

Market Drayton Town Council

**Minutes of a Community and Governance Committee Meeting
held at The Starmer Room, at The Parish Rooms, Church Street, Market Drayton
on Thursday 26 February 2026 at 7.30 pm.**

PRESENT: Councillors: R. Adcock, A. Cartwright, P. Glover, T. Manton, I. Nellins (Chairman),
and I. Sharp.

ABSENT: Councillors: R. Aldcroft, Mrs. J. Beckett, T. Beckett, J. Blandford, G. Groves and
R. Hughes.

In attendance: 1 member of the public was 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 R. Aldcroft	-	Prior Arrangement
Councillor Mrs. J Beckett	-	Prior Arrangement
Councillor T. Beckett	-	Prior Arrangement
Councillor J. Blandford	-	Prior Arrangement
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 Adcock seconded, and it was
RESOLVED:

To approve the minutes of the Community and Governance Committee
meeting held on 13 November 2025.

5.CG FOOD RESILIANCE IN MARKET DRAYTON

Documents were circulated to members prior to the meeting as set out in
Appendix CG181.

Initials 

The Chairman welcomed Daphne Du Cros from Shropshire Good Food Partnership on Food Resilience in Market Drayton to the meeting.

Daphne gave a presentation to members on the importance of food resilience and the development of a strategy.

She explained that the Shropshire Good Food Partnership support the development of policy and practice for food and climate resilience. This involves mapping and understanding local food system vulnerabilities, activating communities and stakeholders to build capacity, 'catching' the most vulnerable, and developing plans of action for crisis and disruption.

Through storytelling and the annual Shropshire Good Food Trail they showcase Shropshire's abundance: food producers who are leaders in regenerative farming, impactful community initiatives, as well as businesses that understand the value of locally sourced food.

They work in a number of schools, including The Grove, supporting students, staff and administration to connect with Food, Farming and Sustainability.

Daphne said that a food resilience strategy has been written for Bishops Castle, which could be used as an outline for Market Drayton to follow.

The Chairman said this is something the Council should discuss at a future meeting.

The Clerk said there has been a group previously formed where Councillor Aldcroft and Glover were the Town Councils representatives; these members should stay the same for continuity.

Daphne Du Cros was thanked for attending the meeting.

Daphne Du Cros left the meeting.

6,CG UK TOWN OF CULTURE COMPETITION

Members considered submitting an expression of interest to the Department of Culture, Media and Sport for the UK Town and Culture Competition as set out in Appendix CG182.

A discussion was had on submitting an application and the good publicity it would give the town; the closing date for the applications is 31 March 2026.

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

To agree to submit an expression of interest to the Department of Culture, Media and Sport for the UK Town and Culture Competition.


Initial.....

Councillor Glover, Manton and Nellins to be involved with the application; a meeting will be scheduled next week.

7.CG FUNDING REQUEST

Members considered a request from The Marches Academy Trust for funding towards a 2G pitch to be located at the Grove School as set out in Appendix CG183.

Members discussed the benefits the community facility at the Grove School would have to the town.

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

To agree funding of £25,000 to The Marches Academy Trust for funding towards a 2G pitch to be located at the Grove School.

The £25,000 to come from, CIL Neighbourhood Fund within Earmarked Reserves.

8.CG TOWN CENTRE MONTHLY REPORT

Members **NOTED** the town centre monthly reports for October, November and December 2025 as set out in Appendix CG184.

9.CG SATURDAY BUS SERVICE

Members **NOTED** the updated report on the Saturday town centre bus service which is subsidised by the Town Council as set out in Appendix CG185.

10.CG TOWN ACTION PLAN WORKING GROUP

Members **NOTED** the notes from the Town Action Plan Working Group held on 29 January 2026 as set out in Appendix CG186.

11.CG REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Members considered appointing two representatives to Market Drayton Sports Association.

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

To appoint Councillor Adcock and Councillor Sharp as Town Councils representatives on the Market Drayton Sports Association.

12.CG OUTSIDE BODIES REPORTS

Members **NOTED** the following written reports as set out in Appendix CG187 and CG188.

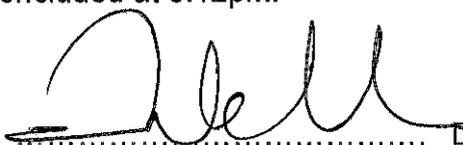
- i. Grove School Community Steering group.
- ii. Market Drayton Community Covenant otherwise known as the Community Power Act.
- iii. Active Market Drayton.
- iv. Market Drayton Twinning Association.
- v. Market Drayton Climate Action.
- vi. Market Drayton Sports Association.
- vii. North Shropshire Area Committee.

13.CG UPDATES AND INFORMATION

Members NOTED:

- 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.
- Work has started to tidy up the area at the bottom of Clive Steps.

The meeting concluded at 8.12pm.

Chairman:  Date: 09 Apr 26

Initial: 