

Market Drayton Town Council

Minutes of a Services and Facilities Committee Meeting held at The Town Hall, Frogmore Road on Thursday 27 July 2023 at 7.40pm.

PRESENT: Councillors: R. Aldcroft, B. Chapman, G. Groves, W. Love, T. Manton (Chairman), I. Nellins and A. Sanderson.

ABSENT: Councillors: Mrs. J. Beckett, T. Beckett, M. Erwin, and R. Hughes.

4 members of the public were present and 2 members of the public listening to the meeting via Teams.

In Attendance: Sue Thomas, Town Clerk and Kate Harvey, Assistant Clerk.

1.SF APOLOGIES

Members **NOTED** the following apologies:

Councillor Mrs. J. Beckett	-	Prior appointment
Councillor T. Beckett	-	Prior appointment
Councillor R. Hughes	-	Work commitments

2.SF DISCLOSABLE INTERESTS

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

3.SF PUBLIC SESSION

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

To suspend Standing Orders to allow a member of the public to talk at the meeting.

The Chairman welcomed the resident to the meeting.

The resident wanted to make members aware of the dangers empty vapes left around the town can cause as they have lithium batteries within them which can cause them to catch fire if not discarded properly. She brought along a box of empty vapes to show members.

Her main concern was that there are no recycling facility for them at present, she urged members to send a signed letter to Shropshire Council requesting they supply the town with this facility.

Councillor Nellins said at a recent Shropshire Council meeting it was agreed to call on the Government to legislate for a ban on the sale of disposable vapes. This will help to

prevent a new public health catastrophe among children and tackle the vast and growing environmental impact of the devices, especially the single-use plastic and use of lithium batteries that are hard to recycle and pose a fire risk.

He said he would follow up with Shropshire Council about the disposal of them in the meantime.

The Chairman said he will also put this as an item on an agenda at a future meeting.

The resident thanked members for listening.

The meeting went back into Standing Orders.

4.SF MINUTES

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

To agree and confirm the minutes of the Services and Facilities Committee meeting held on 8 June 2023.

5.SF TOILETS

A discussion was had about Newport Road public toilets regarding the damage to the roof tiles and drainpipes.

Members were made aware there is only £517 remaining in the maintenance budget for all the public toilets for this financial year.

Councillor Chapman said due to the volume of damage to the toilets members should consider handing the toilet block back to Shropshire Council.

Councillor Aldcroft said there have been several acts of vandalism on this toilets block; he requested details of how much money has been spent over the last eighteen months on the toilet block.

Councillor Nellins said the works need doing; this should be completed so that the building is in good condition and the entrance of the town looks good; the facility would then be in a good state of repair to hand back to Shropshire Council if a future discussion was to do so.

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

- i. **To give delegated powers to the Chairman and the Clerk to arrange for the necessary works to the roof tiles and drainpipes repairs at Newport Road toilets to be carried out.**

2. To transfer £2,000 from Earmarked Reserves to General Public Toilet Maintenance to cover the cost of the works at Newport Road Toilets and any additional works during the financial year.

To discuss the future of the public toilets at a future committee meeting.

6.SF GRASS CUTTING

The current contract for cutting the grass on the play areas and open spaces has ended.

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

To agree to go out to tender for the cutting of grass on the play areas and open spaces.

7.SF CEMETERY

Documents were circulated prior to the meeting.

Members considered amending rule 3 and 27 of the Cemetery Rules and Regulations.

The Chairman read out Rule 3 and the proposed amendments as set out in Appendix SF47.

The Clerks said these changes are being proposed to reflect the Sextons' working hours. She said that where possible funerals on a Friday afternoon would be accommodated, this change would provide flexibility around staffing.

The Chairman read out Rule 27 and the proposed amendments as set out in Appendix SF47.

The Clerk clarified she has taken guidance from The National Association of Funerals; they have confirmed this is acceptable.

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

To amend rule 3 and 27 of the Cemetery Rules and Regulations to read.

Rule 3:

Funerals may take place on Mondays to Thursdays between the hours of 9.30am and 3.30pm and on a Friday between the hours of 9.30am and 12 noon. No interment will be permitted on Saturdays, Sundays, Good Friday, or Christmas days except by permission of the Town Council.

Rule 27:

Urns may be interred in ordinary grave spaces subject to approval by the Sexton.

8.SF CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

The Chairman said there is £5,000 in the budget to upgrade the Christmas lights; he asked members to consider spending part of this budget on refurbishing the illuminated Star which is erected on St. Marys Church and improving the festoon lights that go across Cheshire/High Street.

After a brief discussion:

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

To agree to spend £5,000 in the budget to upgrade the Christmas Lights.

The budget will be spent on refurbishing the illuminated Star which is erected on St. Mary's Church and improving the festoon lights across Cheshire Street/High Street.

To approve the provisions of delegated powers to the Chairman and Clerk to proceed with the Christmas lights upgrade.

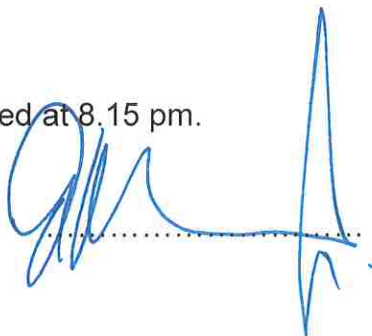
9.SF UPDATES/INFORMATION

Members **NOTED** the following updates/information:

- Permissions are being obtained for CCTV cameras to be installed on Newport Road car park from Shropshire Council and for CCTV signal boosters to be installed on the old B&M building.
- CCTV Cameras have been installed outside Towers Lawn Toilets.
- The Kings Coronation Bench to be installed on the corner of Stafford Street and High Street is due to be delivered on 27 July 2023.
- The Rospa report for the play areas has been received. Details of work required will be reported to the next meeting.
- War Memorial bench – the owner of the bench has been contacted and the bench is going to be refurbished.
- Date of next meetings: Planning Committee and Finance and General Purposes Committee on 7 September 2023.

The meeting concluded at 8.15 pm.

Chairman:



Date:

05/10/2023.