

**Draft Minutes of Wem Economic Forum Meeting  
Roden Suite, Edinburgh House, Wem  
21 January 2020 at 2pm**

**Present:** Cllr Tim Wilton-Morgan (Wem Rural Parish Council) (Chair), Rosemary Dodd (Wem Town Council), Viv Edgar (Dementia Friendly Wem), Huw Edwards (Wem Rural Parish Council) and Peter Marsh (Wem Rural Parish Council)

**In attendance:** Wem Town Council Clerk Penny O'Hagan and Wem Rural Parish Council Clerk Carole Warner.

**1 Welcome**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2 Apologies**

Cllr Phil Glover (Wem Town Council), Cllr Connie Granger (Wem Town Council), Cllr Chris Mellings (Shropshire Council) and Simon Thornley (Mid-Counties Co-op)

**3 Minutes of meeting held on 24 September 2019**

The minutes were agreed. Following a question, Mrs O'Hagan advised that although the Wem Sweet Pea Society still existed there would be no Sweet Pea Show this year. There could be a plant stall at the Vehicles of Interest Show in July.

**4 Wem 'Regeneration' Project**

Mrs O'Hagan and Ms Warner presented their recent work in connection with working with Shropshire Council to prepare a local growth strategy (LGS). They explained alternatives to promote and enhance Wem's activities to the benefit of all businesses in Wem and local area. A summary document was circulated to those present.

**Following discussion, the following was agreed:**

**To progress the idea of 'Make Wem FIT' with Mrs O'Hagan and Ms Warner initially taking this forward with assistance from Cllr Edwards/Cllr Wilton-Morgan**

**To make available a budget of £500 towards initial costs.**

**5 Working Groups – update**

- a. Traffic – Cllr Wilton- Morgan reported that the 3 projects were still in progress with Shropshire Council. Discussion took place on the recent discussions regarding the proposed Lowe Hill Road housing development.

**It was agreed that comments made by the Working Group would be submitted to the developer, and Terms of Reference for all Working Groups should be reviewed/agreed at the Annual General Meeting.**



## WEMECONOMICFORUM

- b. Emergency Plan – Ms Warner advised Cllr Mellings was arranging a meeting with Shropshire Council to review the wider implications of the Plan.
- c. Review Markets – No report.
- d. Dementia Friendly Wem – Mrs Viv Edgar reported that the first meeting of 2020 was to be held the following week when plans for 2020 would be agreed.

### **6 Climate Change**

Mrs O'Hagan outlined the work the Town Council had undertaken to date. The latest public meeting had been attended by over 40 people and a separate community-led group was now progressing this issue.

### **7 Other matters of interest**

No matters were raised by those present

### **8 Agree date of next meeting:**

The next meeting would be held on Wednesday 25 March 2020 at 3pm