



# SHIPSTON ON STOUR TOWN COUNCIL

## MINUTES

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### 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023 General Meeting of Shipston on Stour Town Council at 7.00 pm

**Present:** Cllrs: M Westwood (Chair), G Kelly, I Cooper, J Barker, P Cox, J Dinnie, H Kelly, T Booth and non-Councillors Mr P Wragg and Mr G Smith.

**Via Zoom:** Cllr S Beckett

**Public:** 3    **Press:** 1    **SDC:** 2    **WCC:** 1    **Clerk:** Helen Morgan

1	<b>TO RECEIVE AND NOTE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b> None.
2	<b>DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST</b> (Councillors are reminded that, unless they have been granted a dispensation, if they have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any matter as defined by Regulations made by the Secretary of State where the interest is theirs, their spouse or civil partner's, or is an interest of somebody with whom they are living as a husband or wife or as if they were civil partners, they may not participate in any discussion of or vote on the matter and must also leave the room for the duration of the matter. They must also disclose the interest if it has not yet been entered on the Authority's register unless it is a sensitive interest)  None.
3	<b>TO NOTE REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION RECEIVED BY THE CLERK</b> None.
4	<b>MINUTES OF THE LAST COUNCIL MEETING</b> To confirm and accept the minutes of 9 <sup>th</sup> January 2023 General Meeting as a true and accurate record.  <b><u>Proposed by Cllr Westwood, seconded by Cllr G Kelly, 7 in favour, 1 abstention due to absence, motion carried.</u></b>
5	<b>CLERK'S REPORT</b> Report as circulated. Attention brought to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mayor's Charity Event (Shipston's Got Talent) – hardly any applications received.</li><li>• Mayor's Civic Ceremony – Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> March at 10 am.</li><li>• Elections – requirement for ID campaign in process, postal votes should be encouraged for those without the relevant ID.</li><li>• King's Coronation – Clerk to apply for road closure for The Big Lunch. Event to be advertised on social media ASAP with a save the date notice. Working party and volunteers required to organise, community groups and businesses to be encouraged to get involved.</li></ul>

<b>6</b>	<b>REPORTS</b>
<b>6.1</b>	<p><b>Town Councillor issues (STC – Shipston Town Council)</b></p> <p><b>Cllr Cox</b> advised that he had been busy keeping social media updated, particularly regarding temporary road closures.</p> <p><b>Cllr Barker</b> had been involved with Severn Trent issues, offering support to Warwickshire Police re mental health issues and anti-social behaviour. Foodbanks and warm hubs helping with the cost of living crisis.</p> <p><b>Cllr H Kelly</b> had attended a Sustainable Brailes Day with Cllr Dinnie where thermal image cameras that show where heat is being lost were demonstrated. These have been made available to residents. Suggested that STC look in to this.</p> <p><b>Cllr Dinnie</b> expressed disappointment that the meeting with the Integrated Care Board had been cancelled and that was growing anger in the town who feel that things are not moving forward with the Ellen Badger Hospital.</p> <p><b>Cllr Cooper</b> reported traders and residents frustration regarding the numerous roadworks and traffic lights due to broadband works, access to shops and the state that roads and pavements are being left in by the contractors. Cllr Barker advised that WCC will look at reinstatement once all the permitted work has been carried out.</p> <p><b>Cllr Westwood</b> reported on the visit from the British Motor Museum to the Warm Hub at the Scout Hut – they had bought props and memorabilia which had been fascinating. Cllr Westwood also mentioned the recent pantomime production of Treasure Island which had been extremely successful.</p>
	<p><b>District Council issues (SDC – Stratford District Council)</b></p> <p><b>Cllrs Harvey and Barker</b> advised that SDC has agreed to use £1.4 million CIL money for health services in Shipston - £900k for the Health and Wellbeing Hub and £500k towards the Health Centre. A discussion ensued as to whether this was an appropriate use of CIL funds, infrastructure and the history of the original funding for the Ellen Badger that Central Government took back. Cost of Living Support Fund - £250,000 has been set aside to assist with foodbanks and energy benefits that people are entitled to. Agencies to be used to ensure funds get to the front line.</p>
<b>6.3</b>	<p><b>County Council issues (WCC – Warwickshire County Council)</b></p> <p><b>Cllr Barker</b> reported that Balfour Beatty are the main contractor for Warwickshire pavements. Cllr Barker to meet with SWFT Board of Governors.</p>
<b>6.4</b>	<p><b>Blue Light update</b> – Safer Neighbourhood Team, Fire Station, First Responders.</p> <p><b>PC Hammond</b> delivered his report highlighting an increase in anti-social behaviour, burglaries, robberies and responses regarding mental health issues. This all coupled with staff shortages, backfilling and restructuring. A Youth Engagement PCSO had recently attended the Youth Club to increase awareness of various issues which was well received.</p> <p><b>Cllr Booth</b> reported on behalf of First Responders they had received 2 applications for new First Responders and that Defib/CPR training events have been/will be held around the town.</p>
<b>6.5</b>	<p><b>Shipston Forum</b></p> <p>Editor reported that a large number of submissions have been received – Little Shipstonians, Rotary, Proms, Cornmill Meadows, WI, Action for Swifts etc. Front page to run an article following the ‘journey’ of a newly recruited retained Firefighter..</p>

6.6	<p><b>Ellen Badger Hospital</b></p> <p>A lengthy discussion took place regarding the hospital including history, increase in construction costs, CIL funds, infrastructure where we are now, where we want to be, funding and the bed review. More clinical beds are needed nationally. STC has no health remit but our collective stance re the Ellen Badger is that we want a hospital (with beds), a Health and Well Being Hub and a new Medical Centre. We need to know what exactly we are to get for the money spent. More clarification is needed as to what has been spent and where.</p>
6.7	<p><b>Stour Health and Wellbeing Partnership</b></p> <p>New activities are taking place not only in Shipston but surrounding villages. Monthly meeting of the Executive Committee is taking place tomorrow.</p>
7	<p><b>OPEN FORUM (15 MINUTES DURATION)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr Zoltan Kovari introduced himself to the Council as a keen and potential new Councillor.</li> </ul>
8	<p><b>SAFAG WORKING GROUP</b></p> <p>Report as circulated.</p> <p>Council were advised that a new volunteer has been recruited, dams installed in 2017 are in good condition, residual SDC CIL money of approximately £40k for work in the Stour catchment has been carried forward under the control of the Environment Agency and that no response had been received from the Environment Agency/WCC as yet re a joint meeting to discuss 2023 plans.</p> <p><b><u>Recommendation that Council approves £250 expenditure for movement of timber from Wolford Woods to Shipston.</u></b>  <b><u>Proposed by Cllr Westwood, seconded by Cllr Dinnie, motion carried unanimously.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Recommendation that Council approves £250 expenditure for SAFAG website refresh.</u></b>  <b><u>Proposed by Cllr Westwood, seconded by Cllr Cooper, motion carried unanimously.</u></b></p>
9	<p><b>PLANNING COMMITTEE</b></p> <p>Minutes as circulated.</p> <p>All planning applications can be viewed at: <a href="https://apps.stratford.gov.uk/eplanning/">https://apps.stratford.gov.uk/eplanning/</a></p> <p>Cllr Tesh advised that much time had been spent reviewing and commenting on the draft new local plan for South Warwickshire by the Planning Committee. Non Planning Committee Cllrs were invited to submit any comments on the document directly to him by Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2023. Deadline for responses on the SDC Portal is Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2023. Cllr Tesh wished to formally thank Mr Phil Sykes for all of his hard work on this project. Cllr Cooper also thanked Mr Sykes, Cllr Tesh and all of the Planning Committee members for undertaking this onerous task.</p>
10	<p><b>GENERAL PURPOSES WORKING GROUP</b></p> <p>Minutes as circulated.</p>
11	<p><b>HERITAGE, AMENITIES AND LEISURE PROJECTS WORKING GROUP (HALP)</b></p> <p>Minutes as circulated.</p> <p>Cllr H Kelly advised that the Friends of Cornmill Meadows were very much looking forward to their hedge planting activity on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> February – 25 plus volunteers have signed up. The Council have been invited to visit Year 10 Geography Students at the High School to explain</p>

	their plans. QR codes, web pages, art and photography, science for biodiversity studies are just some of their ideas. Date to be confirmed.
12	<p><b>COMMUNICATIONS WORKING GROUP</b> Verbal update.</p> <p>Social media as per Cllr Cox's earlier comment. Info and advice being sought regarding the upgrading of Chambers IT.</p>
13	<p><b>FINANCE WORKING GROUP</b> Minutes as circulated.</p> <p><b><u>Recommendation that Council approves the purchase of 10 x Tablets Fire HD 10 tablet / 10.1", 1080p Full HD, 32 GB / made for Amazon Bluetooth Keyboard with detachable case for councillors at a cost of £209.98 each. Reserves were provided in the 2020-21 precept to cover these items.</u></b> <b><u>Proposed by Cllr Cooper, seconded by Cllr Westwood, motion carried unanimously.</u></b></p>
14	<p><b>FINANCIAL MATTERS</b> Invoices for approval as circulated and listed for January/February 2023.</p> <p><b><u>Proposed by Cllr Westwood, seconded by Cllr Dinnie, motion carried unanimously.</u></b></p>
15	<p><b>STAFFING WORKING GROUP</b> Minutes as circulated.</p> <p><b><u>Recommendation that Council approves the merging of SAFAG Working Group and an Environmental Working Group in to one.</u></b> <b><u>Proposed by Cllr Kelly, seconded by Cllr Cooper, motion carried unanimously.</u></b> Cllrs Dinnie and H Kelly to co-chair this group.</p> <p><b><u>Recommendation that Council approves the merging of General Purposes Working Group and Communications Working Group in to one.</u></b> <b><u>Proposed by Cllr Kelly, seconded by Cllr Cooper, 7 in favour, 1 abstention, motion carried.</u></b></p>
16	<p><b>YOUTH WORKING GROUP</b> Nothing to report.</p>
17	<p><b>EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC</b></p> <p><b><u>Recommendation that Council resolves to exclude the public in order to discuss matters of a confidential nature.</u></b> <b><u>Proposed by Cllr Westwood, seconded by Cllr Kelly, motion carried unanimously.</u></b></p>
18	<p><b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b> Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2023</p>

The meeting closed at 2120 hrs.

Signed..... Date.....

Cllr M Westwood, Mayor, Shipston on Stour Town Council

<b>EXPENDITURE APPROVAL LIST - FENRUARY 2023 (Meeting 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023)</b>		
<b>PAYEE</b>	<b>DETAILS</b>	<b>GROSS PAYMENT</b>
Redwax	Inv.8125 - Managed IT Support, Microsoft 365 Business Standard and Basic and website management (1/2/2023)	£294.51
Busy Biz	Inv.541 - Forum services (February 2023 edition)	£237.50
Talacom	Inv.18375 - Forum editorship (February 2023 edition)	£930.00
KMS Litho	Inv.23129 - Forum printing February 2023 edition - 3850 copies	£1,058.00
Lawns to Mow	Inv.124STC - Town Contract (January 2023)	£7,230.00
Warwickshire Pension Scheme	Staff pensions (January 2023)	£1,800.03
HMRC	Staff NI/PAYE (January 2023)	£1,601.58
Council Staff	Salaries (January 2023)	£5,135.06
Stephi Paull	Payroll services – January 2023 – Invoice to follow	£21.00
Dor-2-Dor	Inv. 0100 - Delivery of February 2023 Forum	£285.60
WALC	Inv.124 – Clerk’s Guide to Councillor Induction (HM) 09.03.2023	£36.00
<b>Direct Debits / Card payments (Contracts in place)</b>		
e-ON Next	Inv.KI-82A8288D-0016 - Electricity at New Clark House – 06.12.2023 – 31.12.20223(direct debit)	£213.87
Water Plus	Inv.00903441 - New Clark House water rates 9.12.2022 - 9.01.2023 (direct debit)	£43.81
Southern Electric	Inv. 691878909 0010 - Gas charges New Clark House 11.10.2022 – 10.01.2023	£1,059.78
Lloyds Bank	Inv.385838481 - General account charges November – December 2022 (direct debit)	£17.92
Zoom	Inv. 185096686 - Online meeting subs January – February 2023 (card payment)	£14.39
Pink Connect	Inv.392330- Telephone/Broadband – January- (card payment)	£134.76
Land Registry	Searches re Telegraph Street	£12.00
Co-Op	Refreshments – General Meeting December 2022 (HM)	£23.22
Co-Op	Refreshment – Litter pick February 2023 (HM)	£4.54
Hiscox	Insurance payment – February 2023 – Ref 8051161	£2,526.36
Amazon	2023 year wall planner – Inv. 655583425-2023-75779	£6.79
Amazon	Memorial plaque – Receipt 1332442605-2023-71	£7.95