



Committee and Date

Council

12 December 2024

COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 26 September 2024

In the Council Chamber, Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, SY2 6ND

10.00 am - 3.20 pm

Responsible Officer: Tim Ward

Email: tim.ward@shropshire.gov.uk Tel: 01743 257713

Present

Councillors Vince Hunt and Lezley Picton (Leader), Brian Williams (Vice Chairman), Ian Nellins (Deputy Leader), Roy Aldcroft, Jeff Anderson, Caroline Bagnall, Nicholas Bardsley, Joyce Barrow, Bernie Bentick, Thomas Biggins, Ed Bird, Peter Broomhall, Julia Buckley, Garry Burchett, Gwilym Butler, Dean Carroll, Steve Charmley, Rachel Connolly, Rosemary Dartnall, Steve Davenport, Mary Davies, Julian Dean, Geoff Elner, David Evans, Julia Evans, Roger Evans, Rob Gittins, Nat Green, Kate Halliday, Simon Harris, Nigel Hartin, Nick Hignett, Ruth Houghton, Kirstie Hurst-Knight, Mark Jones, Simon Jones, Duncan Kerr, Christian Lea, Hilary Luff, Nigel Lumby, Robert Macey, David Minnery, Dan Morris, Pamela Moseley, Cecilia Motley, Peggy Mullock, Kevin Pardy, Vivienne Parry, Ed Potter, Chris Schofield, Andrew Sherrington, Colin Taylor, Dan Thomas, Robert Tindall, Edward Towers, Kevin Turley, David Vasmer, Alex Wagner, Claire Wild, Mark Williams, Rob Wilson and Paul Wynn

33 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Andy Boddington, Ted Clarke, Gerald Dakin, Paul Gill, Richard Huffer, Tracey Huffer, Mike Isherwood, Heather Kidd, Alan Mosley, Tony Parsons and John Price.

34 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

Members were reminded that they must not participate in the discussion or voting on any matter in which they have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest and should leave the room prior to the commencement of the debate.

Councillor Rob Gittins declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 8 as he owned a house of multiple occupancy which is used by Shropshire Council

Councillor Julia Buckley declared in interest in agenda items 18a and 18b as she was the MP for Shrewsbury

35 Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 18 July 2024, as circulated with the agenda papers, be approved and signed as a correct record.

36 Announcements

Chairman's Engagements

The Chairman referred Members to the list of official engagements carried out by himself and the Vice Chairman since the last meeting of the Council on 18 July 2024, which had been emailed prior to the meeting.

37 Public Questions

The Chairman advised that public questions had been received from Mike Streetly, Frank Oldaker and Emma Bullard. A copy of the questions and the responses provided are available from the web page for the meeting.

[Public Questions Council 26 Septemebr 2024 with responses.pdf \(shropshire.gov.uk\)](#)

Petitions

The Chairman advised that a petition, bearing over 1000 signatures has been received from Julie Mitchell, requesting a debate under the Council's Petition Scheme. The petition requested that the Council:

Reconsider their decision in regard to green waste charges and bookings for recycling centres

1. Significantly reduce the proposed annual charge of £56 per year for each green bin.
2. Abandon the booking system for recycling centres

Ms Mitchell was given 5 minutes to open the debate during which she made the following points:

- The petition was not calling for the removal of the charge but for a reduction
- There was no reduction for pensioners and those on benefits
- Reducing the charge could result in increased revenue due to more people being able to afford to pay.
- There was no need for the booking system. The benefits are said to reduce queues, increase recycling and to prevent use by business and non Shropshire residents but if staff need to check in bookings and deal with arrivals without bookings, there is a high potential for longer queues to result.

Several Members spoke in support of the petition and cited examples of where their constituents had encountered problems with trying to register for the service.

In response to the petition the Portfolio Holder for Climate Change, Environment and Transport, Councillor Ian Nellins thanked the petitioner for submitting the petition and made the following points –

- Over 80% of local authorities in England already charge and more are introducing the charge, all of our neighbouring councils apart from Telford and Wrekin charge for the removal of green waste.
- The petitioner had cited several councils with lower charges than that of Shropshire, but they were able to do this as they only collected for a proportion of the year.
- Over 48,000 people had already signed up for the service.
- In other Councils the introduction of a booking system had reduced car journeys by 5% as people tended to take larger loads reducing the number of visits.

In closing the Portfolio Holder thanked the petitioner again and proposed that no further action be taken and that the Council would continue with the arrangements as planned which would be reviewed over the coming year.

Following a vote it was **RESOLVED**

That that no further action be taken and that the Council would continue with the arrangements as planned which would be reviewed over the coming year.

38 Questions from Members

The Speaker advised that the following questions had been received in accordance with Procedure Rule 15.

Question from Councillor Ed Potter in relation to the availability of school places. By way of supplementary question Councillor Potter asked whether there were suitable ways of tracking to make sure that pupils not currently in schools don't get lost until a suitable place is found for them. The Portfolio Holder assured him that the school admissions team did monitor the situation

Question from Councillor Joyce Barrow regarding the delivery of school safety and active travel training. There was no supplementary question.

Question from Councillor Rob Wilson with regard to home to school transport costs. By way of supplementary question Councillor Wilson asked what pressure the Portfolio Holder was putting on colleagues in the highways department to accelerate the delivery of the Shrewsbury movement and public space strategy to enable more transport independence. The Portfolio Holder advised that there was absolutely a focus on getting pathways cleared and working with town and parish councils

Question from Councillor Dan Thomas with regards to improvements to the Homepoint system. There was no supplementary question

Question from Councillor Rachel Connolly with regards to repairs to New Road Bridgnorth. In response to a supplementary question the Portfolio Holder confirmed that the design and the bulk of the works required would be completed by the end of this financial year.

Question from Councillor Duncan Kerr with regards to Equality Impact Assessments. There was no supplementary question.

A copy of the questions and the responses provided are available from the web page for the meeting

[Member Questions Council 26 September 2024 with Responses.pdf \(shropshire.gov.uk\)](#)

39 **Member and Public Questions**

It was proposed by the Chairman, Councillor Vince Hunt and seconded by the Vice Chairman, Councillor Brian Williams that the following wording should now be incorporated into the Council Procedure Rules so that the timescales for member and public questions are as clear as possible:

“By 12 noon on the day preceding the third clear working day before the meeting”

RESOLVED:

That the following wording should now be incorporated into the Council Procedure Rules so that the timescales for member and public questions are as clear as possible:

“By 12 noon on the day preceding the third clear working day before the meeting”

40 **Preventing Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2024-2029**

It was proposed by Councillor Dean Carroll, Portfolio Holder for Housing and Assets and seconded by Councillor Mark Jones, Portfolio Holder for Growth and Regeneration that the report of the Executive Director of Place, a copy of which is attached to the signed minutes and the recommendations contained therein, be received and agreed.

RESOLVED:

That Council approve and formally adopt the Preventing Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy, attached at Appendix I.

41 **Shrewsbury Sports Village Transformation Proposals - Results of Public Consultation and Authority to Proceed with Detailed Design and Planning**

It was proposed by Councillor Rob Macey, Portfolio Holder for Culture and Digital and seconded by Councillor Dean Carroll, Portfolio Holder for Housing and Assets that the report of the Assistant Director – Homes and Communities, a copy of which is attached to the signed minutes and the recommendations contained therein, be received and agreed.

RESOLVED:

That Council:

1. Note the results of the public consultation and approve both the business case for the project, as set out in this paper and in Appendix 6, and that the design and development of the Shrewsbury Sports Village Transformation be included in the Capital Programme with an initial budget for the design and planning stages of £2.248 million. The project to be funded from Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) and Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and any available grants and capital receipts which may be available during the project.
2. Agree that to further contribute the council's net zero targets, that the design and planning stages include assessing the feasibility and cost of both making the whole of the sports village complex all electric and installing overhead photovoltaic cells on the car park.
3. Delegate authority to the Executive Director of Place, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Culture & Digital, to procure, negotiate and agree the terms of any agreements/contracts necessary for the delivery of the design and planning stages of the project including, but not limited to:
 - Commissioning the UK Leisure Framework to support the procurement strategy.
 - Selection of a prime design and build contractor and other suppliers.
 - Site surveys and investigations and relevant reports.
 - Detailed designs and planning application.
 - Contract preparation for the build stages.
4. Agree that a report is brought back to Cabinet and Full Council after the design stages; following the determination of the planning application and once the project has established the full build costs. This subsequent report will seek a decision on whether to approve the full project budget and to proceed with the build stage.

42 **Adoption of Adderley, Morton Say and Norton in Hales (Three Parishes) Neighbourhood Plan**

It was proposed by Councillor Chris Schofield, Portfolio Holder for Planning and Regulatory Services and seconded by Councillor Roy Aldcroft that the report of the

Executive Director of Place, a copy of which is attached to the signed minutes and the recommendations contained therein, be received and agreed.

RESOLVED:

That Shropshire Council, as the Local Planning Authority 'makes' (i.e. adopts) the Adderley, Morton Say and Norton in Hales Neighbourhood Development Plan (as set out in Appendix 1) and brings it into force with immediate effect as part of the Development Plan for Shropshire.

43 Finance Task and Finish Group

It was proposed by Councillor Lezley Picton, Leader and Portfolio Holder Policy and Strategy, Improvement and Communications and seconded by Councillor Gwilym Butler, Portfolio Holder for Finance, Corporate Resources and Communities that the report of the Assistant Director Legal and Governance, a copy of which is attached to the signed minutes and the recommendations contained therein, be received and agreed.

RESOLVED:

That Council

1. Approves the establishment of a Budget Task and Finish Group, the membership and basic Terms of Reference of which are set out in the Appendix to this report.
2. Suspends the Alternative Budget Procedure set out in the Financial Procedure Rules until it reinstates it.

44 Capital Receipts and Income Strip Report

It was proposed by Councillor Gwilym Butler, Portfolio Holder for Finance, Corporate Resources and Communities and seconded by Councillor Dean Carroll, Portfolio Holder for Housing and Assets that the report of the Executive Director of Place and the Executive Director, Resources, a copy of which is attached to the signed minutes and the recommendations contained therein, be received and agreed.

On being put to a recorded vote with 40 Members voting for, 16 against and 2 abstentions as follows:

FOR:

Councillors Aldcroft, Anderson, Bagnall, Bardsley, Barrow, Biggins, Bird, Broomhall, Burchett, Butler, Carroll, Charmley, Connolly, Dartnall, Elnor, D Evans, Gittins, Halliday, Harris, Hignett, Hunt, Hurst-Knight, M Jones, S Jones, Lea, Luff, Lumby, Macey, Morris, Motley, Mullock, Nellins, Pardy, Picton, Schofield, Thomas, Tindall, Wild, B Williams and Wynn

AGAINST:

Councillors Bentick, Davies, Dean, R Evans, Green, Hartin, Houghton, Kerr, Minnery, Parry, Sherrington, Taylor, Vasmer, Wagner, M Williams and Wilson

ABSTAIN:

Councillors J Evans and Towers

It was **RESOLVED:**

That Council

Having considered feedback from Transformation and Improvement Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 9th September 2024,

- 3.1 Approves the principle of the Income Strip proposal to raise a receipt in the current financial year.
- 3.2 Delegates to the Executive Directors of Place and Resources in consultation with Portfolio Holders for Assets, Highways and Traffic Management, and Resources to decide on the exact number and exactly which carparks will make up the income strip portfolio.
- 3.3 Delegates to the Executive Directors of Place and Resources in consultation with Portfolio Holders for Assets, Highways and Traffic Management, and Resources to conclude the income strip proposal as set out in this report and conclude the necessary contractual arrangements. To do so, Officers will be required to undertake all necessary due diligence before any sale is concluded, not limited to obtaining advice from External Audit, specialist legal advice, and specialist financial advice. If any of that advice presents unacceptable risks in the view of the Assistant Director - Legal and Governance and/or the Council's Section 151 Officer (Executive Director of Resources), considering the evolving financial context of the Council, the Section 151 Officer/CFO is required to cease the arrangements and not to let the contract. The result of approval being given to this report will be to enable the full process for procurement of an income strip arrangement and conclusion of the contract arising from that to be conducted by officers up to and including the receipt of funds arising from the sale and inclusion of the resulting revenue pressure into budget plans for coming years.

45 Relocation of Council headquarters – Shirehall to Guildhall

It was proposed by Councillor Dean Carroll, Portfolio Holder for Housing and Assets and seconded by Ian Nellins, Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Climate Change, Environment and Transport that the report of the Executive Director of Place, a copy of which is attached to the signed minutes and the recommendations contained therein, be received and agreed.

RESOLVED:

That Council agrees to;

1. Authorise the Executive Director of Place in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Housing & Assets to
 - I. Declare the Guildhall as the administrative base for the Council and implement the phased move and the relocation of its services in the financial year 2024/25.
 - II. Rationalise and consolidate the immediate use of the Shirehall building to ground floor and first floor and other essential spaces only to house the data centre, formal meeting spaces, critical storage and remaining tenants until the ultimate building closure in the financial year 2025/26.
 - III. Update the disposal process accordingly to reflect the accelerated decant of the building.
2. Agree the budget of £1.2 million previously identified to facilitate the accelerated exit from the Shirehall including the cost of decommissioning the Shirehall building, to ultimately achieve a revenue saving of £593k per annum once the move is fully completed and the Shirehall is decommissioned. Full saving achieved by financial year 25/26.

46 Member Attendance at Conferences, Training and other External Events

It was proposed by Councillor Lezley Picton, Leader and Portfolio Holder Policy and Strategy, Improvement and Communications and seconded by Councillor Simon Jones that the report of the Assistant Director Legal and Governance, a copy of which is attached to the signed minutes and the recommendations contained therein, be received and agreed.

RESOLVED:

That Council approves:

3.1 That the existing 'Protocol for Members Attendance at Conferences and Training Events' be replaced with a 'Protocol for Member Attendance at Conferences, Training and other External Events', as set out in the appendix to this report, to be implemented until the financial position of the Council improves.

3.2 Given their strategic importance, Member attendance at the LGA Annual Conference and CCN Conference continue to be supported for a maximum of 2 members at each event, with the fee for attendance, travel expenses and accommodation (if necessary) met by the Council.

3.3 Attendance at other conferences, training events, seminars, meetings or external events will only be approved in the most exceptional circumstances by the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader and relevant Group Leader, with the fee for attendance, travel expenses and accommodation (where necessary) met by the

Council.

3.4 The funding of fees for any event attended by Members will be contingent on the preparation of a brief report within one month to be circulated to the relevant scrutiny committee membership and group leaders. This will outline the learning and feedback gained from attendance.

3.5 Attendance at free events both online and in person is encouraged, but if in person and there are travel costs or accommodation involved, members will need to seek approval from the Chief Executive (by emailing democracy@shropshire.gov.uk) in accordance with Paragraph 3.3

3.6 In the case of any event (free or otherwise), where a cancellation charge is made due to non-attendance or cancellation after a deadline date, this will not be met by the Council, but will be the responsibility of the member who failed to provide notification and will be deducted from their monthly allowance, unless there are extenuating circumstances.

3.7 Attendance at party political conferences are excluded from the protocol and all expenses associated with attendance at these events will be met by the relevant political group or the individual member concerned.

47 Annual Report of the Portfolio Holder for Housing and Assets

It was proposed by Councillor Dean Carroll, Portfolio Holder for Housing and Assets that the report, a copy of which is attached to the signed minutes, and the recommendations therein be received and agreed.

Councillor Carroll presented and amplified his report and responded to questions, concerns and comments.

In response to a request Councillor Carroll agreed to ask for an update on the timeline for the Pyrolysis project to be provided to Councillor Viv Parry

RESOLVED:

That the contents of the report be noted.

48 Annual Report Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Geoff Elner, Chair of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee presented the annual report of the Committee for 2023-24. He outlined the work that had been carried out by the Committee and thanked members of the committee and officers for all their work.

Members noted the contents of the report.

49 **Appointment to Committees**

It was proposed by the Chairman Councillor Vince Hunt and seconded by the Vice Chairman Councillor Brian Williams that the following amendments to committee membership be agreed.

Southern Planning Committee

Councillor Kevin Pardy to replace Councillor Julia Buckley as a substitute member of the Southern Planning Committee

RESOLVED:

That the following changes in committee membership be agreed

Southern Planning Committee

Councillor Kevin Pardy to replace Councillor Julia Buckley as a substitute member of the Southern Planning Committee

50 **Motions**

Motion received from Councillor Gwilym Butler and supported by the Conservative Group

Motion to ask The Government to reverse the decision to remove Winter Fuel Payments to Pensioners.

We were shocked by the recent announcement by the new Labour Government to stop payments to pensioners of the Winter Fuel Payments unless they are on Pension Tax Credits.

In Shropshire we have 82,000 people over 65 representing 25.3% of the population against the England National average of 20.7% of people over 65.

With the withdrawal of the Winter Fuel Payment Shropshire will be adversely affected more than most counties across the country due to our demographics and higher percentage of pensioners. It is compounded in a very rural county with many communities not on the National Gas Grid resulting in alternative fuels for heating at greater cost. We already have many pensioners in Fuel Poverty and the result of this withdrawal will result with many more. The outcome of this will then create further pressures on the local NHS and Social Care compounding the problem making the Governments decision a false economy and push many pensioners into an additional cost of living crisis.

We therefore instruct the Leader to write to Rachel Reeves MP Labour Chancellor of the Exchequer to request she:

Reverse her decision on the removal of the Winter Fuel Allowance

If the Chancellor is not minded to reverse the decision we ask that the income level at which Pension Tax Credit can be obtained should be increased significantly to protect those less well off in our Rural Community, specifically those just about managing.

We note The Household Support Grant has been extended until April 2025. This now needs to be substantially increased to take into account the pensioners who will now be apply for the scheme which is already over subscribed dealing with the poverty across all demographics in Shropshire.

Change the system within DWP so that when applicants apply and qualify for benefits they are automatically flagged for Council Tax relief with their Local Authority.

This was seconded by Councillor Simon Harris.

By way of amendment Councillor Julian Dean proposed the following

Add:

Council calls on the relevant cabinet members to organise the provision of advice, guidance and direct support to those who may be eligible for pension credits ahead of the final deadline of 21st December to claim – and therefore receive winter fuel payments by:

- Identifying through council tax and other data people who may be eligible.
- Providing information and practical support to those identified to claim pension credits, without relying entirely on online routes of communication.
- Mobilising Shropshire Local venues and staff, as well as other appropriate venues and staff – such as the Affordable Warmth team, to provide information, guidance and direct support to those who may be eligible to claim pension credits.
- Providing support and advice to town and parish councils that may be in a position to provide further support.
- Working with STAR housing, local Housing Associations and other partners to help maximise uptake of pension credit e.g. placing appropriate leaflets in pharmacies.
- Using press and social media to provide guidance and support.

We further ask portfolio holders to investigate working with Policy in Practice to make use of their Low-Income Family Tracker (LIFT) tool, which combines council data with modelling to identify households in need for future interventions and to support council policy making.

Councillor Butler indicated that he was willing to accept the amendment.

By way of amendment Councillor Rosemary Dartnall proposed the following

Remove 1. It is factually incorrect.

Before “Instruct the Leader” add,

- Shropshire Council will promote proactively Pension Credit, as was done previously for the Liz Truss Cost-of Living Crisis by contacting residents likely to be eligible, producing online and printed information for councillors and others to help members of their community.
- Shropshire Council will exempt pensioners on Pension Credit from the Green Waste Tax and continue to provide the service free of charge. This exemption will be considered for other financially vulnerable groups.

This was seconded by Councillor Kate Halliday

On taking a vote Councillor Dartnall’s amendment was not supported.

Councillor Butler’s motion with the amendment he had accepted from Councillor Dean was then put to a recorded vote with 46 Members voting for and 5 abstentions as follows

FOR:

Councillors Aldcroft, Anderson, Bardsley, Barrow, Bentick, Biggins, Bird, Broomhall, Burchett, Butler, Carroll, Davies, Dean, Elner, D Evans, J Evans, R Evans, Gittins, Green, Harris, Hartin, Hignett, Houghton, Hunt, Hurst- Knight, M Jones, S Jones, Kerr, Luff, Lumby, Macey, Motley, Mullock, Nellins, Parry, Picton, Schofield, Sherrington, Taylor, Thomas, Tindall, Towers, Wild, B Williams, Wilson and Wynn

ABSTENTION:

Councillors Bagnall, Connolly, Dartnall, Halliday, and Pardy,

It was **RESOLVED:**

We were shocked by the recent announcement by the new Labour Government to stop payments to pensioners of the Winter Fuel Payments unless they are on Pension Tax Credits.

In Shropshire we have 82,000 people over 65 representing 25.3% of the population against the England National average of 20.7% of people over 65.

With the withdrawal of the Winter Fuel Payment Shropshire will be adversely affected more than most counties across the country due to our demographics and higher percentage of pensioners. It is compounded in a very rural county with many communities not on the National Gas Grid resulting in alternative fuels for heating at greater cost. We already have many pensioners in Fuel Poverty and the result of this withdrawal will result with many more. The outcome of this will then create further pressures on the local NHS and Social Care compounding the problem making the Governments decision a false economy and push many pensioners into an additional cost of living crisis.

We therefore instruct the Leader to write to Rachel Reeves MP Labour Chancellor of the Exchequer to request she:

Reverse her decision on the removal of the Winter Fuel Allowance

If the Chancellor is not minded to reverse the decision we ask that the income level at which Pension Tax Credit can be obtained should be increased significantly to protect those less well off in our Rural Community, specifically those just about managing.

We note The Household Support Grant has been extended until April 2025. This now needs to be substantially increased to take into account the pensioners who will now be apply for the scheme which is already over subscribed dealing with the poverty across all demographics in Shropshire.

Change the system within DWP so that when applicants apply and qualify for benefits they are automatically flagged for Council Tax relief with their Local Authority

Council calls on the relevant cabinet members to organise the provision of advice, guidance and direct support to those who may be eligible for pension credits ahead of the final deadline of 21st December to claim – and therefore receive winter fuel payments by:

- Identifying through council tax and other data people who may be eligible.
- Providing information and practical support to those identified to claim pension credits, without relying entirely on online routes of communication.
- Mobilising Shropshire Local venues and staff, as well as other appropriate venues and staff – such as the Affordable Warmth team, to provide information, guidance and direct support to those who may be eligible to claim pension credits.
- Providing support and advice to town and parish councils that may be in a position to provide further support.
- Working with STAR housing, local Housing Associations and other partners to help maximise uptake of pension credit e.g. placing appropriate leaflets in pharmacies.
- Using press and social media to provide guidance and support.

We further ask portfolio holders to investigate working with Policy in Practice to make use of their Low Income Family Tracker (LIFT) tool, which combines council data with modelling to identify households in need for future interventions and to support council policy making.

Motion received from Councillor Andy Boddington and supported by the Liberal Democrat Group

The Chairman advised the meeting that this motion had been withdrawn

Motion received from Councillor Julian Dean and supported by the Green Group

New government, new relationship

This council recognises that the election of a new government is an opportunity to reset the relationship between central and local government. Shropshire Council reminds all our MPs and the new government of the central role local government can play in delivering stronger and safer communities, local economies that are sustainable and inclusive and that eliminate climate wrecking reliance on fossil fuels, and an environment that helps nature to recover.

If our communities are to have access to truly affordable homes, then councils need access to funds to build council homes – at no time has the private market alone delivered the homes we need. Councils must determine true housing need. ‘Affordable’ definitions must change to reflect income levels not housing market rents. Profit guarantees must no longer trump local needs or environmental concerns. Communities must retain the right to shape their future development.

If top tier authorities are to avoid financial meltdown, then social care and children’s services pressures need addressing with cash. Government must no longer kick the can down the road on social care funding reform.

If councils are to ensure existing homes of all tenure types are fit for the future, address transport inequality and decarbonisation and support nature recovery then capacity needs to be rebuilt and more skilled and respected professionals need to be attracted to local government.

If communities are to be truly in control of their future then devolution arrangements must be determined ‘bottom-up’ rather than as a disguised form of government imposed reorganisation.

In the forthcoming spending review it is not tenable try to squeeze more from the existing council tax system, robbing Peter to pay Paul to overcome unfair funding between councils or making struggling householders pay more for less. Reform of local government funding is long overdue in order to provide essential financial resources, fairly raised, to deliver a better future.

We call on the new Government to deliver on its promised new partnership with local government by engaging constructively with the sector as equal partners.

This was seconded by Councillor Duncan Kerr

On taking a vote the motion was unanimously supported

51 Exclusion of Press and Public

RESOLVED:

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

52 Care Home Sale

It was proposed by Councillor Dean Carroll, Portfolio Holder for Housing and Assets and seconded by Councillor Ian Nellins, Portfolio Holder for Climate Change, Environment and Transport that the exempt report of the Executive Director of Place, a copy of which is attached to the signed minutes and the recommendations contained therein, be received and agreed.

RESOLVED:

That the recommendations contained in the report be agreed

53 Disposal of The Former Grange School, Shrewsbury

It was proposed by Councillor Dean Carroll, Portfolio Holder for Housing and Assets and seconded by Councillor Mark Jones, Portfolio Holder for Growth and Regeneration that the exempt report of the Executive Director of Place, a copy of which is attached to the signed minutes and the recommendations contained therein, be received and agreed.

RESOLVED:

That the recommendations contained in the report be agreed

Signed (Chairman)

Date: