#### SHREWSBURY TOWN COUNCIL

# Meeting of the Recreation & Leisure Committee Held in Committee Room, Livesey House, 7 St John's Hill At 6.00pm on Wednesday 6 November 2024

#### **PRESENT**

Councillors P Gillam (Chair), E Addams, B Bentick, C Lemon, A Mosley, P Moseley, K Pardy, A Wagner and D Vasmer.

#### **IN ATTENDANCE**

Helen Ball (Town Clerk), Stuart Farmer (Operations Manager), Danny Powell (Operations Manager) Ian Thorpe (Commercial, Markets & Events Manager), Ruth Jones (Office Manager) and Michelle Farmer (Committee Officer).

Also in attendance was John Campion (Police & Crime Commissioner), Sgt Phil Parke and Sgt Neil Ward.

### 33/24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

#### **RESOLVED:**

That apologies be received and accepted from Councillor Davies.

# 34/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (PECUNIARY & NON-PECUNIARY) IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CODE OF CONDUCT

| Shropshire Councillors | Those twin-hatted members declared a personal interest in any matters |
|------------------------|---|
|                        | relating to the Town Council's relationship with Shropshire Council.  |

#### 35/24 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the Recreation & Leisure Committee meeting held on 4 September 2024 were submitted as circulated and read.

# **RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the Recreation & Leisure Committee meeting held on 4 September 2024 be approved and signed as a correct record.

# 36/24 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

There were no Matters Arising from the previous meeting.

Councillor Vasmer joined the meeting.

### 37/24 POLICING & CRIME IN SHREWSBURY

The Police & Crime Commissioner had requested the opportunity to attend a meeting of the Town Council to hear Councillors views about policing, crime and the support on offer for victims. It was arranged that he would attend this Recreation & Leisure Committee meeting.

As Police and Crime Commissioner for West Mercia, he was committed to hearing the voices of local communities and delivering change. He knew from listening to residents in Shrewsbury and from visiting the town himself that there were several issues impacting the community, including significant drug activity and anti-social behaviour. He wanted to continue that engagement and conversations with residents and Shrewsbury Town Councillors to ensure that he and West Mercia Police were doing all they could to address concerns. He was committed to strengthening relationships and improving the intelligence picture locally whilst ensuring that he clearly understood councillors' priorities and could effectively support and challenge the Chief Constable on progress.

John Campion was elected as the Police & Crime Commissioner for West Mercia in 2016. He was re-elected in 2021 and for a third term in May 2024. His role was to scrutinise the service the public receive from their police force, ensuring they have trust and confidence in them. The PCC sets priorities in his Police & Crime plan of which he was in the final stages of setting the plan and guide he would use for the next 4 years. The main priorities identified were:

- Cutting Crime
- Policing with the community
- Supporting victims and witness
- Maximising resources and values for money

He reported that significant crime in Shrewsbury was down in varying degrees and the focus was to bring crime down further and increase the number of outcomes with high quality responses. With preventing crime, he wanted to make sure more grass roots work was done.

The number of victims and survivors was particularly high, and he wanted to provide an understanding of individual needs. Policing was made up of brave and supportive individuals.

There was a great challenge to ensure money was spent effectively. They were reliant on grants and pressure would be felt. PCSOs were non statutory but they were instrumental in visual policing and £280 million had been spent this year.

He talked about the iconic Shrewsbury Town Centre and how some of the issues raised had not been addressed in a timely manner and reassured members that those on the ground were getting more support. There was more work to be done but he had his commitment to make sure policing was fit for the local community. He had been out to public consultation to ensure their voice was heard and help shape the future of policing.

Councillor Bentick spoke about the ASB issues in his ward of Meole Brace and that he was pleased with the PCSO increase and effective interventions which needed to continue. He said that there were speeding issues within his ward and could the PCC enforce a 20mph limit. John Campion said he would check this with the Chief Constable.

Councillor Vasmer was very supportive of the PCSOs in the town centre and that the Street Pastors also did a great job. There was a lack of stability on policing teams with there being a constant change over of staff and he would like more stability regarding personnel. Councillor Mosley also agreed with the comment regarding stability.

The Crime Commissioner agreed with Councillor Vasmer's comment and that they could have stability in teams, but it was where the resources were in the model. Communities should know who their local policing team was and there was a 2-year retention which public should be made more aware of.

Councillor Wagner thanked the Commissioner for the improvements over the years and asked if there was any merit in having a physical structure and work with other agencies to have a permanent residence in the town. The PCC was more conscious that the more money spent on buildings meant less spent on Personnel. There was not a solution yet and he would keep a check on this.

Councillor Addams reported on a dramatic increase in bike theft in her ward of Harlescott and she was concerned that crimes were being reported and not being investigated. PCC commented that pedal bike theft would be seen as a low issue, but West Mercia Police should report back promptly and effectively. He feared that the crime reported did not reach the local teams to investigate. The PCC commented on the use of Smart Water and property marking was highly recommended.

Councillor Bentick experience was that reporting crime via 101 was laborious and there were delays in telephone answering. The PCC replied that his hands were tied by the Home Office recording office. He stated that the average wait time on 101 was 3 minutes and to keep reporting crimes via this method was worthwhile.

As there were no further questions from the Committee, the PCC and police officers were thanked for their attendance and left the meeting.

# 38/24 CAPITAL PROGRAMME

The Town Clerk updated the Committee on the Capital Programme. Castlewalk Nature Trail had now been completed. Aside to that, staff would be looking to level out some of the ponding areas on the footpath they built a few years ago.

The Beaver Compound had been completed and was awaiting sign off with DEFRA which would allow the introduction of beavers. A Steering Group Meeting had been set up made up of two Councillors (Addams & Phillips) and two Trustees from the Wildlife Trust. It was hoped that the beavers would be here sometime before March 2025.

Councillor Addams informed the Town Clerk that she had four volunteers ready for training who would like to be involved with this project.

Councillor Mosley asked if it would be made clear to the public on how to view them. The Operations Manager advised they would not be on public display as that was not their nature, but they would be monitored by camera footage.

Members commented that the walkway that had been constructed was wonderful and that residents could access a site that had never been accessible before.

#### **RESOLVED:**

That the Capital Programme update be noted.

# 39/24 FISHERIES

# 39.1 Shrewsbury Town Fisheries

The Town Clerk reported that it had been a busy season for Shrewsbury Town Fisheries with continued improvements to platforms many of which had been funded by outside bodies. Work was ongoing in developing a plan for next year particularly around youth engagement.

At Radbrook Pool a further four new replacement fishing platforms had been installed and completing all platforms for the entire pool. Additional areas of new footpath around small sections of the pool to improve access on areas that got very wet and muddy for anglers, disabled anglers and members of the public was now likely to take place in the spring when the weather conditions were drier.

An Environment Agency/ Angling Trust FIP grant was applied for earlier in the year and was not successful in round one. They were asked to reapply for this grant for the Radbrook Pool works in round two. This was successful and this would help fund the new paths and the four platforms installed.

At Mousecroft Pool after all the work and enhancements in and around the pool, anglers were experiencing extremely good fishing. Further works of a new entrance gate, to match all the other fisheries, and a side swing wicket were planned in the coming week's; weather permitting. The side wicket would be added to improve access for all next to the gate. Currently members of the public squeeze through a small gap between the existing gate and the fence.

Plans were under way to work with the Canals and River Trust next year alongside the Angling Trust for coaching for juniors & adults. This would further enhance their coaching facility and events for next year. A meeting was planned in November and coaching events and actions would be agreed in plenty of time for the new season. The enthusiasm and positivity were really impressive with the coaching team.

At Oxon Pool they had experienced high water levels that had been quite substantial. They seemed to be experiencing more land run off than before and the sluice had been clear of debris but now didn't seem to cope with the volume of water entering the pool. There was also a concern of high levels of ammonia during their regular water testing that they did on all their pools. This was being investigated with the help of the Environment Agency.

At Quarry & County Ground they were currently in the process of looking at the tree plan with respect to angling access around the platforms. This has been delayed due to personal reasons. The other importance of clear access around the platforms was river safety for the deployment of throw lines or life rings. Clear overhead access was required for the deployment of these devices if and when needed in an emergency.

At Sydney Avenue they were recently contacted by the West Midlands Fire and Rescue with respect to them launching the boat at Sydney Avenue beach area during an emergency. They recently had a problem due to camper vans blocking the easy access to the river area

they used during an emergency. The bailiffs had been informed to keep the area clear of all anglers. This had been problematic throughout the year and needed a solution.

The Town Clerk also updated members on a matter relating to the fish stocks at Springfield. They had reports of significant fish stock dying due to depleted oxygen levels. At present they had a perfect storm of natural issues in that area with a very mild and calm autumn, a large fish population fighting for space, a lot of tree cover and decaying leaves in the water, run off from the roads and the rest of the recreation ground and lovely that it was, an abundance of people wanting to feed the ducks which had resulted in an overly stocked wildfowl population. This had resulted in the eco-system in that area being out of balance and they had to let nature take its course to rectify itself. Town Council staff had met with the Town Fisheries Coordinator and the Environment Agency and had a plan for how they could open up the pool and aerate the water. They would not be moving any of the fish elsewhere, so they had to deal with this eco-system individually. They would also go on a concerted communications exercise to educate the public on the damage of feeding the ducks. The Town Clerk had spoken to Councillor Dartnall who was fully on board. Signage would be looked at with the idea of changing them on a regular basis to keep the message out there. This committee would be kept up to date.

Councillor Pardy asked if Shropshire Fire & Rescue could assist in anyway. The Town Clerk agreed to contact them.

Councillor Bentick suggested that they went into schools to educate the pupils on the damage of feeding ducks. The Town Clerk agreed that this was something they could look into but for now they needed to deal with this short-term issue.

Councillor Lemon commented on the four domestic ducks that had been placed in the Radbrook. He was aware that Cuan Wildlife had been contacted but asked if they knew of any update. It was confirmed that Andy Jones of Shrewsbury Town Fisheries was still awaiting a response.

# **RESOLVED:**

# That the Fisheries report be noted

Councillor Lemon left the meeting.

# 39.2 Shrewsbury Town Fisheries and Shrewsbury Town Council

The Commercial, Markets & Events Manager reported to Committee the relationship between Shrewsbury Town Council and Shrewsbury Town Fisheries to work and the need to formalise an arrangement.

#### **RESOLVED:**

#### That the update be noted

Councillor Pam Moseley left the meeting.

# **40/24 TEAM SHREWSBURY**

The Office Manager provided an update on Team Shrewsbury activities.

Over the past three months, there was an ASB spike in August, these then reduced in September. On reviewing the yearly comparisons, issues had reduced quite significantly. As previously reported it was believed that the reduction in incidents represented the great work and support that the Town Rangers & Quarry Security undertook on a daily basis, alongside the enforcement from West Mercia Police.

As per the Central Safer Neighbourhood Team newsletter, Hot Spot policing continued in the Town Centre covering Pride Hill, Shoplatch and Barker Street. Positive actions had been taken, resulting in a number of arrests. Police Surgeries had been taking place in the Square with the next planned for 17 November & 26 November.

As advised at the last Committee meeting, Make Our Rivers Safer Facebook donated to the purchase of Samaritans signs. These were now being installed by West Mercia Search & Rescue on the various bridges/railings around Town.

#### **RESOLVED:**

That the contents of the report be noted

# 40.2 Policing Charter

The Office Manager provided an update on Policing Priorities. Councillors' priorities were issued to the Inspector for the next quarter – starting October. They were listed at this meeting for ratification. The next quarter requests would be made next month, in order to submit in readiness for January start. These would then be ratified at Committee on the 15 January 2025. The previous quarter's updates were circulated to members prior to this meeting.

# **RESOLVED:**

That the contents of the report be noted

# 40.3 Terrorism Bill and impact on Town Council premises and events

The Town Clerk had spoken about Martyn's Law previously and how the Town Council was working towards compliance even before the legislation was on the Statute Book. The Terrorism (Protection of Premises Bill) was presented to Parliament in September, and it had subsequently had its first and second reading. It had also been considered by the Public Bills Scrutiny Committee and the Town Clerk was asked to give oral evidence on the likely impact of the bill on Parish & Town Councils. In terms of what it meant to the Town Council, the Bill as it stood had probably excluded the Community Centres and the Grange Youth Centre, but the Market Hall remained in scope as did the major events in the park, but the Town Clerk was minded to take a very pragmatic Terrorism Aware approach for all publicly accessible locations. She had also been on a few Teams Meetings with Officers from Homeland Security

about what future guidance would look like so she was quite comfortable that they could be in a strong position to be compliant early days and equally they needed to be in a position to support a collaborative approach to terrorism management across the town. The Town Clerk would be meeting Chief Inspector Preece in a couple of weeks to look at how they could initiate some kind of townwide Desktop Exercise, similar to what had already been done with event organisers.

#### **RESOLVED:**

That the update be noted.

# 41/24 CHRISTMAS

The Town Clerk reported that the usual Christmas Lights Switch On and Carols in the Square Events were planned, and they were appreciative of the role that BBC Radio Shropshire played in both events. There was a great programme, and it was lovely to get into the festive spirit.

The Christmas tree in the Quarry was new for this year. They would be holding a small switch on event in conjunction with Save The Hive campaign which would be held at 5.30pm on Friday 22 November. Father Christmas would be arriving by fire engine.

# **42/24 QUARRY**

The Commercial, Markets & Events Manager updated the Committee on the Quarry Events for 2024.

Now that the event calendar for 2024 had more or less drawn to a close it was pertinent to assess the year as a whole, acknowledging what went well and learning the lessons for improvements to be made in 2025.

With this aim in mind, they had already held an internal review meeting which provided an opportunity to discuss the main issues which arose during the year and identified what could be done pro-actively to address these areas of concern. This would then form a key element to build into the events strategy for 2025.

It was clear that the current events calendar provided an excellent framework to follow and that they should continue to operate within the parameters of the existing premises licence.

It had proven to be another busy and ultimately successful year with 54 individual events held within the park itself and a further 17 taking place in and around the Victorian bandstand. One of the most pleasing aspects was the broad range of events they held from the large two-day festivals down to small charity fundraisers.

This was something they were very keen to build on in 2025 and therefore were in the early stages of developing a 'summer season' of musical performances held in the bandstand that were free to everyone to attend and enjoy. They had already been in contact with the bands who had a long history of performing in Shrewsbury to gauge their interest and availability, whilst they were also in the process of inviting local schools, colleges, and community groups to have the opportunity to come and play.

The extremely wet weather during the last 12 months had and continued to pose some unprecedented ground condition challenges within the park, however it was very pleasing to report that all events went ahead as scheduled. They managed to minimise the impact through the remedial work carried out by their experienced in-house grounds maintenance team, together with some careful re-planning and site adjustments.

It was pleasing to report that most of the key calendar events were already provisionally booked for 2025 and they continued to receive enquiries from the organisers of new events they would like to hold.

Councillor Vasmer was in full support of the summer season in the bandstand and asked if a programme or timetable would be put together. It was confirmed that there would be a timetable and once finalised it would be promoted and publicised.

#### **RESOLVED:**

That the contents of the report be noted.

# **43/24 RECREATION GROUND MATTERS**

# 43.1 Grounds Maintenance update

Danny Powell, Acting Operations Manager, reported that since the last update in September, the weather for part of the time had been very wet with unprecedented rainfall. This had impacted on operations with some being put back and others stopped. Over the last 3-week period the weather and ground conditions had improved, and the staff had caught up.

On the 23 October, one of our longest serving members of staff, Steve Watkins retired after 34 years. They all wished him a long and happy retirement.

On the Logistics Team, two wardens had carried out hedge cutting and general maintenance work. Playground visits and inspections were continuing. Wardens had helped with floor cleaning in the Market Hall. Staff had been tiding up playgrounds in the Reabrook Valley after the highest ever flood, this had included the power washing of the MUGA in Meole Estate. All the summer floral structures and hanging baskets had now been removed from the Town Centre. Hedge cutting would recommence in the next week and winter maintenance of grass cutting machinery had commenced.

The Countryside and Green Space Arboriculture team started their winter tree maintenance programme on the 1 October. Several of them had been on training courses to update their knowledge and skills. The countryside staff had been carrying out tree work and their normal autumn duties. After the highest ever flood of the Reabrook on the 16 October, they had been repairing fences, paths and tidying up the damage. In some places, paths had been washed away and new paths put in. Shrub bed maintenance had started. Two members of staff spent two weeks edging and tiding the Cycle path/ footpath from Longden Road Island to Shelton traffic Lights. When weather and ground conditions had allowed, they had been cutting grass verges on the main routes around Town. They would continue this operation until ground conditions stopped them. The Beaver compound work continued. Cemetery staff had dealt with two complex traveller funerals. The Town Council had purchased soil to make up graves in the Cemetery, which at the present time Shropshire Council could not afford.

On the Amenity Team, the removal of summer bedding displays was complete. Spring bedding planting was nearly complete, with a small number of spring bulbs still to finish. Traffic Island beds were also completed, and the mowing of the Islands would take place when required. These staff would also now start the winter bed maintenance programme. In the Nursery, they had taken cuttings from several plants to reduce the need to buy plug plants for next year. The staff had potted up the perennials they grew from seed this year and these would be grown on ready to be used next year. Many plants which had been removed from this summer's displays had been returned to the Nursery and potted up, ready to be reused next summer. The plant requirements for next summer had been finalised and a tender sent out for plugs and seeds. Several of the square wooden planters which Shropshire Council purchased had been brought in from the town centre to be cleaned and replanted and they would go back out in the New Year. The Town Council had supplied Whitchurch Town Council, Minsterley and Pontesbury Parish Councils with their Spring Bedding plants. From next summer the Town Council would supply Ellesmere Town Council with their hanging baskets and floral pole tops. They had also won the tender to supply Wem Town Council with their summer bedding plants. The Town Council would also be suppling seven other areas with Bedding plants for next summer. Since the 1 October they have had a work placement apprentice from Reaseheath College working in the Quarry on a Monday. At the same time, they have employed the young man who they took on placement from Enable as an apprentice.

The Recreation and Formal Space team were continuing mowing on large areas, whilst ground conditions allowed. The Maintenance of School contract was ongoing till mid-November or longer if a school requested more work. The end of season renovation was complete on bowls, croquet and cricket squares. The Team had also renovated Bayston Hill bowling green for Bayston Hill Parish Council. An Aeration programme of sports surfaces had begun. Recreation Grounds were still being mown; grass growth would start to slow as day light hours reduced. Winter maintenance work had started but was slowed by the need to still cut grass. Senior and Junior football fixtures continued. One weekend had been lost to the weather, but after speaking with the Senior League secretary, they were informed that they were in front on fixtures. There would be no fixtures on the 22 December and 5 January. The Golf Course was closed for four days after the Reabrook flooded. The overgrown area at Greenfields had been cut down using a Robocut-forester which was hired in by the Town Council and operated by Recreation Team Manager Mark Preece.

Councillor Bentick asked if the Town Clerk could write to River Severn Partnership regarding The Rea Brook Natural Flood Management Project, which has been operating for some time and resurrected in January 2024 as there had been no response. The Town Clerk agreed she would contact them.

Councillor Vasmer congratulated the Town Council teams on the outside contracts that had been won to provide other Town and Parish Councils with flowers, this was a great achievement.

Councillor Addams congratulated the Town Council on the placement from Reaseheath and from Enable.

#### **RESOLVED:**

# (i) That the report be noted

# (ii) That the Town Clerk write to the River Severn Partnership regarding The Reabrook Natural Flood Management Project

# 43.2 Redeveloping County Ground Pavilion

The Town Clerk informed Committee that Council had previously allocated £400,000 of Neighbourhood Fund to the redevelopment of the Pavilion but this wasn't going to be enough to carry out the improvements needed. The Town Clerk had spoken to the \$106 Officers and the Copthorne Barracks Funds allocated to this site meant that they could utilise that residue (£84,789) for this purpose. This project remained in their evolving Corporate Plan, and the Town Clerk suggested that they brought the budget up to £500,000 with additional professional fees of about £25,000 to see whether they could get something nearer to what they needed. They also needed to look at security of tenure and the potential of developing some kind of Community CIC that could run the site and give better assurance to governing bodies to financially support this project. The Town Clerk was seeking the Committee's support to add a budget requirement of £525,000 to this project so that they could progress it further. When they had more detail and certainly when they needed to think about tenure she would report back fully to this Committee.

#### **RESOLVED:**

- (i) That the update be noted
- (ii) That a budget allocation of £525,000 is established in the Capital Plan.

# 43.3 Greenfields Recreation Ground update

The Town Clerk reported that officers continued to engage with the Greenfields Community Group, and they had met both here at Livesey House and on site at the Recreation Ground and corresponded extensively with the group.

Since they had acquired the land they had:

- Cleared the site of vegetation that had allowed them to understand the topography.
- Crown lifted the trees along the walkway away from the footway lights which had improved lux levels.
- Trimmed the hedgerow and reduced its height particularly at the corner near the allotments where the pathway heads off towards the school.
- Dealt with Ash Die Back Trees and a Lime Tree by the carpark.
- Tendered out for Solar Lights
- Tendered out for Outdoor Gym Equipment

They did have a lot of work to do before it could open to the public, namely:

- Sorting out the access gate
- Filling in the holes dug by the previous owner.
- Sorting out the fencing adjacent to the neighbouring owner's boundary

They also had plans for:

- Bark pathways
- Tree Planting

### Wildflower planting

They also had a request from the National Grid for wider access rights to the substation.

This wasn't a Grand Design Project where it would be done overnight as the area would take time to re-nature and they did have to manage local expectations. This was also not the only recreation ground that they had work priorities on. The Town Clerk had already spoken about Springfield Recreation Ground and there were subsidence priorities on Castlewalk Recreation Ground that they had to address.

The Town Clerk believed that they had made good progress and whilst she was on site recently some of the Group thanked them for the work that had been done.

Councillor Mosley commented that it had been difficult on occasions, but it had been made clear that the plans presented needed to go out for public consultation and it had been agreed that this would be the case based on responses received.

#### **RESOLVED:**

That the update be noted

#### 43.4 Land at Waincote

The Town Clerk had mentioned previously there being a requirement for part of the Waincote Recreation Ground to facilitate subsidiary roundabouts to feed the North West Relief Road. She appreciated that Council was against the project, but she did have to get what was best for the recreation ground and work with the team rather just await CPO details. It was not much that was required but it would require fencing and hedgerow work and work to the pathway and she was hoping that she could get the whole of the pathways sorted out as a community project with them. There would also be additional trees to be planted on site, all of which would be funded out of the project. As it progressed, committee would be informed.

Councillor Addams asked if the current zipwire that was in place would be moved as it was a well-used part of the ground. Stuart informed Councillor Addams that the zipwire was currently damaged and not in use but would be replaced not as part of this project.

# **RESOLVED:**

That the update be noted

# 44/24 SHREWSBURY IN BLOOM

# 44.1 Heart of England in Bloom Awards

The Town Clerk reported on success in the Heart of England in Bloom Competition. She paid tribute to the Operations Managers hard work in engaging staff and putting the pride back into the Bloom Entry. She had spoken to the judges at the Award Ceremony, and they said their entry was exceptional. Shrewsbury had always done really well in Bloom but under the Town Council's leadership had never been awarded the top trophy for the Region. This had

been a true team effort, and she also referenced the admin team involvement and in particular Michelle Farmer and Ruth Jones who pulled together what she thought was the best Portfolio the Council had ever prepared, which again the Judges commented on.

Heart of England in Bloom had nominated Shrewsbury to represent the region in Britain in Bloom. A glowing accolade despite the many local challenges the town faced.

#### **RESOLVED:**

#### That the update be noted

# 44.2 Britain in Bloom campaign 2025

The Town Clerk, along with the Acting Operations Managers, reported that plans were underway for next year's entry in Britain in Bloom. They had purchased a taller planter for Smithfield Road and purchased new pole tops for the Dingle. A staff meeting had been arranged to get ideas from the staff. The route was being planned and would be made available once finalised. They were also looking at the possibility of sponsorship opportunities since they no longer had the roundabout sponsorship.

A get together of all Town Council staff had been held to thank them for all their hard work. This was attended by the Mayor and by Keith Roberts, the Chairman of the Bloom Committee, who also thanked the staff for their hard work.

Councillor Bentick asked if the judging dates for next year were known but the Town Clerk informed him that they were not known but all Councillors would be informed once the date had been confirmed.

Councillor Bentick also proposed that a formal vote of thanks to all Shrewsbury Town Council staff be recorded. All members agreed.

#### **RESOLVED:**

- (i) That the update be noted
- (ii) That a formal vote of thanks be given to all Shrewsbury Town Council staff for their hard work during Bloom 2024.

# 45/24 COMMUTED SUMS

The Town Clerk gave an update on negotiations with developers and transfer arrangements. They had not reached any trigger points for any further Town Council involvement and would continue to liaise with planners on development progress:

- (i) Copthorne Barracks Play and Open Space offsite contributions to play (£30,498 £20498 for Shorncliffe Drive & £10000 for Silks Meadow to be paid on 75% occupancy) and open space (£115,000 for sports pitches & associated facilities at County Ground paid on 50% occupancy) funds in relation to landscaping at the County Ground have been drawn down.
- (ii) Barratt Homes/Bovis Homes Mytton Oak Road Phase 1 adopted; Snagging Phase 2/3 commenced. No identified date for transfer. Developer has request

early transfer, but certain works need to be completed ahead of transfer. Staff have walked the site recently.

# (iii) Shrewsbury South Urban

- 1. Sutton Grange site ongoing likely transfer in 2023/24 recent meeting with Taylor Wimpey to discuss logistics for transfer.
- 2. Bellway Homes site discussion on land adoption and adoption of acoustic fencing
- 3. Galliers site early discussions on land adoption
- 4. Community Centre location on the site
- (iv) Harlescott Infants/Juniors site Offsite contributions to sport. Approvals for use of the funds at Kynaston Road Recreation Ground for drainage works – contribution for the drainage has been received so this item will now be discharged from the list.
- (v) Radbrook College site Open space adoption officers met with Floreat Homes on site likely adoption once all phases are complete.
- (vi) Weir Hill Agreements to adopt the land at a future time have been signed meeting with Taylor Wimpey looking at the possibility of the countryside land to be transferred ahead of the POS on the development site.

# **RESOLVED:**

That the update be noted.

### **46/24 CLOSING REMARKS**

In closing the meeting, the Chairman thanked Councillors for attending and taking part in this Town Council meeting and thanked the staff involved in this meeting. All papers related to the meeting could be found on the website <a href="https://www.shrewsburytowncouncil.gov.uk">www.shrewsburytowncouncil.gov.uk</a>.