

SHREWSBURY TOWN COUNCIL
Meeting of Council
Held in the Council Chamber, Livesey House, Shrewsbury at
6pm on Tuesday 9th April 2024

PRESENT

Councillors B Wall (Mayor), R Dartnall, J Dean, P Gillam, N Green, K Halliday, C Lemon, P Moseley, A Mosley, K Pardy, A Phillips, E Roberts, A Wagner & R Wilson.

IN ATTENDANCE

Helen Ball (Town Clerk), Amanda Spencer (Deputy Town Clerk) & Andy Watkin (Head of Resources).

118/23 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

RESOLVED:

That apologies be received and accepted from Councillors B Bentick, M Davies & D Vasmer

119/23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CODE OF CONDUCT

Councillor Alex Phillips	Declared an interest in the Greenfields item on the agenda as he is the ward member
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120/23 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED:

That in accordance with s1(2) Public Bodies (Admission of Meetings) Act 1960, members of the public be excluded from the meeting on the grounds that the following items being considered involve the disclosure of confidential information.

The Mayor advised that live streaming of this meeting would now stop. She thanked members of the public for logging in. All papers relating to the meeting could be found on the website www.shrewsburytowncouncil.gov.uk

121/23 GREENFIELDS RECREATION GROUND

Members considered the report of the Deputy Town Clerk & Head of Resources in relation to a settlement agreement between the Town Council and CSE for the repurchase of land at Greenfields Recreation Ground.

The final settlement fee was within the agreed set aside sum agreed by Council in December 2023. Within the Settlement Agreement there was a mutually agreed public statement. The Deputy Town Clerk was currently working on a list of FAQs to provide more detail, without compromising the principles of the mutually agreed statement.

The Head of Resources had sought guidance from HMRC on the likely Stamp Duty Fees payable.

Members were also keen that the land returns to public use as quickly as possible and that officers when possible should review all necessary works to the site to create public access. It was however noted that this parcel of land would not be treated any differently to other parcels of land.

Members also considered an update on potential proceedings to mitigate against the settlement sum. The Council's Solicitor had recommended opinion be sought by Counsel to determine the way forward. This process was agreed with further decisions being taken by Full Council in due course.

Further discussions ensued on communications in relation to the agreement.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the Town Council makes a settlement agreement with CSE Developments Ltd**
- (ii) That the Group Leaders be authorised to sign all necessary legal documentation;**
- (iii) That Officers, in conjunction with the Group Leaders proceed to seek further legal advice in relation to the potential of mitigating settlement agreement costs; this to be reported back to Full Council**

This resolution was agreed unanimously.