessibility.

The Town Clerk advised that Officers would like to see how the Greenfields solar lighting project goes first as they would be dealing with new contractors. If all was ok, then they could look at expanding the scheme to other locations. They would look at different locations that had been requested by Councillors and look at the sites and costings involved.

Councillor Mosley asked if the footpath behind the shops in Ditherington and the footpath down to Darville could be considered for lighting. It was agreed that these locations could be added to the list.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the update be noted;**
- (ii) That a list of locations is compiled for solar lighting requests**

60/25 CAPITAL PROGRAMME

The Town Clerk updated the Committee on the Capital Programme.

- Application for the works at the Castle had been submitted to the Planning Authority for approval.
- Play Areas at Tilstock Crescent and Hermitage Walk were in the installation stage.
- Bus Shelter Programme was nearing its completion. There were a couple of power box issues outstanding with Shropshire Council.
- They were still awaiting a start date for the Greenfields Solar Lights, but an update had been provided earlier in the meeting.
- Camlin's had been instructed to undertake initial consultation work at Shorncliffe.
- CCTV work improvements were ongoing, but at times it would seem as one camera was fixed another one broke. There was also outstanding work to be completed in the CCTV control room.

Councillor Wilson enquired about Park & Ride details being provided on the bus shelters and it was confirmed they were waiting on Shropshire Council Passenger Transport to install.

Councillor Mosley enquired about the Dana footpath as he stated that Shropshire Council were unaware a planning application had been submitted. He asked if legal issues could be chased up regarding ownership of the land so there was clarification in case of any damage when work finally took place. Councillor Mosley still had concerns with the RHS.

The Town Clerk advised that she had weekly meetings with Shropshire Council so she would raise these points.

Councillor Tandy commented that CCTV was needed at the Tesco site at Battlefield. He asked if the Town Council were taking over all the cameras. The Town Clerk said that CCTV on car parks were very different, and she did not believe any were being

transferred to the Town Council as they would not link to the main control room.; these cameras record locally. Councillor Tandy thanked for the update and asked if this were something that could be looked at in the future.

RESOLVED:

That the Capital Programme update be noted.

61/25 STEPPING UP TEAM

The Operations Manager, Stuart Farmer, provided an update on the Stepping Up Team.

Ward Visits - The planned ward visits had continued over recent months with a visit to Column and Sutton following the cancelation of the Castlefields and Ditherington Visit. The dates of the ward visits had been diarised with the ward members and other organisations who had been encouraged to attend. Planned visits between this meeting and the next were as follows:

- Copthorne 23rd January – Works planned 23rd February 2026
- Harlescott 18th February – Works planned 16th March 2026
- Meole 11th March – Works planned 6th April 2026

Programme of Works - The Operations Manager maintained the master spreadsheet of works with these being added to from public enquiries, councillor requests, as well as officer reports.

Criteria of Works - 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) whether 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.

Work Completed to Date - During the Autumn season the team had focused on leaf clearing at all locations across Shrewsbury, this was following requests from all possible reporting areas. One of the bigger clearance tasks was completed at the bus station following a request from Shropshire Council officers. This was completed

over the quieter times to allow access into all areas and parking bays on the site. The site was reported as dangerous during a wet period.

Bench installations had taken place in areas following Councillor requests, this had been completed alongside the Shrewsbury Menshed who had been refurbishing them. The team had been delivering benches and cast-iron bins to the Shed for refurbishment.

Town Centre Vacuum Machine - In recent weeks, the team had taken delivery of a new Town Centre vacuum machine which had enabled the team to efficiently clean kerb and building edges. The machine was seen in operation in the Town Centre for the first time last week and was welcomed by the public who could see an improvement with the machines ability to collect all manner of detritus. Due to the machine being battery operated it was extremely quiet with a battery range to last all day. It also provided a low-pressure jet wash that can be used for disinfecting areas as and when required.

Vehicles - The team had also taken delivery of a new caged tipper and flatbed tipper in recent weeks. These were awaiting Town Council livery to be added before they would start being used.

Winter Maintenance - Since returning from the Christmas Holidays another task the team (along with other teams) had been tasked with was winter maintenance. Shrewsbury Town Council were able to redeploy a number of staff into the Town Centre on Friday of last week to clear snow and ensure the Town was accessible. This was completed using existing equipment including mower brushes and hand tools.

Litter Picking - Litter Picking had continued in all areas of the Town and Town Centre on a regular basis, this was focused on areas that had been highlighted as being hot spots. By way of a reminder, if Councillors were arranging litter picks the team would be able to assist with the delivery of equipment and collection of the bags. This can be arranged by contacting the Operations Managers, giving advance notice.

Re-Visiting of Sites - Re-visits to some of the sites had also been required to maintain the areas. These had included areas such as the Sutton Bridge. This was mostly due to leaf litter and weed growth. This would continue to be an issue and was something that the manager of the service was very conscious of. Time had been allocated for some re-visits to prevent the build-up occurring again wherever possible.

Councillor Wilson commented that he was looking forward to his ward visit, but could the dates shown in the report be confirmed.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the contents of the report are noted;**
- (ii) That Councillor Wilson ward visit is on 28 January and not 23 January as shown.**

Councillor Wagner left the meeting. Councillor Wilson took over the role of Chairman.

62/25 SERVICE DEVOLUTION INITIAL PLANS

The Town Clerk briefed the Operations Committee on the operational mobility of the Devolution work as presented to the Policy & Resources Committee, and to outline the practical implications for service delivery, staffing, assets, and operational governance.

They had taken a wider Service Devolution Paper to the Policy & Resources Committee which was forming the basis of their Budget setting for 2026/27. There were recommendations which were being presented to Full Council on the 26 January. Once that budget was set, they had to hit the ground running on an Implementation Plan. This would be initially overseen by the Policy & Resources Committee which would meet monthly until the end of the financial year. After which time this Committee would have oversight of operations.

The Devolution programme sought to transfer or share responsibility for certain services and functions from Shropshire Council to the Town Council where this could deliver improved outcomes, value for money, and stronger local accountability.

At its recent meeting, the Policy & Resources Committee considered the strategic, financial, and governance aspects of the Devolution work. The report presented to the Operations Committee primarily focused on the due diligence and financial planning for service delivery. Once the budget was set by Full Council, a programme of operational mobility would commence to ensure services were smoothly transferred from Shropshire Council's external contractor to an in-house team.

The Policy & Resources Committee:

- Noted the progress of discussions with partner authorities regarding potential service devolution;
- Considered the financial envelope and high-level risk profile associated with devolved services;
- Emphasised the need for operational flexibility, clarity of roles, and robust transition planning;

- Requested that operational implications be considered in detail by the Operations Committee.

The report detailed the Implementation Plan which in the first instance would be overseen by the Policy & Resources Committee to ensure a smooth transition by 1 April.

To ensure continuity of service and a smooth transition, a clear and tightly managed timetable was required. The following indicative timetable was proposed:

Early January

- Initial discussions with Shropshire Council Administration and Senior Officers on scope, costs and deliverability of devolved Street Cleaning services.
- Review of public responses to the Town Council's survey on protecting local services.
- High-level financial modelling and risk assessment.
- Member briefings on budget and operational delivery

January

- **Policy & Resources Committee (early January):**
 - Consideration of the devolution proposals, risks and implementation framework.
 - Recommendation of budget provision and delegated authorities.
- **Full Council – 26 January:**
 - Setting of the Town Council's annual budget and precept, including provision for devolved Street Cleaning services and contingency funding for protecting other non-statutory services.
 - Approval of delegated authority arrangements to enable implementation.

February

- **Policy & Resources Committee (February meeting):**
 - Update on negotiations with Shropshire Council.
 - Confirmation of implementation plans, including staffing, procurement and legal agreements.
- Commencement of recruitment processes (including TUPE where applicable).
- Procurement of vehicles, plant and equipment.

- Drafting and negotiation of formal service devolution agreements.

March

- **Policy & Resources Committee & Operations Committee (March meetings):**
 - Final assurance on readiness for service commencement.
 - Confirmation of communications plan and performance monitoring arrangements.
- Completion of staff onboarding and training.
- Finalisation of operational procedures and service schedules.
- Public communications to residents and stakeholders.

1 April

- Formal commencement of devolved Street Cleaning services under Shrewsbury Town Council.

Delegated Authority and Governance Arrangements

To meet the 1 April deadline, the pace and complexity of the work required meant that additional delegated authority was necessary.

It had been recommended that Full Council delegated authority to the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Leader of the Council to:

- Lead and conclude discussions with the Administration & Senior Officers of Shropshire Council.
- Develop and implement the detailed transition and implementation plan.
- Recruit staff and manage TUPE processes where applicable.
- Procure vehicles, plant, equipment and operational contracts.
- Negotiate and enter into the necessary legal agreements to enable service devolution.
- Instruct and obtain specialist legal, HR and procurement advice as required.
- Take all necessary operational decisions to ensure services are live by 1 April.

This approach balanced democratic accountability with the need for agility and timely decision-making in a rapidly evolving financial and operational environment.

It would also seem sensible for the Town Clerk to involve the Chairman of the Operations Committee in the implementation stage.

Councillor Halliday commented that this was a tight timetable and was there an indication of when they needed to 'sign on the line' as more clarity was needed. The Town Clerk said she had provided all members with the draft devolution agreement which had all been sent to Head of legal services, she could not do anymore, and they had already done over and above.

Councillor Halliday added that TUPE took time to arrange and that her point of view was that it would be difficult to achieve as it would be too tight a timeline (not from the Town Council side) and could they extend the deadline by a couple of months.

The Town Clerk assured members that they were going through due diligence, and implementation was hard work. The Senior Management Team had set an achievable timetable and that TUPE discussions had started with Id Verde and Kier. Job descriptions had been written, and Operations had done as much as they could. The longer they left the process the worse the situation would be. There was a call to action from the public.

Councillor Halliday added that she was concerned about best value and that there could be a judicial review to how this process was carried out. Oswestry Town Council had extended their contract with Shropshire Council and there was no reason the Town Council could not sign the contract at a later date. The Town Council were on potential sticky ground on governance issues.

The Town Clerk asked Councillor Halliday to send her any documents that they could investigate and that the situation with Oswestry Town Council was nothing like the situation in Shrewsbury. Councillor Halliday said they had not seen the Strategic Risk Register or Best Value assessment even though they had been requested. They did not have a plan in place to mitigate, and she hoped Scrutiny was part of this process. Overall, Councillor Halliday was concerned.

Councillor Mosley added that this was the wrong thing to do with the timescale proposed. How could Shropshire Council devolve services to external without doing a procurement process. The Town Clerk reported that under s101 Local Government Act 1972, local authorities had the statutory power to delegate services to other authorities which included the Town Council.

Councillor Mosey asked where the Town Council were legally. The Town Clerk reported that statutory responsibility for these services could not be transferred to the Town Council; they would remain with Shropshire Council and whilst Shropshire Council were comfortable that the Town Council would monitor its own standards it was aware of the standards that needed to be met to comply with that statutory responsibility.

Councillor Mosley asked about any other services as there had been no cost breakdowns or benefits and no hint of what was happening. He asked about CCTV and who would manage that and how many staff would be involved. No report had been made to Council. He added the library and other services had not been discussed and again no reports provided, where was the detail? He also asked about the pickup cost for the Rangers and had this been included in the budget as he had not seen anything about this.

The Town Clerk stated that the report presented this evening was an overview of the operational logistics of delivering the service. Policy & Resources Committee were leading on the principle and financing of the service transfer. The consideration of any further support for non-statutory services like the library, museum would rest with the Policy & Resources Committee.

Councillor Tandy commented that he was in full support of the report and they needed to proceed with it. They needed to look after the Town, and they now had an opportunity to make a difference to the town. He trusted the Town Council team and thanked the Town Clerk for the hard work she had done to get it to this stage. They needed to move forward. It is what the town wanted, and he was fully supportive. The Town Council had an opportunity to make a difference.

Councillor Jephcott commented that the Town Council were making a choice as an authority to do more than what had been delegated to them. The statutory minimum by Shropshire Council was barely acceptable and the Town Council needed to move ahead. He added that it was right to ask further questions, but he would not want to see the fears of risk stopping this. They would hit a brick wall if they did not take over services. They were staring down the barrel of a gun and there was a need to protect and enhance services to make them better.

Councillor Moore commented that there would always be a risk to anything that was new. She had spoken to residents in her ward who were in support of the Town Council taking on the service and they should go ahead.

Councillor Halliday said that she did not want to see a repeat of Greenfields. She asked again if there was a date if the deal were not signed that they could not go ahead. She wanted to ensure the Town Council would not be liable for any upset if it was not done properly. She asked why the Town Council could not sign a contract with Shropshire Council to start at a later date as she had seen nothing to show they were ready for this.

The Town Clerk said in regard to TUPE that would be on a 30-day notice, on 1 March they could not proceed. The Town Council had produced a good contract and had sought legal advice throughout. They had been working on this for two years and they had updated all shape files for Shropshire Council. She added that there would be a negative reputation if the Town Council did not take over this service as there was a real call to action to deliver. The Town Clerk was happy to talk to any member after the meeting to go through it all.

Councillor Mosley commented that it was clear where the voting would lie. He stated that the Town Council should not be taking on this service at this stage. The Stepping Up Team had previously raised the precept by 30% and this had been a success. It appeared The Town Council were determined to take over the service at a great cost to the public. He was not aware of the specifications they were working to. He asked how many streets sweeps the Town Council would do compared to Shropshire Council. He said the Stepping Up Team could fill in the gaps for the next year and then the Town Council should consider taking on services and not increase the Council Tax by 100% this year.

Councillor Wilson thanked members for their questions. He said that there would be further detail provided at Full Council on 26 January. They did need to have scrutiny from all Councillors and there would be briefing sessions provided for all. The Risk register would come as part of Full Council. He added that the Kier contract would end on 1 April 2026 and if it stayed with them there was no guarantee what would happen in a year. Shrewsbury Town Council were also not the first Town Council to go down this path.

Councillor Wilson was happy to propose the noting of the report.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

Councillor Wagner re-joined the meeting and took over the role of chairman.

63/25 COMMUTED SUMS

The 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. **Currently working on a snagging list, still awaiting replies over various issues. Identified a further seventy plus trees that need to be replaced and two hundred plus transplants.**

(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. **Taylor Wimpey have informed us that the order for some of the works has been raised but have not contacted us regarding a site meeting.**
2. Bellway Homes site – discussion on land adoption and adoption of acoustic fencing. **This is very near completion and may be transferred early in 2026.**
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 complete. **A planned site visit has been cancelled by Connexus. A new date will be agreed. We have been informed the site is ready to be transferred.**

(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 Moore requested that she was kept up to date with the Shrewsbury South Urban developments.

RESOLVED:

That the update be noted.

64/25 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.