

Madeley Town Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Madeley Town Council held on Monday 5 December 2022 commencing 7pm at Jubilee House, High Street, Madeley.

Councillors Present H Morgan (Mayor), S Chadwick, R Coates, P Cogings, A England, N England, R Evans, J Jones, K Middleton, A MacKenzie, R Meadows, S Taylor, P Watling, D White, D Wright
Officers Present Alison Hinks, Town Clerk and Deputy town Clerk
Visitors Present West Mercia Police and Officers from Telford & Wrekin Council Safer Stronger Communities Team

23/66 Apologies

Councillor C MacKenzie – prior commitment

Councillor P Taylor – leave of absence

Resolved:

Councillors unanimously resolved that the apologies received were accepted.

23/67 Remarks from the Mayor

The Mayor welcomed West Mercia Police and Telford & Wrekin Council Safer Stronger Communities to the meeting.

The Mayor thanked staff for their hard work at the recent Madeley Christmas Lights Switch-on and reported that the events in Sutton Hill and Woodside were equally as supported by the local community.

23/68 Public Discussion

No members of the public were present at the meeting.

23/69 Declarations of Interest.

Cllr Watling declared an interest in agenda item 23/71 - Youth Offer in Madeley, Sutton Hill and Woodside.

Cllrs Chadwick, Evans and Jones declared an interest in agenda item 23/79.2 - Madeley Library.

Cllr A England declared an interest in agenda item 23/81.1 - Madeley Town Council Unreasonably Persistent and Vexatious Complaints Procedure.

23/70 Update from West Mercia Police

The Mayor welcomed PC Barrett and PCSO Newbrook to the meeting who updated Councillors on the priorities in the Woodside and Madeley and Sutton Hill. PC Barrett confirmed that PACT surgeries are now taking place at the Park Lane Centre, The Anstice and in Housing Schemes throughout the month. PC Barrett also encouraged the Town Council to promote throughout the community the new Neighbourhood Matters social media page which keeps residents updated on Policing matters.

Cllr Watling thanked the Police and local homelessness charities for working together to support the recent rough sleepers in Madeley and thanked the Police for their commitment to stopping the problems on Tesco carpark, Madeley. Cllr Middleton asked if the Police offered mental health support to the rough sleepers. The Police said that mental health support is always considered.

Cllr Middleton thanked the Police for their recent work in Woodside including the work with local secondary schools and the local knife sweep in the area. Cllr Middleton said that the quad bikes on Woodside are causing danger to the local community. PC Barrett said that photographic evidence is needed to prosecute people driving the quad bikes. Cllr Mackenzie said that was a similar problem by Woodlands School.

Cllr A England asked if the Police were still considering using drones to monitor the use of motor bikes.

Cllr Jones expressed concerns about the dangers of parking outside of local schools and suggested that more Police patrols are needed at the beginning and end of the school day. PCSO Newbrook suggested relocating the remote CCTV cameras or asking the Headteacher to remind parents of problem parking via the school newsletter.

Cllr Jones asked for the Police to revisit homes in Sutton Hill that were issued with security packs are part of the Safer Streets project. Marvyn Joseph, Safer Stronger Communities suggested that the mobile police van could be advertised throughout the community to assist with the use of security packs.

Cllr White said that the anti-social behaviour in Sutton Hill seems to have dropped, although drugs is still a problem and needs an undercover operation.

Cllr Meadows said that parking outside the Park Lane Centre is causing problems for people who use mobility scooters. Cllr Meadows also asked why there are so many CCTV cameras along Madeley High Street.

The Mayor thanked PC Barrett and PCSE Newbrook for attending the meeting.

23/71 Youth Offer in Madeley, Sutton Hill and Woodside

Cllr Watling declared an interest in this agenda item.

The Mayor welcomed Marvyn Joseph and Adele Hunt, Telford & Wrekin Council Safer Stronger Communities Team to the meeting who updated Councillors on the new Youth Officer post covering Madeley, Sutton Hill and Woodside. This post has been jointly funded by the Safer Stronger Communities funding and Madeley Town Council in the first instance. Ms Hunt said that there are currently different models across 3 areas and the new post will enable a collaborative approach supported by volunteers and oversee by the new Youth Officer. Mr Joseph said that the new

Youth Officer post will link in with other youth sessions happening across the area: HAHA Urban Games, St Giles Trust.

Cllr White said that he hoped that the new joint offer will approach working with young people in the area differently. Mr Joseph said that the new post will have the capacity to do this.

The Town Clerk said suggested that the Youth Council are invited to be part of the interview panel.

Cllr Middleton suggested that a holiday play scheme is investigated which will evolve into young people attending the youth clubs.

Cllr Mackenzie said that partnership projects should be considered as part of the wider project available in the local area.

Cllr Jones said that The Anstice youth club is well attended and now requires a club for the older young people. Unfortunately, Sutton Hill youth club is viewed negatively by the local community and suggested that the youth club is enhanced to encourage young people to love their local area by planting bulbs and litter picking. Ms Hunt said that the perception of Sutton Hill youth club is not the reality, and the club now has young leaders supporting the group.

Cllr Watling said that new youth offer is not just about the youth clubs in the area and the role should expand to work with the hard to reach young people as well.

The Mayor thanked Mr Joseph and Ms Hunt for attending the meeting.

23/72 Minutes

To confirm and approve the minutes of the Meeting of Council held on 3 October 2022 and the Extraordinary Meeting of the Council held on 14 November 2022.

Resolved:

Councillors unanimously resolved that the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 3 October 2022 and the Extraordinary meeting held on 14 November 2022 be confirmed and approved for signature (Appendix A).

23/73 Action Plan

The Clerk presented the Full Council Action Plan for Councillor information (Appendix B and C).

Noted.

23/74 Committee Minutes

74.1 Draft minutes from Environment Committee held on 3 October 2022 and 14 November

The Clerk presented to Councillors the draft minutes from the Environment Committee held on 3 October 2022 and 14 November for information (Appendix D and E).

Noted.

74.2 Draft minutes from Leisure & Community Committee held on 7 November 2022

The Clerk presented to Councillors the draft minutes from the Leisure & Community Committee held on 7 November 2022 for information (Appendix F).

Noted

74.3 Draft minutes from Finance & General-Purpose Committee held on 21 November 2022

The Clerk presented to Councillors the draft minutes from the Finance & General-Purpose Committee held on 21 November 2022 for information (Appendix G).

Noted

23/75 Budget & Finance – Financial Reports

75.1 Expenditure Transactions

The Town Clerk had prepared an expenditure transactions list for noting for the period 1 October 2022 to 31 October 2022 (Appendix H).

Noted.

75.2 Income Transaction

The Town Clerk had prepared an income transactions list for noting for the period 1 October 2022 to 31 October 2022 (Appendix I).

Noted.

75.3 Budget Cashbook

The Town Clerk had prepared the Financial Summary – Cashbook report for the period 1 April 2022 to 31 October 2022 for information (Appendix J).

Noted.

75.4 Budget Comparison Report

The Town Clerk had prepared the Financial Comparison Report for the period to 1 April 2022 to 31 October 2022 for information (Appendix K).

Noted.

75.5 Expenditure for Approval

Nothing to report.

75.6 Draft 2023-24 Proposed Budget and Precept

To note the initial budget proposals and Precept for 2023-24

The Town Clerk said that the proposed 2023-24 budget has been set with no increase to the 2022-23 Band D Council Tax amounts and that the 2023-24 budget is being set within the set budget for 2022-23, Council Tax Support Grant and other income received (see Appendix L).

The Town Clerk reported on a recent letter received from Telford & Wrekin Council that updated Madeley Town Council on changes to the CTS Grant for 2023-24, which will reduce by one third from the 2022-23 grant to £21,717 (see Appendix I). The Net Precept amount has increased to £548,035 due to an increase of new property in the Ward and the increase in the number of households claiming benefits. Both these changes have seen an increase in the Gross Precept of £351.

Further discussions on the 2023-24 budget would take place at all committees with final approval at the Full Council meeting on 23 January 2023 to ensure that the 2023-24 budget is as accurate as possible.
Noted.

23/76 Review of Polling places, polling districts and polling stations

To discuss the current consultation on the review Polling places, polling districts and polling stations

The Town Clerk presented a map of current polling stations in Madeley, Sutton Hill and Woodside for consideration (Appendix M). Cllr White suggested using The Anstice as a polling station rather than Madeley Rest Rooms as there is more parking available for residents.

Resolved:

Councillors unanimously resolved that The Anstice would be investigated as a possible polling station in Madeley.

23/77 Draft File Retention Policy

To discuss and approve the updated Madeley Town Council File Retention Policy

The Town Clerk presented a copy of the updated File Retention Policy which is based on the NALC recommendations for all documentation held by Madeley Town Council (Appendix N).

Resolved:

Councillors unanimously resolved to adopt the updated File Retention Policy.

23/78 Draft Appraisal and Supervision Policy

To discuss and approve the updated Madeley Town Council Appraisal and Supervision Policy.

Deferred to next Full Council Meeting.

23/79 Exclusion of Press and Public

Resolved:

Councillors unanimously resolved that, because of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, councillors consider a resolution to exclude press and public from the meeting in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 sec.1 to consider the following items:

79.1 Staffing

To update recent staffing recruitment at Madeley Town Council

The Mayor updated Councillors on the Buildings & Assets Officer post who has recently taken up post and currently working through the Madeley Town Council induction training and role specific training.

The Clerk confirmed that interviews for the Wellbeing Support Co-ordinator post are arranged for Wednesday 7 December 2022 with a view to start in post in January 2023.

79.2 Madeley Library

To update and agree the proposal regarding the future of Madeley Library

Cllrs Chadwick, Evans, and Jones declared an interest in this agenda item.

The Town Clerk presented a report on the amended proposals for Madeley Town Council to manage the day to day running of Madeley Library and First Point (see Appendix P). These changes have been agreed by Telford & Wrekin Council Data Protection Manager and the Telford & Wrekin Council Library Service fully support these arrangements.

Resolved:

Councillor resolved that Madeley Town Council take over the running of Madeley Library and First Point from January 2023. Cllrs Chadwick, Evans, and Jones abstained from the vote.

79.3 Love Madeley

Cllr Morgan updated Full Council on the future of Love Madeley contract which will stop on 30 November 2022 due to funding.

Noted.

23/80 **Correspondence**
Nothing to report.

23/81 **Information**

81.1 The Town Clerk updated Councillors on the recent issues with 2 members of the local community where the Madeley Town Council Unreasonably Persistent and Vexatious Complaints Procedure had to be instigated. Councillors discussed the appeal against this decision and unanimously agreed that the decisions would not be overturned.

Cllr A England declared an interest in this agenda item.

81.2 The Town Clerk updated Councillors on the recent Telford & Wrekin Council Cost of Living Briefing and the information provided to support the local community

81.3 The Mayor updated Councillors on the recent meeting with the Royal British Legion to restart the Madeley Branch of the Royal British Legion.

The Town Council will be promoting this within the local community in the new year.

23/82 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of Madeley Town Council will be on Monday 23 January 2022 at 6.30 pm at Jubilee House, High Street, Madeley

The Annual Meeting of the Town Council is scheduled for Monday 8 May which is now a Bank Holiday due to the Kings Coronation. This meeting will be rescheduled to Monday 15 May 2023 at 6.30 pm at Jubilee House, High Street, Madeley.

There being no further business, the Mayor closed the meeting at 8.15 pm.

Signed:

Mayor of Madeley Town Council

Dated: