

**Market Drayton Town Council**

**Minutes of a Services and Facilities Committee Meeting  
held at The Town Hall, Frogmore Road on Thursday 8 June 2023 at 7.30pm.**

**PRESENT:** Councillors: R. Aldcroft (Chairman), Mrs. J. Beckett, T. Beckett, B. Chapman, M. Erwin, W. Love, I. Nellins and M Whittle.

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

0 members of the public was present and 5 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 R. Hughes	-	Prior Arrangement
Councillor T. Manton	-	Prior Arrangement – listening in via Teams
Councillor A Sanderson	-	Work Commitments

**2.SF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

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

**3.SF MAYORS STATEMENT**

The Mayor read out the following statement to members:

I would like to remind all Councillors that the Code of Conduct, which has been adopted by the Town Council, clearly sets out the standard of behavior expected from Councillors. This council will not tolerate intimidating or disrespectful behavior during meetings.

The Complaints procedure sets out what action you can take if you have any concerns regarding the conduct of Councillors. Should anyone feel intimidated by them in the first instance talk to the Clerk or Town Mayor, alternatively directly to the Monitoring Officer at Shropshire Council.

Local digital media sites will not provide a solution and serve only to embarrass the Council of which we are all members.

Members **NOTED** the Mayors statement.

**4.SF PUBLIC SESSION**

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

**5.SF MINUTES**

Councillor Aldcroft proposed, Councillor Chapman seconded, and it was **RESOLVED** with 3 abstentions:

**To agree and confirm the minutes of the Services and Facilities Committee meeting held on the 23 March 2023 and 25 May 2023.**

**6.SF TOWERS LAWN TOILETS**

Councillor Whittle announced he does not recognise the Council; he believes the Council have acted illegally. Due to this he will not continue to stay at the meeting and left the Chamber.

Documents were circulated prior to the meeting.

A discussion was had on the continued damage to the public toilets. Members discussed installing cameras on the building as this would act as a deterrent and hopefully reduce the damage costs.

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

**To accept quote B; for the installation of CCTV Cameras at Towers Lawn Toilets at a cost of £1,574.14.**

**The funds to come out of CCTV Earmarked Reserves.**

**7.SF CCTV UPGRADE**

Members had a discussion on implementing stage 3 of the CCTV upgrade to install new cameras on the Town Park, Buntingsdale Play area and the Skatepark.

Councillor Aldcroft proposed, Councillor Mrs J. Beckett seconded and it was **RESOLVED:**

**For Stage 3 of the CCTV upgrade;**

**To obtain quotes for the CCTV upgrade of cameras on the Town Park, Buntingsdale Play area and the Skatepark.**

**Quotes to be presented at the next meeting.**

## 8.SF CEMETERY - BENCHES

There are currently twenty-four benches in the cemetery; some are in poor condition and some have been put on slabs for foundations of which some have then been used to add additional garden ornaments.

Members are aware this is a very sensitive issue but there is a need to ensure the benches are in good condition and safe to use.

- i. The Chairman explained that previously resolved that Benches cannot be installed at the Cemetery.
- ii. He recommended the Cemetery Rules and Regulations be amended in accordance with the decision made.
- iii. And that Town Council consider installing a public bench on the new area of the Cemetery.

Following a short discussion:

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

- i. **To re-affirm of the Council Resolution that Benches cannot be installed at the Cemetery.**
- ii. **To amend the Cemetery Rules and Regulations in accordance with the decision made above. 'Benches cannot be installed on the Cemetery by members of the public; any benches that appear will be removed by the Sexton'.**

**and**

**"The conditions of the benches will be monitored; any deemed to be unsafe will be removed by the Sexton".**

- iii. **To install a public bench on the new area of the Cemetery. To allocate funds from the Cemetery budget for the purchase and installation of a bench.**

A discussion regarding the bench at the back of the War Memorial will be put on a future agenda as an item to discuss further.

## 9.SF CEMETERY – WAR GRAVES

Documents were circulated prior to the meeting.

Members discussed a request from the Commonwealth War Graves Commission to install signage at the Cemetery to let the public know there are 39 war graves within the cemetery. This is at no cost to the Council.



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

**To agree to the request from the Commonwealth War Graves Commission to install a standard sign measuring 430mm x 23mm signage at the Cemetery.**

#### **10.SF COMMEMORATIVE BENCH**

Documents were circulated prior to the meeting.

Members discussed installing either a recycled plastic or a teak coronation bench on the corner of Stafford Street and High Street.

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

**To install a recycled plastic King Charles III Coronation Engraved bench at a cost of £499.23 on the corner of Stafford Street and High Street.**

**The funds to come out of Kings Coronation in Earmarked Reserves.**

#### **11.SF IN BLOOM**

Members discussed holding the In Bloom competition again this year.

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

- i) **To hold the In Bloom competition in July 2023.**
- ii) **The judges of the In Bloom competition to be Councillor Love and to ask a previous winner of the competition who is not entering this year.**
- iii) **To award each category a local shop voucher:**
  - 1<sup>st</sup> prize      £30, trophy to keep for a year and a certificate.**
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> prize      £20 and a certificate.**
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> prize      £10 and a certificate.**
- iv) **To hold the awards event in September 2023.**

The Clerk said she will go ahead and advertise the competition on the website and social media.

#### **12.SF DALELANDS PLAY AREA**

The installation of the new play equipment on Dalelands play area has been completed.

Members **NOTED** holding an official opening of the play area on Saturday 17 June 2023.

All members are invited to attend.

#### **13.SF THE EXTREME TOUR**

Following the success of the Extreme Tour event last year the Methodist Church would like to hold another music event in September 2023 and have requested the following:

- i) Saturday 2nd September (early evening) – to use the skatepark to engage with local young people and provide entertainment.
- ii) Sunday 3rd September (afternoon) - To hold a small music festival at The Zone and Longlands Play Area and to use the Town Councils premises licence to play live music.

Members considered the request.

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

**To agree to allow The Extreme Tour to:**

- i) **Use the Skate Park on 2 September 2023 to engage with local young people and provide entertainment.**
- ii) **To hold a small music festival at The Zone and Longlands Play Area and to use the Town Councils premises licence to play live music on 3 September 2023.**

#### 14.SF WORKING GROUPS

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

**To confirm the membership of the working groups that report to this committee:**

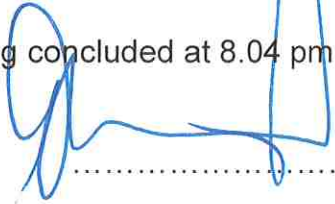
Working Group	Members
Play Areas	Cllrs. Aldcroft, Chapman, & Whittle
The Zone	Cllrs. Aldcroft, Hughes, & Whittle

#### 15.SF UPDATES/INFORMATION

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

- The work has been completed at Newport Road Toilet and it has been re-opened.

The meeting concluded at 8.04 pm.

Chairman:  .....

Date: 27-07-23