

Shropshire Council
Legal and Democratic Services
Shirehall
Abbey Foregate
Shrewsbury
SY2 6ND
Date: Wednesday, 16 February 2022

Committee: Council

Date: Thursday, 24 February 2022

Time: 10.00 am

Venue: Clayton Hall - Shrewsbury College, London Road, Shrewsbury. SY2 6PR

You are requested to attend the above meeting.
The Agenda is attached

Members of the Council – a briefing note will be circulated by e-mail prior to the meeting with important housekeeping details and arrangements for the meeting.

Members of the Public – there will be some access in the Hall for the public to attend the meeting. If you wish to attend the meeting please e-mail democracy@shropshire.gov.uk to check whether a seat will be available for you.

Members of the public will be able to access the live stream of the meeting by clicking on this link

<https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/Council24Feb2022>

Tim Collard
Interim Assistant Director – Legal and Democratic Services

Vince Hunt (Chairman)
Brian Williams (Vice Chairman)
Lezley Picton (Leader)
Ed Potter (Deputy Leader)
Roy Aldcroft
Jeff Anderson
Caroline Bagnall
Nicholas Bardsley
Joyce Barrow
Bernie Bentick
Thomas Biggins
Ed Bird
Andy Boddington
Peter Broomhall
Julia Buckley
Garry Burchett
Gwilym Butler
Dean Carroll
Steve Charmley
Ted Clarke

Gerald Dakin
Rosemary Dartnall
Steve Davenport
Mary Davies
Julian Dean
Geoff Elner
David Evans
Julia Evans
Roger Evans
Paul Gill
Rob Gittins
Nat Green
Kate Halliday
Simon Harris
Nigel Hartin
Nick Hignett
Ruth Houghton
Richard Huffer
Tracey Huffer
Kirstie Hurst-Knight

Mike Isherwood
Mark Jones
Simon Jones
Duncan Kerr
Heather Kidd
Christian Lea
Hilary Luff
Nigel Lumby
Elliott Lynch
Robert Macey
Richard Marshall
David Minnery
Dan Morris
Pamela Moseley
Alan Mosley
Cecilia Motley
Peggy Mullock
Ian Nellins
Kevin Pardy
Vivienne Parry

Tony Parsons
John Price
Chris Schofield
Dan Thomas
Robert Tindall

Edward Towers
Dave Tremellen
Kevin Turley
David Vasmer
Alex Wagner

Claire Wild
Rob Wilson
Leslie Winwood
Paul Wynn

Your Committee Officer is:

Tim Ward Committee Officer

Tel: 01743 257713

Email: tim.ward@shropshire.gov.uk

AGENDA

1 Apologies for Absence

2 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

Members are reminded that they must declare their disclosable pecuniary interests and other registrable or non-registrable interests in any matter being considered at the meeting as set out in Appendix B of the Members' Code of Conduct and consider if they should leave the room prior to the item being considered. Further advice can be sought from the Monitoring Officer in advance of the meeting.

3 Minutes (Pages 1 - 14)

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the previous meeting held on 13 January 2022

4 Announcements

To receive such communications as the Chairman, Leader and Head of Paid Service may desire to lay before the Council.

5 Public Questions

To receive any questions from the public, notice of which has been given in accordance with Procedure Rule 14. Deadline for notification is 10am on Tuesday 22 February 2022

A petition, bearing over 1000 signatures has been received from Darren Childs, requesting a debate under the Council's Petition Scheme. The petition requests that the Council:

support our campaign in returning an ambulance hub back in Ludlow, South Shropshire or the return of local rapid response vehicles who can be on call or based at local areas like Ludlow hospital, GP surgery, fire station, to attend until an ambulance arrives

The petitioner will be allowed 5 minutes to outline their case, after which there may a debate of up to a maximum of 15 minutes

6 Capital & Financial Strategy 2022/23 - 2026/27

Report of the Executive Director, Resources is **TO FOLLOW**

Contact: James Walton. Tel. 01743 258915

6 (a) Consideration of Opposition Proposals

7 Fees and Charges 2022/23 (Pages 15 - 74)

Report of the Executive Director, Resources is attached

Contact: James Walton. Tel. 01743 258915

8 Treasury Strategy 2022/23 (Pages 75 - 136)

Report of the Executive Director, Resources is attached

Contact: James Walton. Tel. 01743 258915

9 Shrewsbury Town Centre Redevelopment Phase 1

Report of the Executive Director of Place is **TO FOLLOW**

Contact Mark Barrow Tel: 01743258919

10 Shropshire Council Sustainable Warmth Programme

Report of the Executive Director of People **TO FOLLOW**

Contact Tanya Miles Tel: 01743 255811

11 Care Leavers Covenant

Report of the Executive Director of People **TO FOLLOW**

Contact Tanya Miles Tel: 01743 255811

12 Paper v digital agendas (Pages 137 - 156)

Report of the Interim Assistant Director – Legal and Democratic Services is attached

Contact Tim Collard. Tel. 01743 252756

13 Member and Public Questions Procedure (Pages 157 - 162)

Report of the Interim Assistant Director – Legal and Democratic Services is attached

Contact Tim Collard. Tel. 01743 252756

14 Members Allowances and Parental Leave for Councillors (Pages 163 - 180)

Report of the Interim Assistant Director – Legal and Democratic Services is attached

Contact Tim Collard. Tel. 01743 252756

15 Allocation of Committee Seats and Appointments (Pages 181 - 184)

Report of the Interim Assistant Director – Legal and Democratic Services is attached

Contact Tim Collard. Tel. 01743 252756

The following motions have been received in accordance with Procedure Rule 16:

1. **The following motion has been received from Councillor Joyce Barrow and is supported by Councillors Steve Davenport, David Evans, Robert Macey, Chris Schofield and Lezley Picton**

Whilst consort to the mayor of Oswestry, I came into contact with the Stoma Group, known as “bums on tums” which is a totally voluntary run group, headed by Irene Constable. She told me how simple things, recommended by colostomy UK, could make a huge difference to their members, and are inexpensive changes to toilets.

In terms of the classic 'stand-alone building' type of public toilets, these are all now mostly owned and run by Town & Parish Council's. It's estimated to be in the region of 35 or more of these type of public toilets.

As regards Shropshire Council owned and run buildings or sites which are available to be used by members of the public (such as libraries, museums, leisure etc.), It is estimated to be in the region of 42 with toilet facilities.

I would like Shropshire council to implement the following where possible.

1. A shelf on which to lay out the items needed when changing their appliance. This doesn't need to be huge, if there is already a surface that is within reach, such as a baby changing mat or the like, that would be sufficient.
2. Two Cloths hooks
3. A sanitary bin within the cubicle.
4. Write to all town and parish councils in our area, to ask them to consider doing the same.

None of these are costly but would make the world of distance to an Ostomate who urgently needs to change their appliance.

2. **The following motion has been received from Councillor Simon Harris and is supported by Councillors Tom Biggins, Richard Marshall, Ian Nellins and Chris Schofield**

Ban Both Sky Lantern and Balloon Releases from Council Property

For many years the Marine Conservation Society has run a campaign to make sky lantern and balloon releases illegal by classifying this activity as 'littering'. The Society has not been successful.

The Society has also encouraged Local Authorities to ban these activities from property that the Authorities own – this approach, while not dealing with the problem per se, has had some success. Shropshire's neighbouring Council of Worcestershire has banned both sky lantern and balloon releases, while Hereford has banned sky lantern releases. I understand that Shropshire Council banned sky lantern releases several years ago; although this ban is not reflected on the Society's website.

Both these releases need to be banned for the following reasons:

- Over the past 5 years, on average 3 balloons per 100m have been found during

the Great British Beach Clean.

- Balloons marketed as 'biodegradable' can last up to four years ie as litter
- Animals, including livestock, can be injured through ingestion, entanglement and entrapment.
- Marine turtles are particularly vulnerable. The digestive tract of a juvenile green turtle, washed up dead near Blackpool in 2001, was completely blocked by marine litter including a large fragment of blue latex balloon
- Animals get tangled up in balloon ribbons and string, restricting their movement and the ability to eat
- Sky lanterns also pose a fire hazard to crops and to thatched roof properties

I move the following motion:

1. All Sky Lantern and Balloon releases are to be banned from all Shropshire Council property.
2. Shropshire Council will request the Government to classify all such releases as littering, and thus they should be made illegal.
3. Shropshire Council will run a media campaign to discourage all such releases within the County.

3. The following motion has been received from Councillor Tom Biggins and is supported by Councillors Geoff Elner, Ian Nellins, Chris Schofield,

Shropshire Council notes with the utmost concern the DVSA's decision to close the Whitchurch Driving Test centre on 10th April 2022, because the lease is due to end soon, without having undertaken any consultation with those directly affected or the local community.

The loss of the centre removes a vital service from a large part of the Shropshire Council area, including Whitchurch, Market Drayton, Wem, Ellesmere, Hodnet, Prees and all the countryside in between.

In addition pupils come over the border from Bronington, Penley and Hanmer in Wales and from Malpas, Marbury, Wrenbury and Audlem and all the surrounding countryside in South Cheshire.

The nearest test centres will be at Crewe, Wrexham or Shrewsbury.

Pupils will need to travel to a new driving test town to have familiarisation lessons with the road layout before taking a test. This will have the discriminatory effect of increasing the cost for a pupil, due to the extra travel time of going to and returning from a new venue with a driving instructor before the lesson/test can take place.

For example a car journey to Crewe can take $\frac{3}{4}$ hour/ 1 hour each way, dependent on traffic.

This closure will not only cause a massive inconvenience and extra travelling cost for all individual learner drivers and driving instructors in the future, but it will also remove a local service that provides economic benefit to our area.

This decision is arbitrary, unfounded on economic grounds, and we believe this closure goes against the Government's policy of levelling up.

The detrimental effect to the local area of closing the Whitchurch Driving Test Centre is disproportionately severe and will not provide a "customer-centred service" for our area.

Shropshire Council calls on the Secretary of State at the Department for Transport:

- 1) to reverse the decision by the Driving Standards Agency to close the Driving Test Centre in Whitchurch on 10th April 2022 and
- 2) to instruct the Driving Standards Agency to maintain a driving test centre in Whitchurch to ensure parity of opportunity for residents across the north of Shropshire and adjoining areas.

4. The following motion has been received from Councillor Heather Kidd and is supported by the Liberal Democrat Group

The role of Scrutiny committees is an integral and important part of the constitution of this Council and vital to the decision making process of a Council . The Council spends time, effort and resources running our Scrutiny Committees. Measuring their value to this Council through constructive challenge and improved policy and decision making is vital to those taking part and also to the people of Shropshire. Good scrutiny should provide measurable outcomes.

This Council therefore resolves to explicitly include the positive changes and improvements that each Scrutiny Committee has achieved throughout the year in the annual report they present to Council. This should include:

- Reporting the impact of Task & Finish Groups – where policy has changed or decisions improved
- The number of recommendations to Cabinet and whether they were adopted or rejected and why.
- Reviews of previous years implementation by Cabinet and any service outcomes at 6 or 12 months.
- A report on any pre-scrutiny work and its impact.

Notes:

From p22/23 of the LGA's Councillors Workbook on Scrutiny – this is used in Councils to measure effectiveness in LGA Peer Reviews and for Councillor training.

Making a Scrutiny recommendation

Recommendations are the way that scrutiny can have an impact. Making good recommendations, and monitoring them, makes it more likely that scrutiny's work will add value. A good recommendation is:

- specific about the change recommended
- evidence-based and realistic
- focused on measurable outcomes
- addressed to a specific person or group
- realistic about financing requirements
- developed in partnership with the executive, council officers and council partners.

There is a legal requirement for the executive (Cabinet) to respond to recommendations within two months of them being made.

The response to a recommendation from a decision-maker should consist of:

- a clear commitment to delivering the measure within the timescale set out
- a commitment to be held to account on that delivery in six months' or a year's time
- where it is not proposed that a recommendation be accepted, the provision of detailed, substantive reasons why not.

Scrutiny can help decision-makers to view recommendations in a positive light, and submit acceptable responses, by agreeing beforehand when and how

recommendations will be made, and what an acceptable response will look like

Monitoring recommendations It is scrutiny's responsibility to monitor and evaluate recommendations once they are implemented, even though it is not their responsibility to deliver the changes. Tracking the progress of recommendations does not require full scrutiny reviews, but a simple check that after six or twelve months they are being implemented and the outcomes detailed in the decision-maker's response are being fulfilled. Action can be taken if required; if everything is on track, scrutiny can trust the implementations are being made satisfactorily and move on.

https://www.local.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/11%2064_Scrutiny%20for%20councillors_03_1.pdf

5. The following motion has been received from Councillor Lezley Picton and is supported by Councillors Gwilym Butler, Dean Carroll, Rob Gittins, Kirstie Hurst-Knight, Simon Jones, Cecilia Motley, Ian Nellins and Ed Potter

This Administration was very disappointed by the latest Government announcements regarding Shropshire Council's Levelling Up and County Deal bids. This Council put forward first class Levelling Up bids which, if successful, would have made a huge positive difference to communities across Shropshire. Our bid for a county deal, which included asking government to devolve more powers to a local level, was seen as vital at a time when our communities and indeed our whole county is recovering from the pandemic.

As part of the announcement surrounding County Deals, Government insisted that this process was not about, nor would it involve, Local Government reorganisation.

It has now been stated that the success of future bids may require the creation of a 'combined authority' for the area that could, potentially, be made up of both Shropshire Council and Telford & Wrekin Council, or even by joining with other adjacent authorities.

The communities represented by Shropshire Council and Telford & Wrekin Borough Council are very different, with different priorities and different challenges in delivering services. Active cooperation already exists between both Councils and indeed Herefordshire Council in areas of converging interests and priorities and there is no reason why this will not continue and expand.

MOTION

This Council opposes the suggestion of the creation of a single unitary authority covering the whole historic county of Shropshire. Further, that a Mayor or Governor, or any other additional layer of bureaucracy is not required.

That Shropshire Council will continue to work with neighbouring authorities, where appropriate, and without the need for amalgamation, and

That the Council Leader and Chief Executive Officer will continue to impress upon the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities that Shropshire Council is best placed to deliver the needs of its residents and that Council will continue to pursue Levelling Up Bids, County Deals and fairer funding for Shropshire in its own right.

6. The following motion has been received from Councillor Nigel Hartin and is supported by Councillors Heather Kidd, David Vasmer and Rob Wilson

This Council resolves to help as many residents as possible to organise street parties to celebrate HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee, including advertising how to organise one, waiving all fees and covering public liability insurance.

17 Questions from Members (Pages 185 - 188)

To receive any questions from Members, notice of which has been given in accordance with Procedure Rule 15.2.

18 Exclusion of Press and Public

To resolve that, in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and Paragraph 10.4 [3] of the Council's Access to Information Rules, the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items.

19 Exempt Minutes (Pages 189 - 192)

To approve as a correct record the exempt minutes of the previous meeting held on 13 January 2022

20 Alveley Industrial Estate (Pages 193 - 200)

Exempt report of the Executive Director of Place is attached

Contact Mark Barrow Tel: 01743258919