Market Drayton Town Council

Minutes of a Community and Governance Committee Meeting Held in The Council Chamber, 18 Frogmore Road, Market Drayton on Thursday 2 July 2026 at 7.30 pm.

PRESENT: Councillors: R. Adcock, R. Aldcroft, J. Blandford, P. Glover, T. Manton, I. Nellins (Chairman), and I. Sharp.

ABSENT: Councillors: Mrs. J. Beckett, T. Beckett, A. Cartwright, G. Groves, and R. Hughes.

In attendance: 1 member of the public were present and 0 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 G. Groves	-	Prior Arrangement
Councillor R. Hughes	-	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 Manton proposed, Councillor Aldcroft seconded, and it was **RESOLVED**:

To approve the minutes of the Community and Governance Committee meeting held on 9 April 2026.

5.CG CITIZENS ADVICE

i. The Chairman welcomed Alison Alexander from Citizens Advice Shropshire to the meeting.

Members receive a presentation from Alison Alexander on the service Citizens Advice Shropshire (CAB) provide in the town.

CAB have been located at Market Drayton Medical Practice for a number of years.

She explained how beneficial last year's Town Councils funding had been to the town's community. Most of the advice has been to residents with health issues and disabilities, she gave two case studies where CAB advice has financially helped two families.

For CAB to operate during 2026/27 the costs are £9,929; 50% of the costs will be covered by Action for Health and a request has been submitted to the Town Council for match funding of £4,964.

The Chairman thanked Alison for attending the meeting and for all the support they provide to the town; he asked if any members would like to ask any questions.

Councillor Aldcroft asked what chance of success do members of the public have when challenging decision made DWP?

Alison said clients who are refused funding need the support from CAB as the forms are very complicated. If no support is available many applicants do not appeal the decisions leaving them financially deprived

Councillor Manton asked if the CAB receive any commission from any claims that they submit.

Alison said absolutely not; CAB run on a purely charity basis.

Councillor Nellins asked what catchment area the CAB cover.

Alison said all resident registered with Market Drayton doctors are entitled to use the service for advice.

ii. Members consider a request for funding from Citizens Advice Shropshire for the financial year 2026/27 as set out in Appendix CG029.

Members all agreed the service is valuable to the town.

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

To fund the Citizens Advice Shropshire £4,964 for the financial year 2026/27; funds to be paid from budget.

Alison Alexander thanked the Council and left the Chamber.

6.CG FUNDING

Members consider a request for funding from Ginger and Spice for the 2026 Festival as set out in Appendix CG030.

Members said previous events have been very successful and attracts a lot of people into the town.

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

To fund the Ginger and Spice Festival to be held on Saturday 26 September 2026 £1,787.62; funds to be paid from budget.

7.CG COMMUNITY EVENTS

4All Foundation

i. Members considered a request from 4All Foundation to hold a summer event on Longlands Play Area in August 2026.
ii. Members considered a request from 4All Foundation to use the Town Councils entertainment licence on 18 July for the summer event.

The Chairman said the event would be nice for the town however the necessary documents have not yet been received.

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

To agree in principle for 4All Foundation to hold a summer event on Longlands Play Area in August 2026 and to use the Town Councils entertainment licence provided all the necessary documents have been submitted.

To give the Clerk and Chairman delegated powers to approve the event.

This will come back to a future meeting if time is available.

Market Drayton Carnival Committee

iii. Members considered a request from Market Drayton Carnival Committee to use the Town Park for entertainment on 18 July 2026.
iv. Members considered a request from Market Drayton Carnival Committee to use the Town Councils entertainment licence on 18 July for the carnival.

The Chairman said the event is an asset to the town however not all the necessary documents have been received.

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

To agree in principle for Market Drayton Carnival Committee to use the Town Park for entertainment on 18 July 2026 and to use the Town Councils entertainment licence provided all the necessary documents have been submitted.

To give the Clerk and Chairman delegated powers to authorise the event.

8.CG MOTION REQUEST FROM COUNCILLOR TIM MANTON (1)

Members considered the introduction of a '(Mayors?) Outstanding Young Citizen Award and a '(Mayors)' Outstanding Citizen Award, to be presented annually by the Mayor at the Annual Town Meeting in recognition of their exceptional achievement and/or significant contribution they have made to Market Drayton. A policy setting out the nomination and award procedures to be produced and agreed at a future meeting as set out in Appendix CG033.

After a discussion:

Councillor Adcock proposed, Councillor Sharp seconded and it was RESOLVED:

To agree the introduction of a Mayors Outstanding Young Citizen Award and a Mayors Outstanding Citizen Award, to be presented annually by the Mayor at the Annual Town Meeting in recognition of their exceptional achievement and/or significant contribution they have made to Market Drayton.

A policy setting out the nomination and award procedures to be produced and agreed at a future meeting.

9.CG LOCAL PLAN CONSULTATION

The Local Plan is Shropshire's key planning document. It sets out the long-term vision and framework for future development across the County.

Shropshire Council has launched a consultation which will help shape the local plan and are asking key partners for their comments. https://next.shropshire.gov.uk/planning-policy/shropshire-local-plan-scoping-consultation/
Shropshire Council are also seeking views on a draft site Identification and Assessment Methodology. https://next.shropshire.gov.uk/planning-policy/shropshire-local-plan-scoping-consultation/

Members considered responding to the Consultations.

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

To agree to do a joint Council respond to the consultations.

Members to submit their responses individually to the Clerk who will collate them and submit them to Shropshire Council.

10.CG TOWN CENTRE MONTHLY REPORT

Members discussed the town centre monthly reports for February, March and April 2026 as set out in Appendix CG034.

The Chairman said the reports are very useful to show the footfall within the town; it can be used to encourage potential business to the town.

Councillor Manton said the figures are not quite correct as the capture area includes Lidl; Lidl is being removed from the data in future.

The Clerk said it was resolved to down grade the Visit Shropshire membership.

Members **NOTED** the town centre monthly reports for February, March and April 2026.

11.CG WORKING GROUPS

i. Town Centre Action Plan Working Group

The notes from the meetings held on 15 April and 3 June 2026 as set out in Appendix CG035 was circulated to members prior to the meeting.

Members consider the Working Groups recommendation to hold a Family Fest event on 2 May 2027 at a cost of £6,500. Funding would be from the Town Action Plan Budget as set out in Appendix CG036.

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

To accept the quote from JDL Events to organise a Family Fest event on 2 May 2027 at a cost of £6,500. Funding to be from the Town Action Plan Budget.

The Chairman said the event would be held on May Days bank holiday and suggested introducing a Maypole in High Street.

ii. Climate Action

Members considered the notes from the meeting held on 26 May 2026 as set out in Appendix CG037.

iii. Town Centre Inspections

Members considered the notes from the meeting held on 22 May 2026. As set out in Appendix CG038.

iv. The Zone

Members considered the notes from the meeting held on the 29 April 2026 as set out in Appendix CG038a.

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

The following meeting notes were **NOTED:**

- **Town Centre Action Plan Working Group notes from the meetings held on 15 April and 3 June 2026.**
- **Climate Action Working Group notes from the meeting held on 26 May 2026.**
- **Town Centre Inspections Working Group notes from the meeting held on 22 May 2026.**
- **The Zone Working Group notes from the meeting held on the 29 April 2026.**

12.CG COUNCILLOR MARKET STALLS

Members considered continuing with the Councillor stalls at the Wednesday markets and the Artisan Market.

Members agreed the Council stall is extremely beneficial to the town, it allows residents to approach their councillors to discuss any issues they have and in turn allows the Councillor to explain the differences between Town Council and Shropshire Councils responsibilities.

Members said reduced hours should be introduced in the winter months and Shropshire Council representatives should be at future stalls to answer Shropshire Councils queries.

Councillor Manton propose, Councillor Adcock seconded and it was **RESOLVED:**

- **To continuing with the Councillor stalls at the Wednesday markets and the Artisan Market.**
- **To agree the following dates for the Councillor market stalls:**
  Wednesday Market – 5 August 2026, 4 November 2026, 10 February 2027 & 26 May 2027.
  Saturday Artisan Market – 12 September 2026, 12 June 2027 & 13 March 2027.
- **To reduced hours in the winter months**
- **To invite Shropshire Councillors to attend the stalls.**

13.CG NEIGHBOURHOOD GOVERNANCE PACK

Members **NOTED** the response from Nesil Caliskan MP Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State to Helen Morgan MP regarding the Town Councils request to help influence the emerging Neighbourhood Governance proposals through the English Devolution and Community Empowerment (EDCE) Bill as set out in Appendix CG039.

14.CG OUTSIDE BODIES REPORTS

Members **NOTED** the reports from Councillors sitting on outside organisations as set out in Appendix CG040, CG041 and CG042.

i. Grove School Community Steering group.
ii. Market Drayton Community Covenant otherwise known as the Community Power
Act.
iii. Active Market Drayton.
iv. North Shropshire Area Committee.
v. Drone Helicopter Laison Group Newsletter.

15.CG REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 2026

i. Members considered working in partnership with HMP Stoke Heath Prison on a community project. HMP Stoke Heath Prison to provide poppies made from recycled wood and local groups to paint them. The poppies will then be used to create a feature in town for Remembrance Sunday.

A discussion took place on how well HMP Stoke Heath work with the Council and was impressed with their support on this project.

ii. Members considered a donation to HMP Stoke Heath Prison of £50 to their chosen charity, Market Drayton Royal British Legion.

The Chairman said it would be nice to have a few large poppies on the entrance of the town.

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

I. **To work in partnership with HMP Stoke Heath Prison on a community project. HMP Stoke Heath Prison to provide poppies made from recycled wood and local groups to paint them. The poppies will then be used to create a feature in town for Remembrance Sunday.**
II. **To donate £50 to HMP Stoke Heath Prison chosen charity, Market Drayton Royal British Legion.**

16.CG UPDATES AND INFORMATION

Members **NOTED** the following updates:

- A meeting took place with the Canal and Rivers Trust (CRT), Town Councillors and representatives from the canal volunteer group on 17 December 2025 to discuss the relocation of the bin compound. The Clerk is in regular contact with the CRT; there is no update available at this time.
- The next Town Inspection – Street Scene is on Friday 10th July at 10am.

The meeting concluded at 8.15pm.

Signed: ..... Dated: 17 Sep 26