



5	<p><b>Clerk's Report</b> – the Clerk added to her report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lease of land from SDC at New Street, following discussion the Clerk was asked to make further enquiries and re-list this item on a future agenda</li> <li>• A request from the Scouts, to use the “Little Rec” for an opening event for the new Scout Hut in July – councillors agreed to this request.</li> <li>• Member of AMT (Action for Market Towns) was discussed, Cllr Rathkey proposed that STC join, initially for one year only, seconded Cllr Vial – <b>unanimously agreed</b></li> </ul>	
6	<p><b>Town Councillors</b></p> <p><b>Cllr. Murphy</b> – reported on a very interesting visit to the Gamecock Barracks at Nuneaton for their open day. The aim of the day was to improve community awareness through a variety of demonstrations and briefings and to meet and chat with the soldiers. Cllr. Murphy had completed her pothole survey and attended a lengthy planning meeting at Wellesbourne where she presented the council's views on a planning application.</p> <p><b>Cllr. Vial</b> – had also completed his pothole survey, chaired a planning meeting and attended a Town Design meeting. Cllr Vial had great fun baking bread raising money for Red Nose Day and congratulated Cllr Trapp on her half marathon for the British Heart Foundation.</p> <p><b>Cllr. Rathkey</b> – had nothing to report but was asked a question on a staffing issue by Cllr Munden; the Town Mayor gave the following statement – ‘we expect more information and advice during this week from our solicitors. However, it is inappropriate to discuss this matter as there are separate proceedings in progress.’</p> <p><b>Cllr. A. Ivens</b> – reported on broken and missing paving slabs in Donnington Road and had completed his pothole survey.</p> <p><b>Cllr. Cooper</b> – reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• His attendance at a further meeting at Turbine Blading; the consultation period has now ended with the final outcome that the factory will be closed by the end of the year. Some staff have already left with further members leaving in June and the remainder in December. Disappointingly there are no plans to sell the business as a going concern resulting in more job losses for the town.</li> <li>• Unfortunately, the council's grant application for the ‘Going for Growth’ scheme was unsuccessful. However, money was awarded to Shipston with a proposal from local traders who organise and run the Loyalty Card.</li> <li>• Cllr Cooper circulated photographs he had taken of several blocked drains in the town.</li> <li>• His concerns with the ‘build out’ work completed in Sheep Street, stating that it has been built out too far negating its intention of allowing emergency and refuse lorries to pass parked vehicles safely. The clerk will look into the matter and report back.</li> <li>• Attending the Town Design meeting. Mr Paul Richardson will prepare a report from the areas highlighted at the meeting and a draft should be available mid May.</li> <li>• Cllr Murphy thanked Cllr Cooper for his work in preparing the application for the grant and Cllr Healey asked if GE had any future plans for the land at Turbine Blading; Cllr Cooper answered that there are no firm plans at the moment.</li> </ul> <p><b>Cllr. Warner</b> – reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On street lights not working at Railway Crescent. This area is still maintained by Peveril who will need to be contacted for any repairs.</li> <li>• Had received a complaint that the street lights are being turned off in Berry Close. Cllr Trapp has already approached WCC on this matter.</li> <li>• That the disabled parking signage in Badgers Crescent and the town centre need repainting.</li> <li>• On the potential safety issues and ‘near misses’ at the Plantation bus stop. General Purposes will discuss.</li> <li>• Congratulated Cllr Fay Ivens on her successful Mayoral year.</li> </ul> <p><b>Cllr. Munden</b> – asked if WCC could arrange for a sign at the Honington junction to be turned around and was disappointed at the state of the public toilets at the Bridgefoot Car Park, Stratford.</p> <p><b>Cllr. Jelf</b> – reported helping Cllr A Ivens to assemble a metal storage shed at New Clark House and has also completed his pothole survey. Cllr Jelf thanked WCC for repairing the large pothole in Station Road but was surprised that another less than three feet away was not repaired at the same time.</p>	

**Cllr. Trapp** – reported that Stratford has joined forces with the Shipston petition objecting to the street lights being turned off at midnight; you can also lobby your objections on a facebook page.

**Cllr. Healey** – completed his section of the pothole survey.

**Cllr. Wildish** – residents are concerned with the faded road markings throughout the town.

**Cllr. Fay Ivens** reported on a fairly quiet month attending working party meetings, a most enjoyable annual party, hosted by the Stour Valley Lions, for the senior citizen's in the community and joining the Lord Lieutenant at his reception at Shire Hall. The turning off of the street lights continues to be a concern for the Mayor.

## County Council

**CC – Cllr. Saint** – reported:

- Warwickshire County Councillors are looking forward to the election on 2<sup>nd</sup> May.
- At a meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> March the Fire & Rescue Service plan was approved which will enable the service to work more efficiently and effectively.
- The latest scam information from trading standards is to be aware of offers to jet wash the tiles on the roof of your home.
- That the large pothole in Station Road had been repaired and Highways had been notified of the continuing problems at Cripplegate, Stratford Road.
- Agrees that the 'build out' in Sheep Street appears to have been built out too far and will look into the matter and report back.
- Any queries or complaints regarding the street light 'turn off' should be directed to Mike Cunningham at WCC, although Cllr Saint doubts the situation will change. After further discussion with some councillors questioning the fairness of the areas selected where lights are turned off, Cllr Saint agreed that perhaps WCC could document where and why these were chosen.
- Cllr Saint noted that although he had not been invited to join the meetings with Turbine Blading he had contacted the appropriate services to ensure that those losing their jobs would be given the very best support available.

## District Council

**SDC – Cllr. Cheney** – reported:

- Agrees with Cllr Cooper's comments and disappointment on the job loses at Turbine Blading.
- On the unfortunate lack of consideration and help from the contractors repairing the potholes in Station Road.
- On a special meeting on the 29<sup>th</sup> April where a draft timetable for the Core Strategy should be proposed which should go forward without further consultation.
- Agrees that community engagement with the residents of the town is critical for the Neighbourhood Plan to succeed. Cllr Cooper is confident that the questionnaire to be posted to every household will result in more community involvement.
- He will discuss the small area of land up for lease at the New St. Car Park with the town clerk.
- He will speak to SDC about the condition of the public toilets in Stratford.

Cllr Vial noted that one of the refuse bins in the Telegraph Street Car Park needs replacing.

**SDC – Cllr. Kenner** – reported:

**Turbine Blading** - A further meeting has been held today with GE and local representatives to discuss closures and the future of the site.

**ASL appeal** - ASL have appealed against SDC's decision to refuse planning permission for development at Campden Road.

**Cut in funding to Warwickshire Domestic Violence Support Services (WDVSS)** – Concerns that the £19,000 cut in funding will significantly affect the amount of support the WDVSS will be able offer. Cllr Kenner would like to see SDC make up the shortfall if Stratford Town Trust fails to reverse their decision.

**Housing benefit and welfare changes** – due to the changes there has been a significant increase of householders requiring advice with the difficulties they now face. Cllr. Kenner would like to see the District Council and landlords, such as Orbit, offer assistance to their tenants and he has advised people to seek advice from the CAB; appointments are held at New Clark House every Monday morning.

**Orbit repairs** – discussions with the repairs manager at Orbit have resulted in an improvement in their response times.

7	<p><b><u>Shipston Forum</u></b>  <b>Forum Editor reported:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• During the purdah period due to the coming County Council election, columns from WCC and SDC cllrs would not be personalised</li> <li>• The front page of the April issue is likely to include the ongoing road safety campaign and possibly the new Youth Shelter</li> <li>• Advice was sought concerning a “Crimestoppers” advert – STC confirmed this was appropriate</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Open Forum for Parishioners</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A resident noted that lights on the driveway of the Catholic Church were not switched on – <i>Clerk will write to Catholic church</i></li> <li>• Also noted that a cottage in Sheep Street was overgrown with shrubs – <i>the Clerk will write to the residents and ask for the offending shrubs to be cut back</i></li> <li>• Pete Smith, resident – commented: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That the area of New Street car park owned by SDC was a house.</li> <li>• Could he have permission to the cut down the tree in Orchard Close – it had been due for works for some time. (<i>Update from Orbit Housing – the tree works are due to be carried out on 10<sup>th</sup> May</i>).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
9	<p><b><u>Planning Matters</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS – discussed at Planning Working Group meeting  <i>These applications discussed by the Planning Working Group actioned using standing order: Section 3b(xv)</i>  <b>13/00436/FUL</b> – Green Haven, Greenfields Close – Replacement of existing single garage with new double garage and 2 storey side extension and single storey rear extension.  <b>Recommendation: No representation, with comments – proposed PV, seconded AJ – unanimously agreed – all cllrs present declared an interest</b>  <b>13/00597/LBC</b> - The Manor House, Sheep Street – Opening of previous cellar entrance from Manor House and close of entrance from Manor Lodge to re-align with curtilage of premises.  <b>Recommendation: No representation, with comments – proposed PV, seconded AJ – unanimously agreed</b></li> <li>• <b>NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS</b>  13/00601/FUL – 5 Banister Way – convert garage to living space &amp; erection of single storey rear extension  13/00750/TREE – 5 Redwood Park – T1: Willow – fell  Applications listed above will be discussed at planning group meeting on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April</li> <li>• <b>PLANNING DECISIONS BY DISTRICT OR COUNTY COUNCIL</b>  13/00082/FUL – 27 – 29 Stratford Road – demolition of existing, erection of 10 self contained apartments for people with disability – Permission with conditions</li> </ul>	
10	<p><b><u>Shipston Educational Charity</u></b>  Councillors were asked to confirm two nominees as trustees of Shipston Educational Charity, Cllr Rathkey, proposed that Mr Little and Mr Taylor be confirmed as trustees to Shipston Educational Charity for four years – from 8<sup>th</sup> April 2013, seconded Cllr Trapp – <b>unanimously agreed</b></p>	
11	<p><b><u>Communications Report</u></b>  The Town Council have been asked to sign an agreement, as landowners, between SDC and the Scouts, following discussion Cllr Cooper proposed that STC should sign the document subject to checking by the STC solicitor, seconded Cllr Murphy – <b>unanimously agreed</b></p>	
12	<p><b><u>Finance Report</u></b>  Cllr Cooper went through his report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An explanation of the budget comparison review was given</li> <li>• Grants – queries had arisen over the possible grant to the Rugby Club and matched funding grant to DASH. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Further information would be requested from the Rugby Club.</li> <li>○ Although STC continue to support the work of DASH, evidence of matched funding must be given</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Potential cap to parish precepts – Cllr Cooper was asked to prepare a response to this matter</li> <li>• Town Council Insurance – Cllr Cooper proposed that the WPS quote for insurance is accepted to cover needs for the year 2013 – 2014, seconded Cllr A Ivens – <b>unanimously agreed</b></li> <li>• Cllr Cooper proposed that the appointment of Marina McQuade as internal auditor be confirmed for the 2012-2013 financial year, seconded Cllr F Ivens – <b>unanimously agreed</b></li> </ul>	

<p>13</p> <p>14</p> <p>15</p>	<p><b><u>Financial Matters</u></b> Cllr Rathkey proposed that all invoices be paid, seconded Cllr Vial – <b>unanimously agreed</b></p> <p><b><u>Correspondence</u></b> No matters raised</p> <p><b><u>General Purposes Working Group</u></b> Cllr Noyce introduced the report:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The general purposes group were asked to re-visit their recommendations for cemetery rules, they agreed to bring a further recommendation to the June meeting following the forthcoming training.</li> <li>2. The pot hole survey had been completed and will be sent on to the Highways Officer</li> <li>3. The metal storage shed has been delivered and is under construction</li> <li>4. One-way system – High Street to Sheep Street – following discussion GPWG were asked to consult further with WCC Highways.</li> </ol>	
	<p><b><u>Finale</u></b> The Town Mayor noted that the next meeting will be held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May, 2013 in New Clark House commencing at 7.00 pm.</p> <p>The Town Mayor thanked fellow councillors, press and public for their attendance and closed the meeting at 9.01 pm.</p> <p>Signed..... Date.....</p> <p>Councillor Mrs F Ivens Town Mayor Shipston on Stour Town Council</p>	