



SERVING LOCAL COUNCILS IN SHROPSHIRE AND TELFORD & WREKIN  
Affiliated to the National Association of Local Councils

Minutes of the Meeting of Bridgnorth and Shifnal Area Committee SALC held on 19<sup>TH</sup> June 2023 at Bridgnorth Library.

### **Present:**

Rosemary Abbiss, Vice Chair (Stottesdon and Sidbury PC)  
David Cooper (Bridgnorth TC)  
Tony Copewell (Sutton Maddock PC)  
Susan Crooke-Williams (Much Wenlock TC)  
David Fenwick (Much Wenlock TC)  
Chris Hardy (Neen Savage PC)  
Simon Harris (Broseley Town Council)  
Stephen McDermott (Morville PC)  
John Pickup (Neenton Parish Meeting)  
Sylvia Pledger (Albrighton PC)  
Kevin Shepherd (Kinlet PC)  
Trevor Tarran (Shifnal TC)  
Jenny Yates (Quatt PC)

### **In Attendance**

Gillian Bailey (Area Secretary).

### **1. Welcome and Introductions**

The Vice Chair, Cllr Abbiss, welcomed everyone to the meeting. Members introduced themselves.

### **2. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were noted from:

David Beechey (Albrighton PC)  
Rachel Connolly (Bridgnorth TC)  
Dianne Dorrell (SALC)  
Ray Wickson (SALC)  
Sue Bates, (Billingsley PC)  
Annice Dixon (Tong PC)  
Phillip Knott, (Barrow PC)

### **3. Election of Officers**

#### **a) Chair**

Cllr Abbiss nominated Cllr Pledger, this was seconded by Cllr Hardy, and it was resolved unanimously to elect Cllr Pledger as Chair of the Bridgnorth and Shifnal Area Committee for the year to June 2024.

#### **b) Vice Chair**

Cllr Harris agreed to stand as Vice Chair, seconded by Cllr Yates and it was resolved unanimously to elect Cllr Harris as Vice Chair of Bridgnorth and Shifnal Area

Committee for the year to June 2024.

### **c) Secretary**

It was proposed by Cllr Abbiss, seconded by Cllr Fenwick and agreed unanimously to appoint G Bailey as committee secretary for the year to June 2024.

### **4. Minutes**

It was proposed agreed unanimously that with the following correction the minutes of the previous meeting held 13<sup>th</sup> March 2023 were a true record.

Page 1: Present: Amend Alan Yates to Jenny Yates

Apologies: Kevin Shepherd, Kinlet PC

There were 6 abstentions from Cllrs who were not present at the last meeting.

### **5. Appointments to SALC Executive**

It was agreed unanimously to appoint Cllrs Pledger and Tarran to the SALC Executive.

It was agreed unanimously to appoint Cllrs Harris and Cooper as substitutes to the SALC Executive.

### **6. Accounts**

- a) The committee received and approved the annual accounts for Bridgnorth and Shifnal Area Committee, total funds on deposit: £2,622.72.
- b) The committee approved the following payments to G Bailey:  
£210 meetings September 2022, December 2022 and March 2023  
£70 meeting June 2023  
£36 reimburse room hire Bridgnorth Library

### **7. Membership Subscriptions**

- a) The secretary advised that the resolution to not collect subscriptions in 2022/2023 missed the deadline for processing payments. Subscriptions have been collected for the year.
- b) It was resolved unanimously to not collect subscriptions for the year 2023/24.

### **8. Place Plan Reviews**

The committee discussed the progress on place plans; the following points were made:

- Some Councillors, particularly those in smaller councils, clustered with larger Towns were not aware of work on place plans, and felt they needed more support,
- One Councillor felt that communication with place plan officers had not been dealt with,
- One Council is having staffing difficulties and may not be able to meet the deadline for submission.
- Place plans are being used by Shropshire Council to meet the infrastructure requirements in the Local Plan.
- It was agreed that a more formal process should be undertaken to 'relaunch' the place plans, rather than, it was felt adding to previous plans.
- It was agreed that when Councils receive their plans they should scrutinise them carefully and raise any concerns.
- There is a joint working group meeting this Thursday where this could be raised.

The secretary agreed to give this feedback to SALC.

## **9. SALC**

Written report from SALC attached.

## **10. Parish Council Issues**

### **a) Disruption and financial losses caused by road closures: Neenton Parish Meeting.**

John Pickup, Chair of Neenton Parish Meeting gave the committee an overview of the issues caused when temporary road closures are required on the B4364. The diversions put in place are 35m long, involve 219 road signs in 47 different locations. He has been working with Shropshire Council and Kier trying to address this issue, and would be grateful if the committee was able to support Neenton Parish Meeting with this.

Other councillors reported similar problems, particularly with inadequate signage at the beginning of road works, communication with parish councils and long diversions. It was agreed to put a motion to the SALC Executive Committee requesting that Shropshire Council reviews its guidance and consider improvements to the current system.

It was agreed to draft a letter for other area councils to use to raise this issue with Shropshire Council.

### **b) Infrastructure for New Housing developments**

Cllr Tarran reported that the required infrastructure for new housing developments were seriously lagging behind the completion of the development. In Shifnal a new medical centre to serve recent housing development is nearing completion, however the access road has not been completed.

It was noted that this seemed to be a national issue.

## **11. Items for future agendas**

Members agreed the following:

- Progress on the Local Plan
- Training
- CCTV

## **12. Meeting Dates**

11<sup>th</sup> September 2023

4<sup>th</sup> December 2023