

**Market Drayton Town Council**

**Minutes of a Community and Governance Committee Meeting  
held at The Town Hall, Frogmore Road on Thursday 18 September 2025 at 7.30 pm.**

**PRESENT:** Councillors: R. Adcock, J. Blandford, A. Cartwright, P. Glover, G. Groves, R. Hughes, T. Manton and I. Nellins and I. Sharp.

**ABSENT:** Councillors: Mrs. J. Beckett, T. Beckett, R Aldcroft

In attendance: 0 members of the public was present and 2 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 Mrs J Beckett	-	Prior Arrangement
Councillor T. Beckett	-	Prior Arrangement

**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 Adcock proposed, Councillor Cartwright seconded, and it was **RESOLVED:**

**To approve the minutes of the Community and Governance Committee meeting held on 26 June 2026.**

**5.CG POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONERS TOWN AND PARISH COUNCIL SURVEY 2025**

To consider and respond to the Police & Crime commissioners Town and Parish Council Survey 2025 as set out in Appendix CG85.

The Chair read through the survey and the proposed responses; he said that some of the answers seem negative as in some instances the local policing team cannot share information with us.

Council Manton queried the point of the survey as no feedback has been provided regarding the previous survey responses.

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

**To submit the completed Police & Crime Commissioners Town and Parish Council Survey 2025**

**6.CG TOWN CENTRE MONTHLY REPORT**

The town centre monthly reports for May and June as set out in Appendix CG86 were **NOTED**.

**7.CG YOUTH PROVISION**

The Summer term reports for the Senior and Junior youth clubs from Shropshire Youth Association as set out Appendix CG087 were **NOTED**.

**8.CG SATURDAY BUS SERVICE**

The update of user numbers on the Saturday Town Centre bus service, which is currently subsidised by the Town Council, as set out in Appendix CG088 was **NOTED**.

The Chair reported that usage of the Saturday Town Centre bus service continues to increase.

**9.CG TOWN ACTION PLAN WORKING GROUP**

- i. The notes and action plan update from the Town Action Plan Working Group held on 20<sup>th</sup> August 2025 as set out in Appendix CG089 were **NOTED**.
- ii. The quarterly report from Digital Online relating to Make it Market Drayton as set out in Appendix CG090 was **NOTED**.

**10.CG CORRESPONDENCE**

To consider correspondence from:

- i. Market Drayton Community Enterprise – a request for sponsorship to purchase a digital display board. See appendix CG091.

Permission has already been given for the electronic noticeboard to be installed on the side of the town hall and for the Town Council to pay for the electricity.

Councillors were in support of the concept of installing an electronic noticeboard and in agreement that a contribution could be made towards the project, but that Council should not be paying for the majority of the costs involved.

To write to the Canal and Rivers Trust expressing the Town Councils concerns about the closure of the facility and request that it is re-opened.

#### 11.CG OUTSIDE BODIES

Councillor Manton gave the following reports:

The Grove School Steering Group – there is a new head teacher who is very proactive and keen for the school to get involved with the community.

The Community Covenant Group – the recent focus has been on the launch project, the creation of a Community and Family hub in the town, a decision has been made for the hub to be based at Festival Drayton; subject to their acceptance.

Active Market Drayton – momentum has slowed down due to the loss of a person who was a major driving force. Funding continues to be a big hurdle along with the Business Plan; conversations are ongoing with Shropshire Council and with sporting bodies.

#### 12.CG UPDATES AND INFORMATION

The following were **NOTED**:

- i. The Pezenas Reception was well attended and enjoyed by those who attended.
- ii. The new Town leaflet has been produced.
- iii. Town Centre Building Inspections are taking place on Thursday 25 September and Sunday 21 September 2025.

#### 13.CG EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

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

That in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted which will involve the likely disclosure of exempt information relating to establishment and contractual matters as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972, and pursuant to the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be temporarily excluded from the meeting and they are instructed to withdraw.

#### 14.CG HONORARY TOWNSPERSON AWARDS

- i. To consider nominations for the Honorary Townsperson Award.

Councillors considered each application individually.

Councillor Nellins proposed, Councillor Hughes seconded, and it was **RESOLVED**:

**To award an Honorary Townsperson Award to Alison Bates**

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

**To award an Honorary Townsperson Award to Amanda Jenner**

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

**To award an Honorary Townsperson Award to Gareth Jenner**

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

**To award an Honorary Townsperson Award to Micheal Pinches.**

- ii. It was **NOTED** that the awards will be presented at the In Bloom Presentation on Wednesday 24 September 2025.

The meeting concluded at 8.25pm

Chairman: Rupert Akock RA Date: 13.11.25

Concern was raised that the side wall of the Town Hall is not a very visible location and it may be subject to vandalism.

Councillor Hughes proposed, Councillor Manton seconded, and it was **RESOLVED** with two abstentions:

**To request information about funding, management of the noticeboard, insurance and anything else relevant.**

ii. Market Drayton Sports Association - a request to nominate two Councillors to be Town Council representatives on a working group to review their Constitution and Memorandum of Agreements. See appendix CG092.

After a short discussion, Councillors Adcock and Sharp volunteered to represent the Town Council on the working group.

iii. Luna's Legacy and Little Footprint Support Group – a request to support Baby Loss Awareness Week (9-15th October). See Appendix CG093

The Chair suggested that the ribbons be tied to the fence around the British Legion Memorial on the town park.

After a short discussion,

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

**To support the Baby Loss Awareness week by allowing ribbons to be tied on the town park fence around the British Legion Memorial and for a wave of light service on the 15<sup>th</sup> October.**

iv. Shropshire Association of Local Councils – to consider nominating a Councillor to attend the Nature Recovery in Town & Parish Councils across Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin. See Appendix CG094

Councillor Hughes volunteered to attend to represent the Town Council.

v. Market Drayton Canal Volunteer Group – to consider a request to write to the Canal and Rivers Trust regarding the closing of the canal side refuse collection area at Betton Mill. See Appendix CG095.

Councillors were concerned regarding the closure of this facility and the negative impact it could have as the canal attracts a lot of visitors to the town. It was thought that the site has closed due to accessibility issues.

After a short discussion

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

Initial: RA