

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Wem Urban held on Thursday 13th March 2025 at 7 p.m in The Town Room, Wem Town Hall, Wem.

Present:- Councillor D Parry (Town Mayor) and 30+ members of the public present. Mrs P O'Hagan (Town Clerk).

Minutes - To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 23rd May 2024.

Resolved to approve as a correct record the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 23rd May 2024 and they were duly signed by the Mayor.

2. 2024 Wem Sportsperson of the Year Awards - Recipients to be awarded Wem Sports and Social Association Sportsman of the Year Awards.

The Chairman of Wem Sports and Social Association, Edward Towers, provided background on the association's establishment and introduced the first Wem Sportsperson of the Year Awards. He expressed hopes that this would become an annual event and extended thanks to the sponsors: Fords, Princes, Beacon Research, and The White Lion Pub.

The awards were presented as follows:

- **15 and Under:** Winner – Isaac Vickery (Cyclo Cross). Highly Commended – Ralph Davies (Wem Cricket), Sam Parry (Wem Tennis Club).
- **16-65:** Winner – Abigail Ward.
- **65 and Over:** Winner – Paul Ellis (Wem Tennis Club).
- **Dedication to Sport:** Winner – Eddie Peate for services to bowling in Wem.

3. Town Council Grants - Groups awarded grants in 2024 from the Town Council to report back on the use of the funding. Recipients of grants for 2025-26 to be announced. Grants.

Groups awarded grants in 2024-25

Representatives from groups awarded grants in 2024-25 reported on how they had used the funding from Wem Town Council:

- **NS Wheelers** – Used the grant to expand their project by updating their fleet of vehicles.
- **Wem Rotary** – Utilised the funding for various projects across the town.
- **United Services Bowling Club** – Installed a new hot water boiler in the clubhouse.
- **Wem Albion Bowling Club** – Replaced the wooden edging around the green.
- **Wem AODS** – Improved their building.
- **Wem Jubilee Band** – Purchased new mouthpieces for instruments.
- **Wem P3 Group** – Developed walking routes around Wem and improved rights of way.
- **Wem Carnival Committee** – Used the grant to cover running costs of the event.
- **Wem Area Climate Action** – Replaced the fence near the Incredible Edible project.

The 2025-26 small grant recipients were then announced:

- **1st Wem Scouts** – To replace damaged tents and purchase new equipment.
- **NS Wheelers** – To help with vehicle upgrades.
- **Wem AODS** – To create additional storage space in their building.
- **Wem Baptist Church** – To purchase sports and craft equipment for the annual Holiday Bible Club.
- **Wem Carnival Committee** – To assist with running costs for the 2025 carnival.
- **Wem Jubilee Band** – To buy new band jackets.
- **Wem Tennis Club** – To purchase equipment for the Wem Walking Tennis project.
- **Wem Brownies** – To acquire new equipment.
- **Wem Sweet Pea Society** – To invest in infrastructure for the show.
- **Wem Cadets** – To subsidise places for the annual camp.

Open Forum to consider any Parish matter raised.

The White Horse was raised and all present were encouraged to submit their views on the proposed plans.

A member of the public commented that the street lighting on the of High Street and New Street was poor and needed improving, it was explained that this matter should be reported to Shropshire Council via fix my street.

Meeting ended at 19.45.

Town Mayor