

SC Cllr. Report (Ted Clarke)

March 2022

The last meeting of Shropshire Council's 70+ members was held in Clayton Hall, Shrewsbury College on the London Road. All councillors sitting apart across the large hall at the required social distance.

The meeting continued from 10am until after 3pm dealing with all the 20+ items on the full agenda. One of the most contentious proposals sought officer approval to immediately commence actively marketing the long established Shirehall site. With the intention to relocate SC operations into yet to be built new accommodation on the moribund Shrewsbury riverside shopping centre site.

There were strongly argued calls that the proposal should be withdrawn and that the viability of Shirehall should first be referred for a full cross party scrutiny examination. However, the proposal to sell was narrowly approved, solely by the block vote of the ruling majority party group.

Locally: The Parish Council have, via Shropshire Council, secured "welcome back" funding for an in depth make-over of the shopping parade forecourt. To include repaving, new seating and removal of the overgrown willow tree. The site owner has agreed to also repair and redecorate his property!

"Full Fibre" have commenced their work to install new broadband fibre cabling, using BT ducting and telephone poles, throughout the village. Their primary connection is from the new green cabinet fixed near The Common junction on the Hereford Road. The work will be ongoing for many months.

At a recent Town Council meeting the NHS Team considering the possibilities for a new central health hub gave clear assurances that there were NO PLANS to close local GP practices. They gave an apology for their poorly organised "listening exercise" and the resulting press coverage . . .

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12.03.22