



Shropshire Council  
Legal and Democratic Services  
Resources Directorate  
Shirehall  
Abbey Foregate  
Shrewsbury  
SY2 6ND

**Committee: Council**

Date: Wednesday, 12 May 2021

**Date: Thursday, 20 May 2021**

**Time: 10.00 am**

**Venue: The Auditorium - Theatre Severn, Frankwell Quay, Frankwell,  
Shrewsbury SY3 8FT**

You are requested to attend the above meeting. The Agenda is attached

**Members of the Council** – a briefing note will be circulated by e-mail prior to the meeting with important housekeeping details and arrangements for the morning.

**Members of the Public** – there will be some, but very limited access in the Theatre for the public to attend the meeting in order to comply with Covid-19 regulations. If you wish to attend the meeting please contact the Committee Officer Tim Ward (contact details below) to check that a seat will be available for you.

Members of the public will be able to access the live stream of the meeting by clicking on this link:

<https://shropshire.gov.uk/council20may2021>

Tim Collard  
Interim Assistant Director – Legal and Democratic Services

Vince Hunt (Speaker)  
Roy Aldcroft  
Jeff Anderson  
Caroline Bagnall  
Nicholas Bardsley  
Joyce Barrow  
Bernie Bentick  
Thomas Biggins  
Ed Bird  
Andy Boddington  
Peter Broomhall  
Julia Buckley  
Garry Burchett  
Gwilym Butler  
Dean Carroll  
Steve Charmley

Ted Clarke  
Gerald Dakin  
Rosemary Dartnall  
Steve Davenport  
Mary Davies  
Julian Dean  
Geoff Elner  
David Evans  
Julia Evans  
Roger Evans  
Paul Gill  
Rob Gittins  
Nat Green  
Kate Halliday  
Simon Harris  
Nigel Hartin

Nick Hignett  
Ruth Houghton  
Richard Huffer  
Tracey Huffer  
Kirstie Hurst-Knight  
Mike Isherwood  
Mark Jones  
Simon Jones  
Duncan Kerr  
Heather Kidd  
Christian Lea  
Hilary Luff  
Nigel Lumby  
Elliott Lynch  
Robert Macey  
Richard Marshall

David Minnery  
Dan Morris  
Pamela Moseley  
Alan Mosley  
Cecilia Motley  
Peggy Mullock  
Ian Nellins  
Kevin Pardy  
Vivienne Parry

Tony Parsons  
Lezley Picton  
Ed Potter  
John Price  
Chris Schofield  
Dan Thomas  
Robert Tindall  
Edward Towers  
Dave Tremellen

Kevin Turley  
David Vasmer  
Alex Wagner  
Claire Wild  
Brian Williams  
Rob Wilson  
Leslie Winwood  
Paul Wynn

Your Committee Officer is:

**Tim Ward** Committee Officer

Tel: 01743 257713

Email: [tim.ward@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:tim.ward@shropshire.gov.uk)

# AGENDA

## 1 Election of Speaker and Vice-Chairman

To elect a Speaker and Vice Chairman for the ensuing year.

## 2 Apologies for Absence

To receive apologies for absence

## 3 Election of Chairman and Deputy Speaker

To elect a Chairman and Deputy Speaker for the ensuing year.

## 4 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

Members are 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.

## 5 Minutes (Pages 1 - 20)

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the previous meeting held on 25 February 2021

Contact Emily Marshall 01743 257717

## 6 Return of Election of Shropshire Councillors (Pages 21 - 24)

Report of the Returning Officer is attached.

Contact Claire Porter Tel 01743 252763

Council is asked to place on record its appreciation of the services of the following Councillors who decided not to seek re-election or were not returned by the electorate.

Peter Adams  
Gwen Burgess  
Karen Calder  
Lee Chapman  
Pauline Dee  
Hannah Fraser  
Simon Harris  
Ann Hartley  
Roger Hughes  
Ioan Jones  
Matt Lee  
Jane Mackenzie

Paul Milner  
Chris Mellings  
Peter Nutting  
William Parr  
Malcolm Pate  
Alexander Phillips  
Keith Roberts  
Madge Shingleton  
David Turner  
Michael Wood  
Tina Woodward

## 7 Announcements

To receive such communications as the Chairman, Speaker, Leader and Head of Paid Service may desire to lay before the Council.

**8 Election of Leader of the Council**

To elect a Leader of the Council for the ensuing 4 years.

**9 Appointment of Cabinet Members, Deputy Cabinet Members and their Portfolios**

Report of the Interim Assistant Director – Legal and Democratic Services **TO FOLLOW**.

Contact Tim Collard Tel 01743 252756

**10 Constitution of Committees and the Allocation of Seats to Political Groups**

Report of the Interim Assistant Director – Legal and Democratic Services **TO FOLLOW**

Contact Tim Collard Tel 01743 252756

**11 Appointments to Outside Bodies, Committees and Other Groups (Pages 25 - 28)**

To agree appointments to outside bodies, committees, and other groups.

Report of the Interim Assistant Director – Legal and Democratic Services attached.

Contact Tim Collard Tel 01743 252756

**12 Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel (Pages 29 - 38)**

Report of the Interim Assistant Director – Legal and Democratic Services attached.

Contact Tim Collard Tel 01743 252756

**13 Schemes of Delegation**

To resolve that the Responsibility for Functions, set out in Part 3 of the Constitution and the Scheme of Delegations, set out in Part 8 of the Constitutions be agreed.

Please use the links below access Part 3 and 8 of the Constitution

Part 3: <http://shropshire.gov.uk/Part3OfTheConstitution>

Part 8: <http://shropshire.gov.uk/Part8OfTheConstitution>

Contact Tim Collard Interim Assistant Director – Legal and Democratic Services  
Tel 01743 252756

## **14 Dates of Council Meetings**

To agree that in 2021/22, meetings of the Council will be held on the following dates commencing at 10.00am:

- 15 July 2021
- 23 September 2021
- 16 December 2021
- 24 February 2022
- 12 May 2022

Contact: Amanda Holyoak. Tel. 01743 257714

## **15 Exclusion of Press and Public**

To resolve 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.

## **16 Exempt Minutes (Pages 39 - 42)**

To approve as a correct record the exempt minutes of the previous meeting held on 25 February 2021

Contact Emily Marshall 01743 257717

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## Committee and Date

Council

20<sup>th</sup> May 2021

## COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting held on 25 February 2021**

**VIRTUAL MEETING**

**10.00 am - 2.51 pm**

**Responsible Officer:** Emily Marshall

Email: [tim.ward@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:tim.ward@shropshire.gov.uk) Tel: 01743 257717

### **Present**

Councillors Ann Hartley and Peter Nutting (Leader)

Councillors Vince Hunt (Speaker), Steve Charmley (Deputy Leader), Peter Adams, Roy Aldcroft, Nicholas Bardsley, Joyce Barrow, Thomas Biggins, Ed Bird, Andy Boddington, Gwendoline Burgess, Gwilym Butler, Karen Calder, Dean Carroll, Lee Chapman, Ted Clarke, Gerald Dakin, Steve Davenport, Julian Dean, Pauline Dee, David Evans, Roger Evans, Hannah Fraser, Rob Gittins, Nat Green, Kate Halliday, Simon Harris, Nigel Hartin, Nick Hignett, Ruth Houghton, Roger Hughes, Ioan Jones, Simon Jones, Mark Jones, Heather Kidd, Christian Lea, Elliott Lynch, Robert Macey, Jane MacKenzie, Chris Mellings, Paul Milner, David Minnery, Dan Morris, Pamela Moseley, Alan Mosley, Peggy Mullock, Kevin Pardy, Vivienne Parry, Tony Parsons, Alexander Phillips, Lezley Picton, Ed Potter, John Price, Madge Shingleton, Dave Tremellen, Kevin Turley, David Turner, David Vasmer, Claire Wild, Brian Williams, Leslie Winwood, Michael Wood, Tina Woodward and Paul Wynn

### 173 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors William Parr, Tracey Huffer, Richard Huffer, Cecilia Motley, Malcom Pate and Keith Roberts.

### 174 **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.

### 175 **Minutes**

#### **RESOLVED:**

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2020, as circulated with the agenda papers, be approved and signed as a correct record.

### 176 **Announcements**

#### **Chairman's Engagements**

The Chairman referred Members to the list of official engagements carried out by herself and the Speaker since the last meeting of the Council on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2020, which had been circulated by email.

The Chairman paid tribute to Julie Fildes, Committee and Member Development Officer, who had sadly lost her valiant fight against cancer and passed away earlier in the month. The Chairman reported that she had written to Julie's husband Jon and their children, on behalf of the Council, to pass on the Council's sincere condolences.

The 2021 New Year Honours Medal recipients list had been circulated and the Chairman confirmed that she had written, on behalf of the Council, to all medal recipients to congratulate them and acknowledge their achievements.

A thank you event will be arranged for long serving and retiring members, once the Covid-19 restrictions had been lifted.

### 177 Public Questions

The Speaker advised that there were six public questions from Clare Cooper, Rob Wilson, Anna Jones, Stephen Mulloy, Colin Sheward and Adrian Brown. Answers to the questions were provided by the respective Portfolio Holders. A copy of the questions and the responses provided are attached to the signed minutes and available from the web page for the meeting

<http://shropshire.gov.uk/committeeservices/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=125&MId=4138&Ver=4>

### 178 Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel

The Leader began by thanking the Independent Remuneration Panel for their detailed considerations and producing the report, however he believed that it was inappropriate for the current council to make a decision and it should be for the new council after the election to make the decision. It was therefore proposed by the Leader, Councillor P Nutting and seconded by Councillor S Charmley, Deputy Leader, that consideration of the report be deferred until the next scheduled meeting and that the current schedule of allowance continue until then.

#### **RESOLVED:**

That consideration of the report be deferred until the next scheduled meeting and that the current schedule of allowance continue until then.

### 179 Council Tax Resolution 2021- 22

It was proposed by the Leader, Councillor P Nutting and seconded by Portfolio Holder for Finance, Councillor D Minnery, that the report of the Interim Executive Director of Resources on Council Tax Resolution 2021/22, 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 the proposition was carried by 46 Members voting in favor, 12 against and 7 abstention, as follows:

**FOR (44)**

Adams, Aldcroft, Bardsley, Barrow, Biggins, Bird, Burgess, Butler, Carroll, Chapman, Charmley, Dakin, Davenport, Dee, D Evans, Gittins, Harris, Hartley, Hignett, R Hughes, Hunt, S Jones, Lea, Lynch, Macey, Milner, Minnery, Morris, Mullock, Nutting, Phillips, Picton, Price, Potter, Shineton, Tremellen, Turley, Turner, Wild, Williams, Les Winwood, Wood, Woodward, Wynn.

**AGAINST (0)**

**ABSTENTION (18)**

Boddington, Clarke, Dean, R. Evans, Fraser, Green, Halliday, Hartin, Houghton, I Jones, MacKenzie, Mellings, Moseley, Mosley, Pardy, Parry, Parsons, Vasmer.

**RESOLVED:**

1. That a 3.99% Council Tax rise resulting in a basic amount of council tax for a Band D property of £1,501.22 in the billing authority's area, calculated in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (section 44) and the Local Government (Structural Changes) (Further Financial Provisions and Amendment) Regulations 2008 be approved.
2. That in accordance with the provisions of Section 40 (2) of the 1992 Act, approve the amount of Council Tax calculated for each category of dwelling in the billing authority's area to be as follows:

<b>Property Band</b>	<b>2021/22 Charge £</b>
A	1,000.81
B	1,167.61
C	1,334.42
D	1,501.22
E	1,834.83
F	2,168.43
G	2,502.03
H	3,002.44

3. That a total precept of £170,672,186 be levied.

4. That the formal council tax resolution as set out in Appendix 1 to determine the levels of Council Tax for Shropshire Council for 2021/22 be approved.

## 180 Financial Strategy 2021/22 - 2025/26

It was proposed by the Leader, Councillor P Nutting and seconded by Portfolio Holder for Finance, Councillor D Minnery that the report of the Interim Executive Director of Resources on the Financial Strategy 2021/22 to 2025/26, 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 the proposition was carried by 46 Members voting in favour, 12 against and 7 abstention, as follows

### FOR (46)

Adams, Aldcroft, Bardsley, Barrow, Biggins, Bird, Burgess, Butler, Carroll, Chapman, Charmley, Dakin, Davenport, Dee, D. Evans, Gittins, Harris, Hartley, Hignett, Hughes, Hunt, M Jones, S Jones, Lea, Lynch, Macey, Milner, Minnery, Morris, Mullock, Nutting, Phillips, Picton, Price, Potter, Shineton, Tindall, Tremellen, Turley, Turner, Wild, Williams, Winwood, Wood, Woodward, Wynn.

### AGAINST (12)

Boddington, Dean, R Evans, Fraser, Green, Hartin, Houghton, I Jones, Kidd, Mellings, Parry, Vasmer

### ABSTENTION (7)

Clarke, Halliday, Mackenzie, Moseley, Mosley, Pardy, Parsons,

### RESOLVED:

1. That the 2021/22 budget of £554.318m outlined in the Budget Book at Appendix 2, including the savings proposals outlined in section 4.5 of the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) at Appendix 1, be approved.
2. That the changes required to the 2021/22 budget as a result of the Provisional and Final Local Government Settlement and revised business rates and collection fund estimates be noted.
3. That the revised funding gap for the years 2022/23 to 2025/26 be noted.
4. That the Statement of the Chief Financial Officer on the Robustness of Estimates and Adequacy of Reserves as set out in Sections 6.1 – 6.3 of the MTFS at Appendix 1, be noted.
5. That the recommended level of general balances to support the 2021/22 revenue budget of between £12.174m and £16.598m be noted, noting that the projected balance is presently below this for 2021/22.

6. That the projected recommended level of general reserves for the following four years at £53m in 2022/23, £40m in 2023/24, £37m in 2024/25 and £35m in 2025/26 be noted.
7. That the continued use of the Policy for Flexibility around the use of Capital Receipts as detailed in section 8.1 of the MTFS be noted.
8. That the Pay and Rewards Policy for all Council staff for 2021/22 as set out in Appendix 3 be agreed.
9. That a revenue budget virement of £1.710m between Corporate Budgets and Place as detailed at section 7.1 of this report below be approved.

## 181 Fees and Charges 2021/22

It was proposed by the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Councillor D Minnery and seconded by the Leader, Councillor Nutting, that the recommendations therein be received and agreed.

### **RESOLVED:**

1. That the breakdown of the total income for 2020/21 and 2021/22 and in particular that the proposed 2021/22 charges for discretionary services represent only £41.023m of the £79.242m of income derived from Fees and Charges be noted.
2. That the charges for 2021/22 as detailed in Appendix 3 to be implemented 1 April 2021, recognising that managers have proposed varying policies for 2021/22 be approved.
3. That as previously agreed, any changes to fees and charges proposed by Shropshire Community Leisure Trust Ltd. in relation to the outsourced leisure facilities will only be referred to cabinet and council for approval if the proposed increases exceed Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the preceding November, be noted.
4. That subject to restrictions or exemptions identified in the Welfare Reform and Work Bill it is recommended to Council that:
  - I. Social Housing rents for 2021/22 are increased by 1.5% from 5th April 2021.
  - II. Affordable rents for 2021/22 are increased by 1.5% from 5th April 2021.
  - III. Shared Ownership rents continue to be set at 2.75% of the outstanding capital value of the home at the time of sale and thereafter increased each April in accordance with the terms specified in the lease agreements.
  - IV. Service charges continue to be set on the basis of actual cost.

## 182 Capital Strategy 2021/22 - 2025/26

It was proposed by the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Councillor D Minnery and seconded by the, Leader, Councillor P Nutting that the report of the Director of Finance, Governance and Assurance on the Capital Strategy 2021/22-2025/26, a copy of which is attached to the signed minutes, and the recommendations contained therein be received and agreed.

### **RESOLVED:**

1. That the adoption of the Capital Strategy 2021/22 - 2025/26 attached as Appendix 1 be agreed.
2. That the prioritised schemes identified at Section 8 and the associated impact on the revenue budget be noted.
3. That the revised Capital Programme as set out in the report and detailed at Section 6 and Appendix B to the Capital Strategy be agreed.

## 183 Treasury Strategy 2021/22

It was proposed by Portfolio Holder for Finance, Councillor D Minnery and seconded by the Leader, Councillor P Nutting that the report of the Interim Executive Director of Resources on the Treasury Strategy 2021/2022 a copy of which is attached to the signed minutes and the recommendations contained therein, be received and agreed.

### **RESOLVED:**

1. That the Treasury Strategy for 2021/22 be approved.
2. That the Prudential Indicators, set out in Appendix 1, be approved in accordance with the Local Government Act 2003.
3. That the Investment Strategy, set out in Appendix 2, be approved in accordance with the MHCLG Guidance on Local Government Investments.
4. That the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy Statement, set out in Appendix 3 be approved.
5. That the Section 151 Officer be authorised to exercise the borrowing powers contained in Section 3 of the Local Government Act 2003 and to manage the Council's debt portfolio in accordance with the Treasury Strategy.
6. That the Section 151 Officer be authorised to use other Foreign Banks which meet Link's creditworthiness policy as required.

## 184 University Centre Of Shrewsbury Project

It was proposed by the Leader, Councillor Nutting and seconded by the Deputy Leader, Councillor S Charmley that the report of the Executive Director of Place on the University Centre of Shrewsbury Project a copy of which is attached to the signed minutes and the recommendations contained therein, be received and agreed.

**RESOLVED:**

That the Executive Director of Place, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Assets, Economic Growth and Regeneration be approved and instructed to submit an application to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government to seek consent to grant a new property lease for UCS's ongoing occupation of the Guildhall at less than best consideration.

**185 Future Civic Accommodation**

It was proposed by the Deputy Leader, Councillor S Charmley and seconded by Councillor P Milner that the report of the Executive Director of Place on the Future Civic Accommodation a copy of which is attached to the signed minutes and the recommendations contained therein, be received and agreed.

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the conclusions and recommendations of the options appraisal work be agreed in principle and responsibility be delegated to the Executive Director of Place to commission the detailed design (in accordance with RIBA Stage 2) costings of the proposed refurbishment plan for the Pride Hill shopping centre to accommodate the new Civic Centre as a base for the council and its partners.
2. That the work undertaken to date on the disposal strategy for the Shirehall site be noted and that a future meeting of Council receive a further report with a recommended disposal option which shall be informed by an independent valuation for the site and other key considerations.

**186 Proposed Redevelopment of Former Ironbridge Power Station Site - Onward Delegation of Planning Control from Telford and Wrekin Council**

The Speaker confirmed that this item had been withdrawn.

**187 Annual Report of the Portfolio Holder for Assets, Economic Growth and Regeneration**

It was proposed by Councillor S Charmley, the Portfolio Holder for Assets, Economic Growth and Regeneration that the report, a copy of which is attached to the signed minutes, and the recommendations therein be received and agreed.

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

**RESOLVED:**

That the contents of the report be noted and approved.

## 188 **Motions**

The following motions had been received in accordance with Procedure Rule 16:

### **Notice of Motion 1**

The following motion was moved by Councillor Gwylim Butler and seconded by Councillor Dan Morris.

Successive governments have allowed a serious funding imbalance to develop between rural authorities and their urban and metropolitan counterparts. Despite Governments' recognition of the higher cost of delivering services in rural areas, this imbalance has been allowed to increase year on year. Rural Services Network - which has a wide membership of rural authorities and has long championed fairer funding settlements for rural areas – has analysed the present government's Provisional funding settlement 2021/22 and calculates that rural residents, when compared with urban:

- Will still be paying over £96 per head more in Council tax
- Receive some 61% (£107) per head less from Settlement Funding Assessment (SFA general grant)
- Get £11 less per head in specific social care costs, despite a higher proportion of elderly rural residents
- Suffer a 16% gap compared with urban of the new social care grants
- Excluding council tax, receive over £112 (42% per head) less in Government Funded Spending Power

As a result, Principal Councils serving rural areas, when compared with urban authorities have to cope with less government grant per head of population; are required to pay more per head of population in Council tax from lower rural incomes; fund more of their essential services through Council Tax (69.29% compared to 55.80%) and yet receive fewer services which are often more expensive to access.

Prior to the Covid pandemic we note that this government was committed to deliver a fairer funding formula for local government and embark on a levelling up agenda, which was primarily aimed at raising funding levels for underfunded regions in the north of the country.

Shropshire residents feel strongly that sparse rural authorities such as ours should also benefit from the levelling up agenda to reduce the current unfair funding disparities between urban and rural authorities and ensure the delivery of equitable funding settlements throughout the country. We seek equality of outcomes and funding for the people and economy of Shropshire; and reduced reliance on Council tax to compensate for inadequate government support.

“This Council therefore instructs the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive to write to the Prime Minister/Chancellor/SoS MHCLG seeking a commitment that the levelling up agenda should be widened to include Shropshire and other rural Shire Counties; and that the Government should commit to and deliver a fairer funding settlement for Council services and infrastructure requirements.”

**RESOLVED:** That the Notice of Motion be supported.

### **Notice of Motion 2 - Principles for LTP4**

The following motion was moved by Councillor Julian Dean and seconded by Councillor David Vasmer

This council recognises the urgent need to address the transport related climate emergency whilst supporting better and more inclusive connectivity for our residents. We further recognise the opportunity that a switch to active travel presents to address public health issues associated with sedentary lifestyles. This requires policies that follow the hierarchy of traffic reduction, modal shift and electrification. Reduced per-person journeys has been a feature in the UK since the beginning of the century, so this hierarchy is in line with changing patterns of behaviour and the well-researched popular desire for enhanced local living. Following this policy hierarchy will support a resilient and inclusive recovery from the pandemic.

We further recognise that a new Local Plan will be strengthened in its climate, sustainability, and inclusivity objectives by the adoption of a robust and ambitious Local Transport Plan.

We resolve to use our influence at Midlands Connect to pursue the reduce/shift/electrify hierarchy. As the sub-national body Midlands Connect should produce its own transport decarbonisation strategy, should review all infrastructure plans against this and should apply for all available powers on transport including those over bus franchising.

We further resolve that the forthcoming Local Transport Plan will:

1. Include a commitment that LTN 1/20 is fully adopted when planning active travel routes and infrastructure.
2. Adopt ‘Transport for New Homes’ principles for responding to development proposals. Where proposals do not meet high standards against the Transport for New Homes checklist they should be rejected.
3. Include Public Health as an originator and consultee in its development, recognising the impact that transport planning will have on health and wellbeing.
4. Include a pathway to net zero carbon emissions from transport that is compatible with local, regional and national carbon budgets and our net zero targets, to include interim emissions targets and monitoring processes.

Councillor Nicholas Bardsley proposed the following amendment

**Proposed amendment to Motion 2 Principles for LTP4**

Insert after "We further resolve that the forthcoming Local Transport Plan will:

A new item 1

1. recognise and welcome the vital part played by the construction of the North West Relief Road in:
  - providing a strategic road link from the A5 to Battlefield entirely bypassing the town centre
  - enhancing the economic development of Shropshire as a whole
  - -relieving Shrewsbury itself and many villages North of the town from the blight of through traffic which currently causes so much congestion, pollution and danger to pedestrians in these communities.

The amendment was seconded by Councillor Davenport. In moving the amendment, Councillor Bardsley stated that anything he said was in the context of not knowing the details of the planning application and he had formed no view of the planning application. The Monitoring Officer confirmed that a planning application had not yet been submitted. Councillor Bardsley requested a recorded vote:

*Councillor Tremellen left the meeting at this point.*

FOR (36)

Adams, Aldcroft, Bardsley, Barrow, Biggins, Bird, Burgess, Butler, Carroll, Chapman, Charmley, Dakin, Davenport, D. Evans, Gittins, Harris, Hignett, Hunt, I Jones, S Jones, Lea, Lynch, Macey, Milner, Minnery, Morris, Mullock, Nutting, Phillips, Picton, Potter, Tindall, Turner, Wild, Winwood and Wood.

AGAINST (15)

Boddington, Dean, R Evans, Green, Halliday, Hartin, Houghton, Kidd, Mellings, Moseley, Mosley, Pardy, Parry, Parsons and Vasmer.

ABSTENTION (3)

Clarke, Shingleton and Wynn

The amendment became the substantive Motion.

Councillor Roger Evans proposed the following amendment to the Motion

**Proposed Amendment to Motion 2 – Principles for LTP4**

That the recommendations include a part 5, this to be added at the end of the motion as shown below.

We further resolve that the forthcoming Local Transport Plan will:



1. Include a commitment that LTN 1/20 is fully adopted when planning active travel routes and infrastructure.
2. Adopt 'Transport for New Homes' principles for responding to development proposals. Where proposals do not meet high standards against the Transport for New Homes checklist they should be rejected.
3. Include Public Health as an originator and consultee in its development, recognising the impact that transport planning will have on health and wellbeing
4. Include a pathway to net zero carbon emissions from transport that is compatible with local, regional and national carbon budgets and our net zero targets, to include interim emissions targets and monitoring processes
5. Include a review of the implications that the North West Relief Road will have against
  - a) The growing capital commitments that are now needed to be invested in transport infrastructure, including road safety, throughout the market towns and rural areas of Shropshire.
  - b) The Council's declaration of a climate emergency; its adoption of a Climate Change Strategy; and the international agreement of the need to reduce carbon emissions, a commitment set to be reinforced at COP26 in Glasgow in November.
  - c) The likely reduction in traffic as more people work from home following the pandemic

Councillor Nat Green seconded the amendment.

A recorded vote was requested

FOR (15)

Boddington, Dakin, Dean, R Evans, Green, Halliday, Hartin, Houghton, Kidd, Mellings, Mosley, Parry, Parsons, Shineton, Vasmer.

AGAINST (37)

Adams, Aldcroft, Bardsley, Barrow, Biggins, Bird, Burgess, Butler, Carroll, Chapman, Charmley, Davenport, D Evans, Gittins, Harris, Hartley, Hignett, Hunt, I Jones, M Jones, S Jones, Lynch, Macey, Milner, Minnery, Morris, Mullock, Nutting, Pardy, Phillips, Picton, Potter, Tindall, Turner, Wild, Winwood, Wood.

ABSTENTION (3)

Clarke, Moseley, Wynn.

Upon being put to the vote the amendment proposed by Councillor Evans was lost with the majority voting against it.

Members debated the substantive motion as amended by Councillor Bardsley.

**RESOLVED:**

This council recognises the urgent need to address the transport related climate emergency whilst supporting better and more inclusive connectivity for our residents. We further recognise the opportunity that a switch to active travel presents to address public health issues associated with sedentary lifestyles. This requires policies that follow the hierarchy of traffic reduction, modal shift and electrification.

Reduced per-person journeys has been a feature in the UK since the beginning of the century, so this hierarchy is in line with changing patterns of behaviour and the well-researched popular desire for enhanced local living. Following this policy hierarchy will support a resilient and inclusive recovery from the pandemic.

We further recognise that a new Local Plan will be strengthened in its climate, sustainability, and inclusivity objectives by the adoption of a robust and ambitious Local Transport Plan.

We resolve to use our influence at Midlands Connect to pursue the reduce/shift/electrify hierarchy. As the sub-national body Midlands Connect should produce its own transport decarbonisation strategy, should review all infrastructure plans against this and should apply for all available powers on transport including those over bus franchising.

We further resolve that the forthcoming Local Transport Plan will:

1. Recognise and welcome the vital part played by the construction of the North West Relief Road in:
  - providing a strategic road link from the A5 to Battlefield entirely bypassing the town centre
  - enhancing the economic development of Shropshire as a whole
  - -relieving Shrewsbury itself and many villages North of the town from the blight of through traffic which currently causes so much congestion, pollution and danger to pedestrians in these communities.
2. Include a commitment that LTN 1/20 is fully adopted when planning active travel routes and infrastructure
3. Adopt 'Transport for New Homes' principles for responding to development proposals. Where proposals do not meet high standards against the Transport for New Homes checklist they should be rejected.
4. Include Public Health as an originator and consultee in its development, recognising the impact that transport planning will have on health and wellbeing.
5. Include a pathway to net zero carbon emissions from transport that is compatible with local, regional and national carbon budgets and our net zero targets, to include interim emissions targets and monitoring processes.

### **Notice of Motion 3.**

The following motion was proposed by Councillor Julian Dean and seconded by Councillor Kate Halliday.

### **Support the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill**

Humans have already caused irreversible climate change, the impacts of which are being felt in the UK and around the world. Global temperatures have increased by 1 degree Celsius from pre-industrial levels. Atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> levels are above 400 parts per million (ppm) and continue to rise. This far exceeds the 350 ppm deemed to be a safe level for humanity.

Without more significant and sustained action, the world is set to exceed the Paris Agreement's 1.5°C limit between 2030 and 2040. Therefore the current UK target of net zero by 2050 is not satisfactory. It is too little too late.

The increase in harm caused by a rise of 2°C rather than 1.5°C is significant. This is described by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C published in October 2018. According to the IPCC, limiting heating to 1.5°C may still be possible with ambitious action from national and sub-national authorities, civil society, the private sector and local communities. The costs of failing to address this crisis will far outstrip the investments required to prevent it. Investing now will bring many benefits in the form of good jobs, breathable cities and thriving communities.

### **Council notes that**

- (i) This council has declared a climate emergency;
- (ii) Many local authorities have established Citizens' Assemblies that are playing an important role in assisting them in their plans to achieve net zero by 2030 or before; and that
- (iii) There is a Bill before Parliament—the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill (published as the "Climate and Ecology Bill")—according to which the Government must develop an emergency strategy that:
  - a. requires that the UK plays its fair and proper role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions consistent with limiting global temperature increase to 1.5 degrees C above pre-industrial temperatures;
  - b. ensures that all the UK's consumption emissions are accounted for;
  - c. includes emissions from aviation and shipping;
  - d. protects and restores biodiverse habitats along overseas supply chains;
  - e. restores and regenerates the UK's depleted soils, wildlife habitats and species populations to healthy and robust states, maximising their capacity to absorb CO<sub>2</sub> and their resistance to climate heating;
  - f. sets up an independent Citizens' Assembly, representative of the UK's population, to engage with Parliament and Government and help develop the emergency strategy.

### **Council therefore resolves to:**

- (i) Support the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill
- (ii) Inform the local media of this decision;
- (iii) Write to local MPs, asking them to support the Bill; and
- (iv) Write to the CEE Bill Alliance, the organisers of the campaign for the Bill, expressing its support ([campaign@ceebill.uk](mailto:campaign@ceebill.uk)).

Councillor Dean Carroll submitted the following amendment to the Motion:

### **Proposed amendment to Motion 3. Support for CEE Bill**

That the recommendation be amended as follows: -

To remove everything after “This Council resolves too” and replace with “Refer this matter to a Task & Finish Group to look at the Climate & Ecological Emergency Bill in detail and to make recommendations on Shropshire Council’s response to the Bill”

Councillor Paul Milner seconded the amendment. Upon being put to the vote, the proposed amendment was agreed.

**RESOLVED:**

This Council resolves too refer this matter to a Task & Finish Group to look at the Climate & Ecological Emergency Bill in detail and to make recommendations on Shropshire Council’s response to the Bill

*The meeting was adjourned at 2.11 p.m. and reconvened at 2.22 p.m.*

**Motion No. 4.**

The following motion was moved by Councillor David Vasmer and seconded by Councillor Andy Boddington.

Putting Pedestrians First

This Council notes:

1. Pedestrians includes all those who walk – including parents with prams and pushchairs – and those who use mobility aids such as wheelchairs or scooters.
2. The special needs of people who are partially sighted or blind.
3. Increased numbers of people are walking due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
4. 16% of Shropshire households do not have a car and 42% of Shropshire households have one car. Therefore, a large number of people are reliant on alternative forms of transport.
5. In 2018, 27% of all trips were made by walking, covering 3% of all distance travelled.
6. The Department of Transport has just concluded a consultation into changes to the Highway Code which propose a hierarchy of users, putting pedestrians first.
7. In September 2020 Shropshire Council unanimously resolved to support the Prime Minister’s Gear Change policy: “A bold vision for cycling and walking”.
8. The Government’s Gear Change policy says:
  - a. “Increasing walking and cycling can help tackle some of the most challenging issues we face as a society – improving air quality, combatting climate change, improving health and wellbeing, addressing inequalities and tackling congestion on our roads.”
  - b. “well-planned improvements in the walking environment” can increase footfall by up to 40%
  - c. “We want to see a future where half of all journeys in towns and cities are cycled or walked. 58% of car journeys in 2018 were under 5 miles.”
  - d. From now “cycling and walking measures are no longer seen as an afterthought but have moved to the very heart of considerations for all transport policy and planning, at all levels of leadership.”
  - e. A new commissioning body and inspectorate, Active Travel England, led by a new national cycling and walking commissioner which will be established in the next few months.

- f. Active Travel England will also begin to inspect, and publish annual reports on, highway authorities. They will be graded on their active travel performance and dangerous failings in their highways for cyclists and pedestrians will be identified.
- g. "It is our intention that the commissioner and inspectorate will, in this regard, perform a similar role to Ofsted in raising standards and challenging failure."
- 9. The Department for Transport (DfT) is drawing up legislation to enact Part 6 of the 2004 Traffic Management Act.
- 9. Part 6 will allow local authorities outside London to enforce common road offences for the first time in England. This will mean that Shropshire Council is able to enforce School Streets and Low Traffic Neighbourhoods using cameras without the need for physical barriers in the road.

**This Council further notes:**

- 11. A large number of pavements across Shropshire are damaged, too narrow, or inadequate in some other way.
- 12. In rural areas pavements are often missing on routes to community facilities such as GP surgeries, schools, and shops.
- 13. Pavements are often blocked by temporary road signs for roadworks.
- 14. The level of pavements is often disrupted for access to driveways and other inlets.
- 15. Pavement users in wheelchairs, and those with prams and pushchairs, cannot always find dropped kerbs to cross roads.
- 16. Pavements are often damaged and uneven as result of being uplifted by tree roots.
- 17. Pavements are not swept regularly which in autumn means they can become very slippery with rotting leaves.
- 18. In winter pavements are not cleared of snow and the contrast with major roads, which are always cleared of snow, could not be more stark. At such times, many pedestrians are forced to walk in the road.
- 19. All of the above make it difficult for pedestrians, particularly those with mobility issues or those using prams and pushchairs and can act as a disincentive to leave home and thereby increase social isolation.
- 20. Walking is an important, but often ignored, part of our transport system.
- 21. Shropshire needs to be proactive rather than reactive to the establishment of Active Travel England.
- 22. Shropshire only received 14% of the funds it bid for in Phase 2 of the Active Travel Fund (75% of the indicative funding allocation).

**This Council resolves to:**

- 23. Widen the Commonplace consultation launched by the Big Town Plan to cover the whole of Shropshire with the aim of allowing residents to identify where pavements and the walking environment is inadequate. This would enable the council to develop a list of locations that require attention.
- 24. Ensure that all new housing developments in Shropshire are easily and safely accessible and navigable by foot.
- 25. Instruct the Director of Place to investigate and report back to Scrutiny how to
  - a. Ensure that all temporary roadwork signs are installed at a high level, making use of lampposts or other Council infrastructure, so that messages are clear to

drivers but do not restrict the pavement or the roadway. Where this is not possible, signs should be placed on the road and never on the pavement.

- b. Ensure that a constant pavement height is maintained where driveways are installed across the pavement.
- c. Increase the number of pedestrian crossings and reduce pedestrian waiting times at crossings to a minimum.

26. Ensure that Shropshire is ready to use the new powers enabled by Section 6 of the 2004 Traffic Management Act to improve the walking environment.

27. Appoint an officer in Highways to have specific responsibility for walking.

28. Establish a Task and Finish Group to review pavement maintenance.

29. Ensure that Shropshire is fully prepared for the establishment of Active Travel England and associated funding streams.

30. Ensure that pedestrians are placed at the top of the hierarchy of users in LTP4

**RESOLVED:**

That the Motion on Notice be supported.

**Notice of Motion 5 – Provision of Skips after Flooding.**

The following Motion was proposed by Councillor Nat Green and seconded by Councillor Nigel Hartin.

**Council notes**

1. The transfer of the provision of emergency skips from Street Scene to Highways.
2. Highways during the recent floods provided just one skip to Coton Manor flats and refused to supply any extra ones that were needed. This contrasts with the swift and plentiful supply of skips that were supplied by Street Scene after the flooding last year.
3. The provision of skips is not a luxury; it is essential for the maintenance of public health and to assist the psychological well-being of those who have been flooded, as it enables them to make the first step in rebuilding their lives.

**Council resolves**

1. To reverse this recent change in policy and that in future when flooding does occur, no matter where it is, the previous practise of providing as many skips as needed will continue to be provided by whichever department has from time to time the responsibility for skip provision.
2. All skips that are provided to assist residents suffering from flood problems will be supplied at no cost to the local residents.

**RESOLVED:**

That the Notice of Motion be supported

## 189 Questions from Members

The Speaker advised that the following questions had been received in accordance with Procedure Rule 15. A copy of the report containing the detailed questions and their formal response is attached to the signed minutes.

Received from Councillor Tom Biggins and answered by Councillor Steve Charmley, Portfolio Holder for Assets, Economic Growth and Regeneration, in relation to launching a Buy Shropshire campaign and helping to promote Shropshire for Tourism.

Received from Councillor Ruth Houghton and answered by Councillor Robert Macey, Portfolio Holder for Housing and Strategic Planning, in relation to empty homes in Shropshire. By way of a supplementary question, where empty homes are and particularly in relation to where people are bidding on Home Point and where there is a need. The Portfolio Holder for Housing and Strategic Planning responded by confirming that he would take the supplementary question back to Officers to prepare a response.

Received from Councillor Andy Boddington and answered by Councillor Peter Nutting, The Leader of Shropshire Council, in relation to the 'support for you from your council during lockdown' letter that had been sent to every household within Shropshire.

Received from Councillor David Vasmer and answered by Councillor Steve Davenport, Portfolio Holder for Highways and Transport, in relation to the North West Relief Road. By way of a supplementary question, Councillor Vasmer made reference to page 320 of the agenda, the Capital Programme report and questioned that the figures referred to for the North West Relief Road spending did not tally with the figures given in the Portfolio Holders response to the his question. The Portfolio Holder responded by confirming that he would check the figures and respond by email after the meeting and include all Members in his response.

Received from Councillor David Vasmer and answered by Councillor Steve Davenport, Portfolio Holder for Highways and Transport, in relation to the performance of Highways contractor Kier. By way of a supplementary question, Councillor Vasmer asked why, when the Portfolio Holders response made it clear that Keir were not performing as they should be has Members not been informed. The Portfolio Holder responded by confirming that he would take the supplementary question back to officers and circulate the response with all Members, adding that some of the key performance indicators were still going through the legal processes.

Received from Councillor Kate Halliday and answered by Councillor Steve Davenport, Portfolio Holder for Highways and Transport, in relation to flood prevention plans in Shropshire.

The Speaker reported that an additional, seventh question had been allowed as it had been received in time, but omitted due to officer error.

Received from Councillor David Turner and answered by Councillor Peter Nutting, the Leader of Shropshire Council, in relation to a request for the leader to facilitate an update from the University Centre Shrewsbury. Councillor David Turner did not have a supplementary question but added that he welcomed the comprehensive and positive response from the Leader.

**190 Report of the Shropshire and Wrekin Fire and Rescue Authority**

It was proposed by Councillor Chris Mellings and seconded by Councillor Nigel Hartin that the report of the Shropshire and Wrekin Fire and Rescue Authority, a copy of which is attached to the signed minutes, be received and noted.

**RESOLVED:** That the report of the Shropshire and Wrekin Fire and Rescue Authority be noted.

**191 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

**192 Exempt Minutes**

**RESOLVED:**

That the exempt minutes of the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2020 be approved as a correct record.

**193 Oswestry Innovation Park Disposal Options**

It was proposed by the Deputy Leader, Councillor Steve Charmley and seconded by Councillor Mark Jones, that the exempt report of the Director of Place and Enterprise and the recommendations therein be received and agreed.

**RESOLVED:**

That the three recommendations in the exempt report be agreed.

**194 Shrewsbury West Sustainable Development Extension Disposal Options**

It was proposed by the Deputy Leader, Councillor Steve Charmley and seconded by the Leader Councillor P Nutting, that the exempt report of the Executive Director of Place and the recommendations therein be received and agreed.

**RESOLVED:**

That the three recommendations in the exempt report be agreed.

**195 Strategic Acquisition Shrewsbury Central**



It was proposed by the Deputy Leader, Councillor Steve Charmley and seconded by the Leader Councillor P Nutting, that the exempt report of the Executive Director of Place and the recommendations therein be received and agreed.

**RESOLVED:**

That the two recommendations in the exempt report be agreed.

Signed ..... (Chairman)

Date: .....

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<u>Committee and Date</u>	<u>Item</u>
Annual Council	
20 May 2021	Public

**Responsible Officer** Claire Porter

**e-mail:** claire.porter@shropshire.gov.uk

**Tel:** 01743 252763

## RETURN OF ELECTION OF SHROPSHIRE COUNCILLORS

I, CLAIRE PORTER, the Returning Officer for Shropshire, DO HEREBY CERTIFY AND RETURN that the persons ELECTED as SHROPSHIRE COUNCILLORS for the several Electoral Divisions of the said Shropshire Council are as follows:

<b>Electoral Division</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Description</b>
Abbey	MARY GWENDOLINE DAVIES	Liberal Democrat
Albrighton	NIGEL PETER LUMBY	Conservative
Alveley and Claverley	ELLIOTT LIAM LYNCH	Conservative
Bagley	GARRY DAVID BURCHETT	Conservative
Battlefield	DEAN CARROLL	Conservative
Bayston Hill, Column and Sutton (3)	TED CLARKE	Labour
	ROSEMARY LUCY WINIFRED DARTNALL	Labour
	TONY PARSONS	Labour
Belle Vue	MARY KATE HALLIDAY	Labour
Bishop's Castle	RUTH MARGARET HOUGHTON	Liberal Democrat
Bowbrook	ALEX WAGNER	Liberal Democrat

Bridgnorth East and Astley Abbotts (2)	KIRSTIE HURST-KNIGHT CHRISTIAN JAMES LEA	Conservative Conservative
Bridgnorth West and Tasley (2)	JULIA BUCKLEY LESLIE JOHN PAUL WINWOOD	Labour Conservative
Broseley	CAROLINE EMMA BAGNALL	Labour
Brown Clee	ROBERT STUART TINDALL	Conservative
Burnell	DAN MORRIS	Conservative
Castlefields & Ditherington	ALAN NEIL MOSLEY	Labour
Cheswardine	ROB GITTINS	Conservative
Chirbury & Worthen	HEATHER MARY KIDD	Liberal Democrat
Church Stretton and Craven Arms (2)	DAVID WILLIAM EVANS HILARY MARY LUFF	Conservative Conservative
Clee	RICHARD MARK HUFFER	Liberal Democrat
Cleobury Mortimer (2)	GWILYM HOWARD LESLIE BUTLER SIMON RICHARD HARRIS	Conservative Conservative
Clun	NIGEL JOHN HARTIN	Liberal Democrat
Copthorne	ROB WILSON	Liberal Democrat
Corvedale	CECILIA MARY ANNE MOTLEY	Conservative
Ellesmere Urban	GEOFF ELNER	Conservative
Gobown Sellatyn and Weston Rhyn (2)	THOMAS MARK JONES ROBERT JOHN MACEY	Conservative Conservative
Harlescott	JEFF ANDERSON	Conservative
Highley	DAVE TREMELLEN	Independent
Hodnet	PAUL MICHAEL GILL	Conservative

Llanymynech	VINCE HUNT	Conservative
Longden	ROGER ARTHUR EVANS	Liberal Democrat
Loton	EDWARD ALAN POTTER	Conservative
Ludlow East	TRACEY HUFFER	Liberal Democrat
Ludlow North	ANDY BODDINGTON	Liberal Democrat
Ludlow South	ELIZABETH VIVIENNE PARRY	Liberal Democrat
Market Drayton East	ROY ALDCROFT	Conservative
Market Drayton West (2)	DAVID JAMES MINNERY IAN CHARLES NELLINS	Independent Conservative
Meole	BERNIE BENTICK	Liberal Democrat
Monkmoor	PAM MOSELEY	Labour
Much Wenlock	DAN THOMAS	Conservative
Oswestry East (2)	CHRIS SCHOFIELD JOHN WILLIAM PRICE	Conservative Conservative
Oswestry South	DUNCAN ALISTAIR KERR	Green
Oswestry West	MIKE ISHERWOOD	Green
Porthill	JULIAN DAVID GEOFFREY DEAN	Green
Prees	PAUL WYNN	Conservative
Quarry & Coton Hill	NAT GREEN	Liberal Democrat
Radbrook	JULIA LOUISE EVANS	Green
Rea Valley	NICK HIGNETT	Conservative
Ruyton & Baschurch	NICHOLAS JOHN BARDSLEY	Conservative
Severn Valley	CLAIRE MARGARET WILD	Conservative
Shawbury	SIMON PAUL ANDERSON JONES	Conservative
Shifnal North	KEVIN DAVID TURLEY	Independent
Shifnal South & Cosford	EDWARD FRANCIS BIRD	Conservative

St Martin's	STEVE DAVENPORT	Conservative
St Oswald	JOYCE BERNADETTE BARROW	Conservative
Sundorne	KEVIN JOHN PARDY	Labour
Tern	LEZLEY MAY PICTON	Conservative
The Meres	BRIAN BECKETT WILLIAMS	Conservative
Underdale	DAVID GEORGE VASMER	Liberal Democrat
Wem (2)	PETER BROOMHALL EDWARD WALLEY TOWERS	Conservative Independent
Whitchurch North (2)	THOMAS HENRY BIGGINS PEGGY MULLOCK	Conservative Conservative
Whitchurch South	GERALD DAKIN	Conservative
Whittington	STEVE CHARMLEY	Conservative
Worfield	RICHARD PETER MARSHALL	Conservative



<u>Committee and Date</u>	<u>Item</u>
Annual Council	
20 <sup>th</sup> May 2021	
10:00am	Public

## **APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES, COMMITTEES AND GROUPS**

**Responsible Officer** Tim Collard - Interim Assistant Director – Legal and Democratic Services

e-mail: tim.collard@shropshire.gov.uk

Tel: 01743 252756

### **Summary**

Council is asked to make appointments to outside bodies, committees and groups where urgent appointments are required. It is also requested to agree a process for the consideration of appointments to the remaining committees, groups and outside bodies.

### **Recommendations**

- A To agree urgent appointments to the outside bodies, committees and groups set out in Appendix 1 to this report.
- B To agree that a small working group comprising Group Leaders or their nominated representatives be established to appoint to the remaining outside bodies, committees and groups, and that any bodies where agreement cannot be reached by the Group be referred back to Council for decision.
- C That, the Chief Executive in consultation with appropriate Group Leaders be authorised to agree any other appointment that may be necessary as a matter of urgency.

## REPORT

### Background

1. Shropshire Council is asked to make appointments to various committees, groups and over 50 outside bodies.
2. The outside bodies range from national, regional and county organisations down to local charitable bodies. Under the Constitution, appointments to outside bodies are the responsibility of Council at their Annual meeting. Between these meetings the Leader of the Council has authority to approve appointments regardless of how they might occur and to inform the Chief Executive accordingly.
3. Some appointments need to be made urgently as meetings are scheduled for late May and June. National and Regional Local Government Associations also need to know representation in order to set political balance.
4. It should be noted that all the outside bodies appointed to in 2017 have been approached to see if they still require Council representation and the list included as Appendix 1 has been updated to reflect their responses. The lists of remaining outside bodies, committees and groups requiring representation have likewise been amended.

### Proposals

5. Those outside bodies, Committees and groups where urgent appointments are required are set out in Appendix 1 to this report. Council is asked to agree appointments to these bodies. (*Names to be circulated at the meeting.*)
6. It is then recommended that the remaining appointments are considered by a Working Group comprising of Group Leaders or their nominated representatives and that any areas where agreement cannot be reached by the Group be referred back to Council for decision.
7. If any further appointments arise of an urgent nature before the meeting of the working group, it is proposed that the Chief Executive, in consultation with Group Leaders, be authorised to agree any appointments required as a matter of urgency.



**List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)**

Schedule of Outside Bodies

**Human Rights Act Appraisal**

The contents of this report are compatible with provisions of the Human Rights Act 1998.

**Environment Appraisal** Not applicable

**Risk Management Appraisal**

It is important to agree urgent appointments at the 20<sup>th</sup> May 2021 meeting as representation will be required at meetings due to take place in the following weeks

**Community / Consultations Appraisal**

It is an essential role of Members to involve themselves in local issues

**Cabinet Member** Not applicable

**Local Member** Not applicable

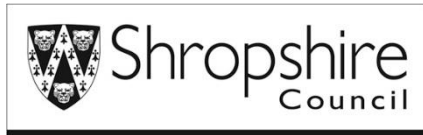
**Appendices:**

**Appendix 1** – Schedule of outside bodies, Committees and groups where urgent appointments are required to be made at this meeting of the Council

## Appendix 1

### Nominations Required Urgently to the Following Bodies

Outside Body	Required Representation
<b>County Council Network Council</b>	Up to 4 Members
<b>Local Government Association</b>	Up to 4 Members
<b>The Marches Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Board</b>	1 – Member
<b>SPARSE (Rural Services Network)</b>	4 (2 as observers)
<b>West Mercia Police and Crime Panel</b>	4 – Members (1 Substantive Member & 3 co-opted) 4 – Alternates
<b>West Midlands Combined Authority – Audit, Risk and Assurance Committee</b>	1 – Member
<b>West Midlands Combined Authority – Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee</b>	1 – Member



<u>Committee and Date</u>	<u>Item</u>
Council	Public
20 May 2021	
10.00 am	

## REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL

**Responsible Officer** Tim Collard

Email: Tim.collard@shropshire.gov.uk

Tel: (01743) 252756

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### 1.0 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report incorporates the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel on a full review of the level of basic remuneration for Shropshire Councillors together with a full review of special responsibility allowances made available.
- 1.2 The report of the Independent Remuneration Panel was first presented to Council on 25 February 2021. Members resolved to defer the matter to the Annual General Meeting.

### 2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Council is requested to consider and approve, with or without amendment, the Independent Remuneration Panel's recommendations.

## REPORT

### 3.0 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Panel met in late 2020 to give consideration to Members' Allowances. The Panel's recommendations are contained within the Report attached at Appendix 1.

**List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)**

None

**Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)**

Leader of the Council

**Local Member/s**

All

**Appendices**

Appendix 1: Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel

## REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL 2021

### 1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Independent Remuneration Panel met on 18 November 2020 and received oral representation from:

Andy Begley, Chief Executive.

Councillor Peter Nutting, Leader.

Councillor Ann Hartley, Chair of the Council.

Councillor Gwilym Butler, Portfolio Holder.

Councillor Claire Wild, Chair of Performance Management Scrutiny Committee.

Councillor Tom Biggins, Chair of the Pensions Committee.

Councillor Roger Evans, Liberal Democrat Group Leader.

1.2 Councillors Nutting, Biggins and Evans also provided written submissions.

1.3 The Panel also considered written submissions from:

Councillor David Turner.

Councillor Ruth Houghton.

Councillor Paul Wynn.

Councillor Joyce Barrow.

Councillor David Evans, Chair of Planning Committee (South).

Councillor Robert Tindall.

Councillor Heather Kidd.

Councillor Brian Williams.

1.4 In addition, The Panel referred to the following documents:

Shropshire Council Constitution Part 9 – Role and Expectations.

Guidance on Consolidated Regulations for Local Authority Allowances [pub. 2003]

The Local Authorities (Members Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 [Statutory Instrument 2003 No. 1021]

Councillors' Census 2013 [LGA] giving a breakdown of weekly hours worked in England.

CIPFA Benchmarking for Shropshire Council 2016/17.

1.5 The Panel obtained a breakdown of the number of Full Council and Sub-Committee meetings for 2018 and 2019 and the attendance of Councillors at training events in 2017.

## **2. MEMBERS BASIC ALLOWANCE**

### **2.1 Recommendation.**

The Basic Allowance be increased to 12,000.00 per annum.

### **2.2 Reasoning.**

There was representation from some Councillors of a need to increase the basic allowance, particularly in view of the reduction in allowance from that received in 2009, but this was not a universal opinion.

Some Councillors suggested an increase in the basic allowance would attract younger, and more diverse, candidates for election. There was also comments on the higher "workload" experienced by Councillors representing rural areas compared with urban areas. The Panel understands that the Basic Allowance is an amount that will be paid to every elected Councillor and there is no ability to vary that according to any differences arising from the peculiarities of the constituency that a Councillor represents.

The Panel referred to the CIPFA Benchmarking table for Shropshire Council dated 2017/18 and noted that, at that time, the Basic Allowance was above the median level for the group but not at the top of the range.

The Panel concluded that an increase at this time was justified and the proposed increase remains within the "spread" of allowances shown in the CIPFA Benchmarking table.

## **3. SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY ALLOWANCES.**

The Special Responsibility Allowance is stated as a proportion of the Basic Allowance. The Panel decided to continue this method.

### **3.1 Comment on the roles of Chairman of the Council and Speaker of the Council.**

The Panel understands that the Speaker is responsible for chairing full Council meetings and the Chairman is the civic head of the Council. They each serve as a deputy to the other. The Panel felt that this was an unusual arrangement and, initially, somewhat confusing. The Council may wish to regularise the arrangement.

### **3.2 Chairman of the Council**

#### **Recommendation**

The Special Responsibility Allowance for the Civic Head of the Council (the Chairman) be reduced from 0.75 to 0.25

#### **Reasoning.**

The panel considered that the existing Special Responsibility Allowance is not commensurate with the role when compared to the other roles attracting a Special Responsibility Allowance.

### **3.3 Speaker of the Council.**

#### **Recommendation.**

The Special Responsibility Allowance for whoever chairs the Full Council Meetings (The Speaker) be reduced from 0.75 to 0.5

#### **Reasoning.**

The Panel considered that the existing Special Responsibility Allowance was not commensurate with the role, particularly when compared to the other Roles attracting a Special Responsibility Allowance.

### **3.4 Leader of the Council**

#### **Recommendation.**

The Special responsibility Allowance be increased from 2.0 to 2.25

#### **Reasoning.**

The majority of Councillors who expressed a view considered that the level of responsibility of the Leader had increased significantly. The panel noted that the CIPFA comparison placed the Leader significantly below the median level for the group.

### **3.5 Deputy Leader of the Council.**

#### **Recommendation.**

The Special Responsibility Allowance be increased from 1.25 to 1.5

#### **Reasoning**

As for the Leader, there has been an increase in the level of responsibility and the CIPFA comparison was significantly below the median.

### **3.6 Executive Members (Portfolio Holders)**

#### **Recommendation.**

The Special responsibility Allowance remain at 1.0

#### **Reasoning.**

The level of responsibility remains unchanged.

### **3.7 Deputy Portfolio Holders**

#### **Recommendation**

The Special responsibility Allowance of 0.5 be reduced to 0.25

#### **Reasoning**

A Deputy Portfolio Holder has an advisory and supporting role to the Portfolio Holder; is not a member of the Cabinet and does not exercise any executive responsibility. Shropshire Council Constitution states that such appointments are at the discretion of the Leader of the Council.

### **3.8 Opposition Group Leader(s) (with, at least, 10% of the membership of the Council.)**

#### **Recommendation.**

That the Special responsibility Allowance remain at 0.5

#### **Reasoning**

The level of responsibility remains unchanged.

### **3.9 Chairman of Scrutiny Committee(s)**

#### **Recommendation**

That the level of the Special Responsibility Allowance remain at 1.0

#### **Reasoning**

The role description for the Chair suggests a significant level of responsibility in addition to chairing the Committee.

### **3.10 Chairman of Area Planning Committee(s)**

#### **Recommendation.**

That the level of Special Responsibility Allowance be increased from 0.5 to 0.75



**Reasoning**

A number of Councillors informed the Panel that the “workload” of the Planning Committees had increased since the number of Planning Committees was reduced from three to two with a consequential rise in the number of meetings for both remaining committees.

**3.11 Vice Chairman of Area Planning Committee(s)****Recommendation.**

That the level of Special Responsibility Allowance be increased from 0.125 to 0.25

**Reasoning**

The increase in Committee meetings, as referred to above.

**3.12 Chairman of Strategic Licensing Committee****Recommendation**

That the level of Special Responsibility Allowance remain at 0.25

**Reasoning**

The panel consider this to be commensurate with the responsibility of the role.

**3.13 Chairman of the Licensing Sub-Committee/ Vice-Chairman of the Strategic Licensing Committee.****Recommendation**

That the level of Special Responsibility Allowance of 0.25 be reduced to 0.125

**Reasoning**

The Panel understands that there has been a significant reduction in the workload of this sub-committee.

**3.14 Chairman of Audit Committee****Recommendation**

That the level of the Special Responsibility Allowance be reduced from 0.5 to 0.3

**Reasoning**

There does not appear to be a written Role Description for the Chairman of the Audit Committee and so the Panel are relying on verbal information. The Panel understand that the role is primarily a review function and consider that the Special responsibility Allowance should be reduced.

### **3.15 Chairman of Pensions Committee or Vice-Chairman of pensions Committee**

#### **Recommendation**

That the Special Responsibility Allowance for the Chairman remain at 0.25 but that the Special responsibility Allowance for the Vice-Chairman be discontinued.

#### **Reasoning**

The Panel understands that this committee is a joint committee for Shropshire Council and Telford and Wrekin Council. The Chairman is traditionally from one Authority and the Vice-Chairman from the other Authority.

The Panel concluded that the role of Vice-Chairman did not warrant a Special responsibility Allowance.

## **4. Child and Dependent Carers Allowance.**

4.1 The following is extracted from the document setting out the Shropshire Council – Members Allowances Scheme.

#### *“5. Child and Dependant Carers’ Allowance*

*A child care allowance of up to £6.19 per hour (wef 01/10/12), subject to a maximum of £2,500 per member per annum, will be paid towards the costs of child care, on evidence being supplied of the amount claimed having been incurred in employing a carer to look after a child or dependant who is a member of the councillor’s family and living with the councillor and who cannot be left alone.”*

#### **4.2 Recommendation**

That the allowance of “up to £6.19 per hour” should be amended to “up to the National Living Wage hourly rate or the actual cost, whichever is lower”, and the “maximum of £2,500 per member per annum” be increased to a “maximum of £3,500 per member per annum.”

The Panel understands that, from April 2021, the National Living Wage for those 23 years and over will be £8.91 per hour.

#### **4.3 Reasoning**

Several Councillors referred to the desirability of younger and more diverse candidates seeking election to the Council. The Panel considers that the existing allowance is too low and could inhibit those with caring responsibilities from undertaking Council duties.

## **5. Travelling and Subsistence Allowances**

The Panel does not make any recommendations. The Panel understands that “mileage” allowances are subject to HMRC guidance in respect of tax liability.

## 6. Comment on Training Provision for Councillors

The Panel were provided with a spreadsheet showing attendance at training sessions by Councillors in 2017 as part of understanding the range of activities undertaken by Councillors.

The Panel suggest that the Council give consideration to designating certain training as “Essential Training” which Councillors are required to undertake as a condition of receiving the full Basic Allowance.

## 7. Recommendations.

7.1 That the Basic Allowance be increased to £12000.00

7.2 That the Special Responsibility Allowance multiplier for the Chairman of the Council (Civic Head) be reduced from 0.75 to 0.25

7.3 That the Special Responsibility Allowance multiplier for the Speaker (Chair of Full Council Meetings) be reduced from 0.75 to 0.5

7.4 That the Special Responsibility Allowance multiplier for the Leader of the Council be increased from 2.0 to 2.25

7.5 That the Special Responsibility Allowance multiplier for the Deputy Leader of the Council be increased from 1.25 to 1.5

7.6 That the Special Responsibility Allowance multiplier for Executive Members (Portfolio Holders) remain at 1.0

7.7 That the Special Responsibility Allowance multiplier for Deputy Portfolio Holders be reduced from 0.5 to 0.25

7.8 That the Special Responsibility Allowance multiplier for Opposition Group Leader(s) remain at 0.5

7.9 That the Special Responsibility Allowance multiplier for Chairman of Scrutiny Committee(s) remain at 1.0

7.10 That the Special Responsibility Allowance multiplier for Chairman of Area Planning Committee(s) be increased from 0.5 to 0.75

7.11 That the Special Responsibility Allowance multiplier for Vice Chairman of Area Planning Committee(s) be increased from 0.125 to 0.25

7.12 That the Special Responsibility Allowance multiplier for Chairman of Strategic Licensing Committee remain at 0.25

7.13 That the Special Responsibility Allowance multiplier for Chairman of the Licensing Sub-Committee/Vice Chairman of the Strategic Licensing Committee be reduced from 0.25 to 0.125

7.14 That the Special Responsibility Allowance multiplier for Chairman of Audit Committee be reduced from 0.5 to 0.3

7.15 That the Special Responsibility Allowance multiplier for Chairman of Pensions Committee remain unchanged at 0.25.

7.16 That the Special Responsibility Allowance multiplier for Vice Chairman of Pensions Committee be discontinued.

7.17 That the Child and Dependent Carers Allowance be amended as follows:

That the allowance of “up to £6.19 per hour” should be amended to “up to the National Living Wage hourly rate or the actual cost, whichever is lower”, and the “maximum of £2,500 per member per annum” be increased to a “maximum of £3,500 per member per annum.”

7.18 The Panel makes no recommendation with regard to Travel and Subsistence Allowances.

Stephen Donkersley (Chairman)

Richard Garnett

Timothy Griffiths JP

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

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