

## Market Drayton Town Council

**Minutes of a Community and Governance Committee Meeting  
held at The Town Hall, Frogmore Road on Thursday 14 November 2024 at 7.30 pm.**

**PRESENT:** Councillors: R. Aldcroft, B. Chapman, M. Erwin (Chairman), P. Glover, G. Groves, W. Love, T. Manton, and I. Nellins.

**ABSENT:** Councillors: J. Beckett, T. Beckett, R. Hughes, and A. Sanderson.

In attendance: 0 members of the public present and 3 members of the public listening via Teams.

**Clerks:** Sue Thomas, Town Clerk and Kate Harvey, Assistant Clerk.

### 1.CG APOLOGIES

Members **NOTED** the following apologies:

Councillor J. Beckett	-	Prior appointment
Councillor T. Beckett	-	Prior Appointment
Councillor R. Hughes	-	Prior Appointment
Councillor A. Sanderson	-	Work Commitments

### 2.CG DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

- i. No disclosable interests were declared.
- ii. No dispensations were received for consideration.

### 3.CG PUBLIC SESSION

No members of the public had requested a wish to speak at the meeting.

### 4.CG MINUTES

Councillor Glover proposed, Councillor Aldcroft seconded, and it was **RESOLVED** with 1 abstention:

**To approve the minutes of the Community and Governance Committee meeting held on 19 September 2024.**

### 5.CG SATURDAY BUS SERVICE

The Town Council has subsidised the Saturday town bus service since October 2023. The budget for 2024-25 was set at £6,000 as set out in Appendix CG106.

Members considered:

- i. Continuing to subsidise the Saturday town centre bus service.

- ii. Increasing the budget to £6,500.

Members discussed the number of passengers using the service; it was agreed that it is a valued service that brings residents into the town. It was raised that there should be more advertising to increase awareness of the free bus service and that it is subsidised by the Town Council.

Councillor Aldcroft proposed, Councillor Manton seconded, and it was **RESOLVED:**

1. To continue to subsidise the Saturday town centre bus service for 2025-26
2. To increase the budget to £6,500.

## 6.CG VISIT SHROPSHIRE

Members discussed renewing the membership of Visit Shropshire. The Town Council currently has gold annual membership at a cost of £2,500 per annum.

Details of the different levels of membership and prices were set out in Appendix CG107.

Councillor Groves proposed, Councillor Manton seconded, and it was **RESOLVED:**

**To renew the Gold membership of Visit Shropshire for 2025-26 at a cost of £2,500.**

## 7.CG COMMUNITY AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE DRAFT BUDGET 2025-26

A draft Community and Governance Committee budget 2025-26 was circulated to members prior to the meeting as set out in Appendix CG108.

The Chairman asked if there were any questions members would like to ask.

There were no questions raised.

Councillor Manton proposed, Councillor Aldcroft seconded, and it was **RESOLVED:**

**To agree the draft Community and Governance Committee budget 2025-26 of £91,500.**

Cost Centre 301	Description	Draft Budget 2025/26 £
4017	Police Panel	0
4322	Community Support and Events	5,000
4323	Community and Governance	5,000
4326	Citizens Advice Bureau	5,000
4968	Public Transport	6,500
4969	Communications and Promotion	70,000
<b>Total £</b>		<b>91,500</b>

## 8.CG TOWN CENTRE WORKING GROUP

Members thanked Councillor Chapman for his continued hard work completing the town centre audit as it has made a real improvement within the town.

- i. Members **NOTED** the notes from the Town Centre Working Group meeting held on 10 October 2024 as set out in Appendix CG109.
- ii. Members **NOTED** the Town Centre Inspection summary report from the inspections carried out in August 2024 as set out in Appendix CG110.

Councillor Chapman informed members that the Working Group has a meeting scheduled with a Conservation Officer on 19 November to discuss some issues within the town; an update will be circulated to members.

- iii. Members consider the recommendation to award a Certificate of Recognition to Market Drayton Fire Station.

Councillor Chapman proposed, Councillor Glover seconded, and it was **RESOLVED:**

**To award a certificate of Recognition to Market Drayton Fire Station.**

## 9.CG REMOTE MEETING CONSULTATION

Members considered responding to the Governments consultation on enabling remote attendance and proxy voting at local authority meetings as set out in Appendix CG111.

Councillor Chapman proposed, Councillor Glover seconded, and it was **RESOLVED:**

**All members interested in responding to the Governments Consultation on enabling remote attendance and proxy voting at local authority meetings to do so individually.**

## 10.CG PEZENAS TWINNING ASSOCIATION

To celebrate the thirtieth Anniversary of Twinning with Pezenas, the Mayor and representatives from Pezenas will be visiting Market Drayton from 16 to 23 July 2025.

Members considered hosting a formal civic reception for the visit and setting a suitable budget.

Councillor Erwin proposed, Councillor Chapman seconded, and it was **RESOLVED:**

- To agree to host a formal Civic Reception to celebrate the thirtieth Anniversary of Twinning with Pezenas; the date to be agreed.
- To set up a Working Group to discuss and arrange the Civic Reception.
- The working Group to consist of the following members:
- Councillor; Chapman, Glover and Nellins.
- The Working Group to bring back recommendations to a future meeting at which time a suitable budget can be discussed.

#### **11.CG VE Day 80 – 8th May 2025**

Bruno Peek, Pageant master, is encouraging communities to celebrate the 80th Anniversary of VE Day which marked the end of the war in Europe and WWII on 8th May 1945 as set out in Appendix CG112.

Members considered:

- i. raising of a unique VE Day flag at 9am
- ii. lighting of Beacon at 9.30pm
- iii. holding a party of celebration throughout the day
- iv. Setting a suitable budget

Councillor Manton proposed, Councillor Glover seconded, and it was **RESOLVED:**

**To:**

- i. **Raise a unique VE Day flag at 9am**
- ii. **Light the Beacon at 9.30pm**
- iii. **To contact The Royal British Legion to discuss what they are doing to celebrate VE Day.**
- iv. **To bring this item back to a future meeting for discussion at which time a suitable budget can be discussed.**

#### **12.CG SHROPSHIRE LIEUTENANCY GARDEN PARTY AT ORLETON HALL, 4 JUNE 2025**

Members considered a request from Anna Turner, Lord-Lieutenant of Shropshire, to nominate someone, who has gone over and beyond for their community in any way, to attend the garden party as set out in Appendix CG113.

Members said it was inappropriate to discuss potential nomination names in an open meeting.

Councillor Aldcroft proposed, Councillor Erwin seconded, and it was **RESOLVED:**

**That members forward details of who they would like to nominate to attend the Shropshire Lieutenancy Garden Party to the Town Clerk.**

An agenda item to be included on the next suitable meeting to discuss this in confidential session.

#### **13.CG HELICOPTER LIAISON NEWSLETTER**

Members **NOTED** the newsletter as set out in Appendix CG114.

#### 14.CG OUTSIDE BODIES

Councillor Manton reported:

##### Grove School Community Steering Group

The Group met on 7 October. The main area of discussion was the Grove holding a bonfire night & firework spectacular, due to the lack of time this year's event would not go ahead however the Grove would be timelier in 2025 and host one then.

The Group met again on 11 November the main area of discussion was around the Grove holding a Winter Market on Friday 22 November, from 4pm – 6-30pm, stalls are free for traders.

The next meeting will be held on 27 January where normal service will resume discussing a number of issues of the Grove School within the community.

##### Active Market Drayton

The group met on 10 October, me representing the Town Council, representatives from MDSA, Shropshire Council, the Grove school, Market Drayton Community Amateur Sports Club etc.

There was an update on the pilot pitch use at the Grove school (which is yet to commence) and discussion around the feasibility study presentation to the clubs.

The feasibility study was presented to the clubs (Football, Tigers, Rugby & Tennis all present) on 14 October. A further meeting of Active Market Drayton took place on the 31 October whereupon the feedback from the clubs (which in the main was positive) was discussed together with discussion around a type of model which the potential facility will operate under.

These issues will now be looked at in detail prior to the next meeting to be held on 5 December.

Councillor Aldcroft reported:

##### The Ambulance Service Trust

The Trust met last Thursday. On that day 307 ambulances were on duty covering West Mercia, 105 ambulances were allocated, mostly stationed outside hospitals with patients in; the longest waiting time at the hospital was nine and a half hours.

The NHS England are allocating extra funding to West Mercia ambulances to help cover the costs of having twenty-five extra crewed ambulances over the Christmas period.

National Association of Councils


He attended Chairmans meeting last week. Main items discussed included borrowing from the Public Works Loan Board, Parish Councils using their own domain name rather than .gov accounts and councils using their own staff to carry out RoSPA safety checks.

**15.CG UPDATES AND INFORMATION**

Members **NOTED** the following updates:

- 1. The town leaflet has been ordered and the maps are being produced.
- 2. Enquiries are ongoing with Shropshire Council regarding extending the 30 mile an hour speed limit on Buntingsdale Road.

The meeting concluded at 8.34 p.m.

Chairman: .....  ..... Date: ..... 20/2/25 .....