

## **SHREWSBURY TOWN COUNCIL**

### **Meeting of the Operations Committee Held in Committee Room, Livesey House, 7 St John's Hill At 6.00pm on Wednesday 1 July 2026**

#### **PRESENT**

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

#### **IN ATTENDANCE**

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

#### **01/26 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

##### **RESOLVED:**

**That apologies be received and accepted from Councillors Mosely & Vasmer**

**Apologies were also received from the Town Clerk.**

#### **02/26 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 Wilson      | Declared he was a Member of Cabinet at Shropshire Council and had a dispensation to discuss matters relating to Shropshire Council's delegation arrangements with Shrewsbury Town Council. |

#### **03/26 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the Operations Committee meeting held on 6 May 2026 were submitted as circulated and read.

##### **RESOLVED:**

**That the minutes of the Operations Committee meeting held on 6 May 2026 be received and adopted.**

## **04/26 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

**Min 85/25** - Castlefields Community Centre Addition to the Capital Programme – This week the Town Clerk visited the site with Cllr Mosley (in his capacity as the Chair of the Castlefields Community Centre Management Committee) and Worknest to undertake the Fire Risk Assessment and the Deputy Town Clerk & Operations Manager further met with Cllr Mosley (in the same capacity) to discuss his Improvement Wishlist. They needed to prioritise the required actions from the Fire Risk Assessment, the General Risk Assessment and Martyn's Law ahead of any additional requests. These would be reported separately to the existing Capital Works.

**Min 91/25** Climate Change Advocacy Role – The Town Clerk had met with the Chief Executive of the Marches Energy Advice to look at developing an advocacy role to mitigate the Council's carbon footprint and provide wider advice on carbon reduction to the town's 39,000 households.

## **05/26 OPERATIONAL DEVOLUTION UPDATE**

### **05.1 Update on Dog PSPO**

The Deputy Town Clerk reported that the Town Clerk had been raising the request for the Town Council Officers to have delegated authority to issue fixed penalty notices. Shropshire Council supported the principle, and the Town Clerk was to meet the Street Scene Manager at Shropshire Council to discuss details.

#### **RESOLVED:**

**That the update be noted**

### **05.2 Encroachment of private gardens on to footways**

The Deputy Town Clerk reported that the Town Clerk had met the Street scene Manager and Highways Engineer to discuss a way of notifying residents of encroaching hedgerows. She had drafted a suitable letter that was currently under review by Shropshire Council. Customer Service staff would then look to issuing letters, the Stepping Up Team would be reviewing progress before any formal requests were made to Shropshire Council to escalate enforcement.

Councillor Tandy commented that a resident had taken over a lot of land within his ward and was fenced all around, would this be an issue for the Town Council or Shropshire Council. The Deputy Town Clerk advised Councillor Tandy to pass this to herself and the Town Clerk to investigate further.

Councillor Jephcott commented that he was pleased with the draft letter compiled by the Town Clerk, and he hoped that Shropshire Council would agree to it. This issue was a problem. There had been a massive impact on improving the town

regarding cleanliness but there were still outside ownership issues. He warmly welcomed the letter.

Councillor Wilson commented that this was a real issue, and it said a lot about how pedestrians, wheelchair users etc were being treated with no or limited access in some areas. It needed to be dealt with, and he was please they were getting somewhere so the pathways could get back to how they should be.

**RESOLVED:**

**That the update be noted**

**05.3 Tree Management update**

The Deputy Town Clerk reported that the Town Clerk, Operations Manager and Clients Officer had met with Officers at Shropshire Council to discuss the lack of inclusion of tree management in the Delegation Agreement. This had currently led to a backlog on required works. Officers had now agreed to set an annual budget with an annual Purchase Order value that the Town Council would draw down from on a monthly basis providing a list of works undertaken. It may take a while to get through the existing backlog.

The Town Clerk had also discussed the fact that the tree bill for 2025/26 had not yet been paid. The Street Scene Manager was arranging for a Purchase Order, to allow the invoice to be processed.

Councillor Halliday asked would STC be drawing the budget for this year and the Deputy Town Clerk confirmed that Shropshire Council would be giving them an annual purchase order. This was the arrangement that had been in place for 16 years, but it had stopped in May 2025.

Councillor Dean asked if the updates on all of the above issues would be put out by the Communications Officer to keep the public up to date and it was confirmed they would.

**RESOLVED:**

**That the update be noted**

## **06/26 CAPITAL PROGRAMME**

### **06.1 Review of Capital Programme 2025/26**

The Deputy Town Clerk reported that:

- Shorncliffe Recreation Ground – Phase 2 Plans were ready following consultation
- Dana Footpath – The Town Clerk had met with Shropshire Horticulture Society to discuss the wall which was causing concern – they were to submit a planning application for its repair
- CCTV – Meetings were being scheduled to discuss locations of new cameras to be funded out of the Safer Streets Fund
- Chester Street Gyratory – They were still awaiting a site visit to discuss planter locations
- County Ground Cricket Nets – They were still awaiting the outcome of a Flood Risk Activity Permit application with the Environment Agency
- Ditherington Community Centre – The final window replacement works had been awarded
- Monkmoor Play Area Refurbishment – Specifications were being prepared
- Monkmoor Petanque – WSP were progressing as a Corporate Social Responsibility project
- Roushill Meanwhile Space – The Design project was out for tender

Councillor Wilson was pleased to see Shorncliffe progressing well. There had been real progress on a lot of areas in the Capital Programme, and the Town Council were ramping up their delivery.

#### **RESOLVED:**

**That the update be noted**

### **06.2 Capital Programme for remainder of electoral term**

Councillor Wagner commented that as they approached the final two years of the current Council term, they were beginning the process of reviewing and updating the Town Council's Vision Action Plan for 2027/28 and 2028/29.

He asked councillors to consider the needs and opportunities within their wards; small scale improvements that would not cost a lot but would still have an impact. A lot of work had been done within the town centre, but it was also time to concentrate outside of the town. An email would be sent out to all Councillors and a couple of sessions would be set up by the Committee Officer to discuss further. This was an important opportunity to shape the Council's programme of work for the

remainder of the current administration and to ensure that investment continued to reflect the needs and aspirations of communities across all wards.

Suggestions to consider were:

- Improvements to play areas, parks and other open spaces.
- Investment in community assets, including buildings, facilities and public spaces.
- Measures that strengthen community resilience, wellbeing and local capacity.
- Environmental enhancements and biodiversity opportunities.
- Accessibility, active travel and public realm improvements.
- Projects that would improve the quality of life for residents in each ward.
- Opportunities to work in partnership with community organisations, volunteers, local businesses and other public bodies.
- What were the most significant issues facing each ward over the next two years?
- Were there projects that had previously been identified but not yet delivered?
- Were there emerging opportunities that the Town Council should plan for now?
- Which proposals were likely to require capital investment, and which would be supported through revenue funding?
- Were there projects that could be eligible for CIL or other external funding?

Councillor Tandy thanked Councillor Wagner for this and was pleased it was being done. He would like to look at things within his ward e.g. possible solar lighting.

Councillor Moore agreed with Councillor Tandy regarding solar lighting and dog bins

Councillor Jephcott welcomed this initiative to improve services to residents and was this an opportunity to work with other landowners on issues i.e. Network Rail. He also suggested trees in urban spaces.

Councillor Dean welcomed this suggestion, and it needed to reach the public and inform them what was happening as they also needed to understand the plans. He asked how they would consult with the public on this; would it be by survey, questionnaire, QR codes, posters etc.

Councillor Wilson said that ward members could determine the priorities and this would be a good investment for the community.

**RESOLVED:**

**That an email be sent to all Members informing them of the date in September for the first meeting**

## **07/26 STEPPING UP TEAM**

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

The planned ward visits had continued over recent months with the visits to Porthill, Coton Hill and Radbrook being completed in May and June.

The Operations Manager maintained the master spreadsheet of works with these being added to from public enquiries, councillor requests as well as officer reports. In addition to this, a new form that was to be used on the ward walks was now in operation. This would be shared with the ward member and would allow them to see progress and would assist with land ownership identification issues when they arose.

The teams had continued to work across Shrewsbury on several different projects. Old Potts Way had seen a lot of work on both sides of the road and included the clearing of the footpath above the road. This was completed in collaboration with the logistics team to assist with the flailing of the bank.

Castlefields had seen the teams completing weed removal from kerb lines and boundary walls. This had been completed in collaboration with the street cleaning team meaning the smaller sweeper had been assisting with final sweeps of areas following the tidy up.

Footpath and alley works had continued over recent months to provide the full width of walkways where possible, this had included the removal overgrowth protruding through fence lines and the clearance of channels along the paths.

Where possible these areas had been treated for weeds and growth following the removal to prevent further visits being required this season. The Stepping Up Team had also been tasked with weed spraying housing estates and roadways of late, but a contractor had now been appointed for this task going forward.

Following a successful recruitment process two new members of the team had been appointed.

The Operations Manager asked if Councillors were arranging litter picks the team would be able to assist with the delivery of equipment and collection of the bags. This could be arranged by contacting the Operations Managers, giving advance notice.

Councillor Wilson commented that it was good to see the footpaths cut back and they didn't want any encroachment returning.

Councillor Tandy asked if they could be informed when they would be in their wards to firstly thank the staff and also so that it could be put into their local newsletters, so communities knew what was happening and when jobs were due or had been done.

Councillor Wagner commented that the ward walks were a great idea.

**RESOLVED:**

**That the update be noted**

**08/26 STREET CLEANSING TEAM**

The Operations Manager, Stuart Farmer, provided an update on the new Street Cleansing Team.

The Town centre continued to be swept on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday, this involved predominantly using the smaller sweeper in a morning to clear any waste from the weekend. This had allowed the larger sweeper to concentrate closer on the estates and main arterial routes. Listed was some of the areas that had been swept by both machines.

The smaller sweeper had been put to work on some of the narrow streets and in high parking areas. A programme of requests to move vehicles would be put together for areas such as Belle Vue and Castlefields and it was hoped that this would work in collaboration with Shropshire Council regarding the gulley sucking of the drainage systems.

Some of the area that the machines had swept so far included the following.

- Coton hill Estate
- Mount Pleasant Estate
- Scott Street Reabrook Avenue
- Porthill Road
- Copthorne Road
- New Street
- St Michaels Street
- Greenfields
- Greenfields Gardens
- Harlescott Lane
- Bank Farm Road
- Longden Road
- Battlefield industrial Estate
- Herongate estate
- Vanguard Way

- Ellesmere Road
- Brixton Way/Ennerdale Road Estate
- Heath Farm Estate
- Sandford Avenue
- Whitemere Road
- The Mount
- Frankwell Island
- Lancaster Road
- York Road
- Little Harlescott lane
- Old Potts Way
- Pritchard Way
- Hazeldine Way
- Meole Brace Estate
- Meole Village
- Sweetlake Estate
- Mousecroft Lane
- Nobold lane
- Derwent Avenue
- Monkmoor Road
- Abbey Foregate
- Harlescott Grange
- Battlefield Shillington Drive Estate
- The Parks Estate
- Sundorne Road
- Whitchurch Road
- Radbrook Estate
- Grange Road
- Grangefields
- Featherbed Lane
- Regular Cleans of Station Gyrotory System
- Abbey Foregate/ Horsefair area
- Greyfriars Road
- Victoria Street/Howards Banks are of Castlefields
- New Park Road
- John Street
- Sydney Avenue
- Darville
- Queen Street
- North Street
- Severn Street
- Sundorne Albert Road Area
- Trinity Street
- Bynner Street
- Betton Street

Setting a route for the machines was still something that the Operations Manager and Team leader were looking in to however it was still expected that this would occur once a complete sweep of Shrewsbury had been achieved. This would allow the team to know which machine was needed for which location.

As of the beginning of June the following tipping rates for waste were:

- Road Sweepings – 105 Tonnes
- Litter bin emptying and waste removal – 48.5 Tonnes

This would continue to be a rolling figure throughout the year, and a spreadsheet of tipping records is kept using the tipping sheets produced at each tip.

The digging out of litter bins had continued this increased the capacity of the bin and reduce the required frequency of emptying that was required. In addition to this, staff were also aware that the large road sweeper had the capability to suck out bins and when requested the sweeper operators would attend. This could only happen to bins that had been previously dug out due to the compaction that may have occurred over time.

Residents and businesses using street litter bins continued to be one of the biggest issues the team come up against on a regular basis. This was not confined to the Town centre alone, in fact some of the bins on housing estates were requiring daily attendances due to household waste being placed in the receptacles.

Evidence was still being gathered, and the Operations Manager would continue to work with Shropshire Council regarding a solution for this, however any solutions would rely on Shropshire Council as the prosecuting authority.

The litter picking team were also reactionary for the collection of fly tipped waste and aimed to collect as soon as possible following the report. Some of the items collected of late had included white goods such as fridge freezers, television sets, armchairs and mattresses. The teams had developed a good inter team reporting system where for example, the mowing teams can report directly to the cleansing team any areas that required a clean prior to the mowing operation commencing and preventing further issues, this included fly tipping.

It was worth reiterating that not all fly tips in Shrewsbury would be collected by this team. Land identification was key to establishing ownership and where a report of fly tipping was reported to Shrewsbury Town Council and it was established to be the responsibility of others, Shrewsbury Town Council would endeavour to contact the landowner with the relevant information.

A local contractor had now been sourced and had begun works on spraying weeds along kerb lines and the back line of paths across Shrewsbury. There was a delay in

appointing a contractor for these works which had led to weed growth being further advanced than desired currently. Spraying would only apply in suitable conditions, should there be any rain, the contractor would delay operations rather than attending regardless. This would ensure a successful application and would limit the need for return visits. Also, the contractor would only target areas that required treatment rather than spraying a whole kerb line, this would in turn limit the amount of chemicals used for the operation and further reduce Shrewsbury Town Councils use of chemicals. The contractor had begun work and areas sprayed to date included:

- Sundorne estate (Between Sundorne Road and Whitchurch Road)
- Battlefield (Shillingston Drive)
- The Parks (Sundorne)
- Meole Village and estate
- Town Centre
- Castlefields (Darville Area)
- Bicton Heath
- Gains Park
- Welshpool Road
- Shelton Estate
- Bowbrook

In addition to this, the Stepping up team were tasked prior to the appointment of the contractor and had completed weed spraying in the following areas

- Coton Hill Estate
- Belle Vue
- Castlefields
- Sweetlake

This work would be completed in the coming weeks.

The team continued to receive positive feedback from the public for the works being carried out and overall, it was seen as a positive change since Shrewsbury Town Council started this service.

Councillor Tandy commented that his ward had not been looked at but the Operations Managers pointed out that they had now been to Gains Park Way and Shelton Road and also Monkmoor since this update had been provided.

Councillor Halliday thanked the team for the gutter clearing within her ward and asked what the process was for Councillors to put forward roads that required sweeping. She was informed to end and requests to the Councillor email address that had been set up, and the Customer Services team would distribute accordingly.

Councillor Tandy asked if there could be more litter bins within his ward but appreciated there could be cost implications. The Deputy Town Clerk confirmed they would need to look at revenue.

**RESOLVED:**

**That the update be noted**

**09/26 PROJECT UPDATES**

**09.1 Shorncliffe Recreation Ground**

The Deputy Town Clerk reported that the Town Clerk, Operations Manager, Communications Officer and Cllr Wilson had met with Camlins to discuss the outcome of the initial consultation exercise. This had resulted in the development of a masterplan which would go out to further consultation ahead of ratification. This would allow for the Masterplan to be submitted as a project to the Placeplan with a view to potential drawdown of CIL and Neighbourhood Fund money. There was a further meeting this week to discuss further details and it was hoped that sketch designs could then be shared with members.

Councillor Wilson commented that this had been a good exercise and that lots of information had been gained from the public consultations held. There would be another public consultation which would be the last with Camlins.

**RESOLVED:**

**That the update be noted**

**09.2 Abbey Foregate Project**

The Operations Manager reported that the BID and Shropshire Council were hoping to have this project completed by mid-August and that the main item holding it up was a Traffic Order. Planters and pocket parks would be delivered to the Town Council shortly and plants had been purchased by Shrewsbury Town Council on behalf of Shropshire Council.

**RESOLVED:**

**That the update be noted**

**09.3 Roushill Park Development**

The Operations Manager reported that he had recently met with the contractor; Morgan Sindall to discuss the end date for them to finish so the Town Council could move in to complete the soft landscaping, and he was informed it was to original

timetable with Spring. The plant order had been placed and there were discussions around maintenance, lighting, bins etc. There were also discussions with how the Meanwhile Space could be used, maintained and budgeted.

**RESOLVED:**

**That the update be noted;**

**09.4 Pétanque court at Monkmoor Recreation Ground**

The Deputy Town Clerk reported that the Town Clerk & Operations Manager (Logistics) had met with an Associate Director of WSP about them delivering a project to redevelop the redundant corner tennis court into a Pétanque court as part of a Corporate Social Responsibility Project with some of WSP's principal contractors. The Ward member was fully supportive and had liaised with local residents in the area.

**RESOLVED:**

**That the update be noted**

**10/26 GROUNDS MAINTENANCE**

The Operations Manager reported that despite the current record-high temperatures, the maintenance programmes were continuing. They had offered staff the option to start work earlier and, where possible, work in shaded areas during the hottest part of the day. This was not always possible when preparing a cricket pitch or mowing a grass verge, but staff welfare remained their top priority.

Since the last report they had a successful open evening at the Weeping Cross Depot with over 170 members of the public meeting the staff and looking around at the plants, machinery and information boards that they had placed around the site.

The seasonal watering team had now started and would be seen around the Town and suburbs for the next 2 months. Heart of England in Bloom judging was the 22 July with a slightly different tour this year to previous years.

The summer bedding in the Dingle was almost complete. This year they were trying several different plants, palms, banana plants and herbaceous plants which were more sustainable. The Castle bedding and Carpet bed were complete along with most of the Town Centre tubs.

They had around 180 hanging basket orders from commercial premises, and these had now been put out. They had also employed three students to undertake the watering duties in the town for the summer.

The Traffic Islands bedding displays had been completed, and staff would go back to their normal work rotas.

The greenhouse was now being cleaned by the staff before the Spring bedding production started in August. A plant order had been placed for the Riverside gardens project with a delivery in late September, at the same time the Abbey Foregate Regreening project had a new completion date of August.

The Countryside team had been working across its sites, cutting footpaths, checking fence lines, litter picking, and carrying out its duties. The team had also carried out their annual brook cleaning exercise along with volunteers. The rural team had been out mowing church yards and open spaces. They had also undertaken tree work.

Verge mowing was ongoing for The Recs and Greenspace Team but with the hot weather the grass growth had slowed, and they had moved the staff on to strimming in the Cemetery. Once the weather cooled, they would be back out mowing. School contracts were ongoing with school sports days now coming up, staff were marking out the running tracks.

The ladies' social rounders league would finish around the 16 July, a successful season with over 100 ladies at the County Ground Frankwell on Tuesday nights. The cricket season was now into the second half; they had hosted 2 junior Shropshire County Cricket matches and several Schools cricket festivals this year at Frankwell. The Crown Green bowls was also into the second half of its season. Maintenance at the Cemetery was ongoing along with a number of burials.

Vehicle and machine safety checks were ongoing within the Logistics Team. Hot weather and dusty conditions meant the verge mowers were working harder, so mechanics were checking filters and fluid levels more often. The tractor and flail had been cutting the riverbanks to make these areas safer.

Toilets were busy with the lower Quarry Toilets very busy because of the Splash Park. In house maintenance of Abbey foregate toilets had been carried out (painting of the doors). Playground maintenance was ongoing.

Councillor Wagner commented that the Dingle was looking fabulous.

Councillor Dean suggested that at the JCC meeting in a couple of weeks' time they should talk about looking after staff during a heatwave. The Deputy Town Clerk said this could be looked at in JCC and that staff were told to take regular breaks, stay in the shade where possible, wear suncream, have suitable supply of water, take regular drink breaks. Management were talking to staff all the time checking on their welfare and doing ring arounds as a priority.

Councillor Wilson said the depots needed to have access to air conditioning and this was something that needed to be looked at in the future for Livesey House, Weeping Cross and Sundorne depots.

**RESOLVED:**

- (i) **That the update be noted**
- (ii) **That working during a heatwave would be added to the next JCC agenda**

**11/26 KNIFE ANGEL**

The Deputy Town Clerk reported that as mentioned at Full Council on Monday evening the Town Council was hosting the Knife Angel in the Square from Wednesday 17 June until Friday 31 July.

This was not just about hosting the sculpture, but a wider programme of engagement with schools, community organisations, charities, faith groups, emergency services and local residents to promote awareness, education and support.

They were also running a photographic competition on Instagram as well as an Art Competition for people in Shrewsbury to capture the Knife Angel in which ever medium they wished. Entries closed at the end of August and winners would be announced in early September.

There would be an official launch of the Knife Angel, held in the Square on Friday 3 July. Guests were to arrive from 6.15pm for a 6.30pm start. Could any Councillors who had not yet done so, please respond to the Mayor Secretary email regarding attendance. There would also be a farewell event to the Knife Angel being held on Thursday 30 July with more details to follow.

The Committee Officer had also issued an invitation to a Knife Awareness Training Course for all Councillors to be held on Wednesday 22 July at 6.00pm. This course would have been undertaken by every single member of staff, Rangers and Team Shrewsbury Partners as part of the Town Council's commitment to raising awareness and it was hoped that Elected Members would also take part in the training in person at Livesey House but a Teams link had also been made available.

**RESOLVED:**

**That the update be noted**

## **12/26 SHREWSBURY IN BLOOM**

### **12.1 Heart of England in Bloom**

The Operations Managers confirmed there were two changes on the driving route. They would no longer be stopping at Abbey Foregate for the Regreening project as this would not be taking place now until August, but they would still drive through the area. They would also be unable to stop at the Beekeepers Association as there were now planned roadworks which would prove difficult to get to within the time constraints given by the judges. They would not be going over the same ground twice which was good. The driving route was as follows:

- Salop Leisure (15min presentation & 15 min press photos)
- Thieves Lane
- Weeping Cross Depot Greenhouse (plant production, Condover College)
- Wenlock Road (Floral planting on island)
- Column Island (shrub planting)
- Preston Street – Court building
- Belvidere Avenue
- Column Allotments (National allotment winners)
- Belvidere Road
- Crowmere Road
- Racecourse Crescent
- Monkmoor Rec (meet the staff)
- Monkmoor Road
- Tankerville Street
- Mouse field (meet Countryside team)
- Underdale Road
- Abbey Church
- Coleham Gyratory
- Food Bank (Meet staff at the food bank)
- Longden Road
- Cemetery (God's Acre)
- Mousecroft Lane
- Shropshire Beekeepers (meet the staff)
- Radbrook Road
- Porthill Island (Floral island)
- Shelton Road
- Copthorne Island (floral island)
- Shelton Traffic Lights (new planters)
- The Mount
- Frankwell Island
- Welsh Bridge (planters)

- Smithfield Road (planters)
- Castle – (end of driving tour)

The walking route was also prepared and this year they would change things around and start at the Castle and finish at the Museum in the Square. The walking route was:

- Castle & Grounds (meet the staff)
- Castle Street (tubs and hanging baskets)
- St Marys Church
- Church Street (hanging baskets)
- Butcher Row (hanging baskets & meet the waterers)
- Pride Hill (planters)
- Roushill Bank (local shops have got together to improve)
- Visit new Riverside Gardens (hard landscaping should be showing – Meet Morgan Sindall)
- Mardol (get back into car briefly)
- Mardol Gardens – (point out during the drive)
- Victoria Quay – (drive – planters on railings)
- Quarry – Enter Sabrina End & meet the staff
- Dingle – Walk to the Beech Tree past Eagle border
- Drive from Beech Tree to main gates
- Main Quarry Gates
- Claremont Hill – walk hanging baskets
- Market Hall – enter through Bellstone end & leave through undercroft
- Guillet Passage – old passageway (will require cleaning well)
- The Square – school planter competition / knife angel
- The Museum FINISH – invite planter winners for food and present certificates

Councillor Tandy was not happy that his ward was not featured on the Bloom route as he had a lot in his ward and the route should be changed for future judging. Danny commented that there was certain criteria that we had to meet on the judging and that we could also not go too far out of the town as they were restricted with time. Each area visited had to hit a certain level of the criteria to enable them to take the judges there. Danny offered to send the judging criteria to Councillor Tandy so that he could see what they had to include.

Councillor Wilson added that the Bloom Working Group was always asking Councillors to join the Committee.

#### **RESOLVED:**

**That the update be noted.**

## 12.2 Notes of the Bloom Meeting

The notes of the Shrewsbury in Bloom Group meeting held on 21 May & 18 June 2026 were submitted as circulated and read.

### RESOLVED:

**That the notes of the Shrewsbury in Bloom Group Meeting held on 21 May & 18 June 2026 be accepted and approved.**

## 13/26 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

***Barratt Homes/Bovis Homes – Mytton Oak Road*** – Phase 1 adopted; Snagging Phase 2/3 commenced. No identified date for transfer.

**Further works had been carried out on site, some path surface repairs and drainage areas had been requested to be addressed. Several small areas of land were subject to legal checks, some of which did not appear to have appeared on the POS adoption plans.**

- (ii) *Shrewsbury South Urban***

1. Sutton Grange site – ongoing – likely transfer in 2024/25 – recent meeting with Taylor Wimpey to discuss logistics for transfer.

**STC met the Developers on site in early March to walk the site again. Another detailed list was discussed and work started on site in April to address all the outstanding issues.**

2. Bellway Homes site – discussion on land adoption and adoption of acoustic fencing.

**Developers have been met on site and some small works were still outstanding along with required repairs to the play area already in place.**

3. Galliers site – early discussions on land adoption
4. Community Centre – location on the site

**Radbrook College site** – Open space adoption – officers met with Floreat Homes on site – likely adoption once all phases are complete

STC had recently walked the site again with a representative from the Developer (Connexus). This person has now left the company, and MP was meeting another representative w/c 11<sup>th</sup> May to walk the site again. An independent Arb Consultant had produced a thorough tree inspection report for the site POS to be adopted, which mirrors STC previous requests.

There were a considerable amount of tree works to be carried out and some small areas of landscaping to be carried out to align to the landscape specification within the planning conditions.

- (iii) **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.

The Town Clerk has met with the Shropshire Council Greenspace Manager about the Town Council's aspirations for both phase 1&2 but also the new phase 3. Staff are still engaging with Taylor Wimpey & Persimmon regarding the snagging list required to be completed ahead of any transfer. No date had been set for any transfer and solicitors have not yet been engaged.

**RESOLVED:**

That the update be noted.

## **14/26 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](http://www.shrewsburytowncouncil.gov.uk).