

Shirebrook

Town Council

Minutes of the **120th Annual Town Meeting** of Shirebrook Town Council
held at **6pm** on **Wednesday** the **15th of May 2024**
at **Shirebrook Town Council, 209 Station Road, Shirebrook, Derbyshire, NG20 8AF**

PRESENT

Cllr. S Brooks
Cllr. P Chapman
Cllr. T Chapman
Cllr. S Cheeseman
Cllr. C Dale
Cllr. S Fritchley
Cllr. P Harford
Cllr. F Gobey

Cllr. C Kane - CHAIRMAN
Cllr. V Kirby
Cllr. J Lewis
Cllr. B Murray-Carr
Cllr. D Smith
Cllr. N Smith
Cllr. M Stockdale
Cllr. J Wilson

IN ATTENDANCE: Members of the public (15).
Miss S Stevenson – MINUTE CLERK

2024/045 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies and reasons for absence had been received or were tendered on behalf of;

Mrs J Jeffery
Cllr. P Harford

RESOLVED: That the apologies and reasons for absence be approved.

2024/046 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT.

NOTES FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT

- Welcome to the 120th Annual Town Meeting of Shirebrook Town Council.
- For those who do not know I am Cllr. Chrstopher Kane and I have been the Chairman of Shirebrook Town Council during the last financial year.
- We hope this is only phase one of the Market Place Improvement Scheme.

- We are aware that traffic around and parking on the market square continues to be a problem and we will continue to work with Derbyshire County Council to discuss ways of combatting the issues. Planned future developments should help the situation.
- We will continue to fight for a cleaner village reporting any issues to the District Council as they arise.
- Despite staffing difficulties, the operational workforce have continued throughout the year with their usual duties of grounds maintenance and litter picking etc. and although we regularly have anti-social litter and damage caused at Town Council land and properties we will continue to work towards cleaner and safer areas that we manage. New equipment is being trialled in the near future which should help operatives keep on top of grass cutting requirements.
- The CCTV project is now complete and operational.
- FINANCE

In accordance with financial regulations the Town Council supported the following group/s by awarding the following Section 137 grant/s over the past year:

- Rhubarb Farm	£350.00
- Arts & Café	£100.00
- Shirebrook MW Band	£500.00
- Shirebrook Cricket Club	£500.00

The Town Council welcomes applications for financial assistance from all local groups and clubs. Forms are available from the Town Council Offices.

- COUNCILLORS

I'd like to thank Councillors for their support over the past year.

Finally, I would remind residents that Town Councillors dedicate their time voluntarily to Town Council business. They are not paid, and although expenses can be claimed, over the past twelve months, not one penny has been claimed through procedures in place.

2024/047 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN'S REPORTS.

NOTES FROM LEISURE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT

Due to the number of members of the public the Chairman took the decision to open the meeting to the public.

NOTES FROM OPERATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT

This agenda item was not discussed due to continued response to public questions.

2024/048 ELECTORS PARTICIPATION.

Resident 1 – asked questions relating to the purchase and original requirement plans of the land on which now the crematorium will be built. He also asked what income was made from the land when it was rented to local farmers before the sale. This resident also asked what income we are likely to achieve from allowing BDC to run the crematorium.

The Chairman responded stating the purchase of the land was made on 17/02/1992 for the cost of £22,000 plus the seller's fee of £852.00; he explained the purpose of the purchase was in readiness to extend the cemetery. The Chairman also added the income accrued from farmers renting the land each year was £340 and the income from the crematorium would be 4% of any profits.

Resident 2 – asked if it was true that considerations were being made to demolish the Village Hall to sell the land for development?

The Chairman explained why this should be a consideration for the Council which was due to the immense running costs and upkeep of the Village Hall in its current state.

Resident 3 – asked for an update on the swimming pool

The Vice Chairman explained where we were with the proposals whilst also trying to explain the various avenues that were being investigated to seek funding. Much discussion took place with Cllr Fritchley, Cllr Smith and Cllr Cheeseman contributing to the responses.

The Vice Chairman concluded by adding, we just don't know yet as we are trying to seek revenue.

Resident 4 – in terms of investment and employment, wouldn't it have been better to invest in a swimming pool instead of a crematorium?

Cllr. Fritchley explained how the Council needs to bring in revenue to be able to invest in projects and how the 4% annual revenue would contribute to assisting with this goal.

Resident 5 – stated we are doing little about anti-social behaviour.

Resident 6 – questioning of the validity of the various development projects.

Resident 7 – stated we have too few schools, doctors and dentists

Resident 8 – asked what is the memory garden on the market about?

Cllr Fritchley attempted to explain where and how decisions are made by County Councils as to whether to create schools, doctors and dentist places in areas. He went on to explain that the market development will include a new seating area that will compliment the fantastic mining memorial monument that was funded by the Shirebrook community.

Resident 9 – questioned the sale of the land to BDC for the crematorium.

Resident 10 – complained that Council equipment as well as the leisure centre were not being maintained.

The Chairman gave a breakdown of maintenance and purchases the Council had recently undertaken.

Resident 11 – asked if it was true that the Police Station and the New Victoria Inn were being converted into Houses of Multiple Occupancy.

Resident 12 – also a Cllr for BDC explained that she was aware of the planning application to convert the New Victoria Inn and how residents and Cllrs were doing their best to raise objections.

It was agreed that we would investigate the plans for the Police Station and no-one else in the room was aware of this.

Resident 13 – asked what we are doing about youth services.

Resident 14 – responded to the above question by explaining how they had tried to encourage local youth to attend their disco nights.

Resident 15 and others contributed by saying that if anyone wished to help, they would support a youth club.

Cllr. Brook offered the use of the Soldiers if volunteers would support the venture.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 18:55.

SIGNED: _____

DATE: _____