

MARKET DRAYTON TOWN COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council:

Mrs Julie Jones

Town Hall:

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9 December 2016

Dear Member

COMMUNITY AND GOVERNANCE MEETING

You are hereby summoned to a meeting of the Community and Governance Committee to be held in the Town Hall Chamber, Frogmore Road on **Thursday 15 December 2016 at 7.30pm.**

Yours faithfully



Julie Jones
Town Clerk

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES

To receive apologies for absence.

2. DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Members are reminded that they must not participate in the discussion or voting on any matter in which they have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest and should leave the room prior to the commencement of the debate.

3. PUBLIC SESSION

Members of the public are invited to question the Council/Committee on local issues, provided they indicate their intention to do so to the Town Clerk by NOON on the day before the meeting. Questions may be answered during this session or deferred for further advice. The Chairman will select the order of the matters to be heard. Each

speaker will be limited to a period of three minutes (to a maximum of 15 minutes total public session at the Chairman's discretion).

Standing Orders will be suspended for fifteen minutes during the public session

4. MINUTES

To agree and confirm the minutes of a meeting of a Community and Governance meeting held on 15 September 2016 (attached).

5. FUTURE FIT

To consider the problems faced by Shropshire's Hospitals and the future of the hospital service in Shropshire.

6. ROAD TRAFFIC ISSUES

- i) To consider the parking issues on the junction of Victoria Road and Shrewsbury Road.
- ii) To consider the need for a pedestrian crossing by the Mullers roundabout.
- iii) To receive the Road Safety Group's minutes (enclosed)

7. COUNCIL TAX REFERENDUM PRINCIPLES

To consider the possibility that parish and town council's precepts may be capped. (information enclosed)

8. ELECTIONS

Please see Appendix A – a brief report from the Clerk in connection with May 2017 elections.

9. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

To receive a report from Councillor Aldcroft in connection with a recent meeting about Public Transport.

To receive any other reports from outside bodies.

MARKET DRAYTON & DISTRICT ROAD SAFETY GROUP

Please reply to:
Chairperson –

Mr C. Smith
Walkmill Road
Market Drayton
Shropshire
TF9 1JZ

Acting Secretary –

Mr R. Claydon
Broomhall Lodge
Peatswood
Market Drayton
Shropshire
TF9 2PA

Dear Sir/Madam,

The next meeting on the Market Drayton & District Road Safety Group will be held at **Town Council Chamber**, Market Drayton, as follows:

Date: Tuesday, 29th November 2016

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Yours faithfully,

Road Safety Group

AGENDA

1. Apologies
 2. Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday, 27th September 2016 (attached)
 3. Matters arising from Minutes of last meeting
 4. Correspondence
 5. Any Other Business
 6. Date of next meeting
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MARKET DRAYTON & DISTRICT ROAD SAFETY GROUP

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 27 SEPTEMBER 2016

PRESENT: Mr C. Smith (Acting Chair), Mr R. Claydon (Acting Secretary), Councillor M. Erwin, Mr. B. Pugh, Mr. M. Smith and Mr. G. Russell

1. **APOLOGIES:** Councillor D. Minnery, Councillor R. Hughes, West Mercia Police
2. **MINUTES OF LAST MEETING (held on the 31st May 2016).** The minutes were accepted and signed as a true record of the meeting.
3. **MATTERS ARISING**

The VAS system has been located and left for a considerable duration on both the entrances into town on the A53. West and East.

As there was no report available from the Council regarding the problem of young people accessing the skateboard park, this was again discussed under AOB.

4. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Again the only correspondence recorded was the Bank statement, a brief explanation of the Group's finances was given to members. The current balance being £302.85.

5. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The Chairman stated that the payment of £30.00 from Stoke on Tern Parish Council in relation to the loan of the VAS system has not been forthcoming. He also informed the Group that after the system had been used at the Muller / Culina site on the A53, he had met with Mark Lloyd of Culina and supplied information and data from the system for the Company's examination. It was decided to email Mark Lloyd as he was prepared to back any request for improved pedestrian access from the current car park. It was suggested that there should be a proper pedestrian crossing, a request for this would be made to Highways at Shropshire Council. Also it had been noted that there were no lights working on the road signs at that crossing. The Group decided that this was to be reported to Highways.

The deputy Police Commissioner was attending Festival Centre in lieu of John Campion. It was felt that a member of the committee should attend as we are the oldest and the only surviving Group in the county. The Chairman offered to attend and report back at the next meeting.

It was suggested that the 30mph limit in Buntingsdale Road be extended to the bottom of Buntingsdale Bank and further discussion on that road involved a considerable amount of time being spent on the matter of the skateboard park. It was, as previously stated in March minutes, that in the current position at the Swimming Centre, it is a danger to both users and other road users because of the

manner in which Phoenix Bank is being used. It was felt that there is a distinct possibility of serious accident. It was decided in view of the delayed implementation of improvements to the park, that a request be made to the Town Council for their consideration on re-locating the Park to Buntingsdale Road. This would be via email to the Clerk explaining the reasoning behind the request.

There has been several requests made to the Road Safety Group about the possibility of some improvements being made to Smithfield Road as regards pedestrian safety. Is it possible to be a one-way road? Geoff Russell pointed out that the one-way would possibly see an increase in traffic speed and the answer to this would be on an access only basis. The matter had been raised in the past and the Shropshire Fire Service were originally against the one-way idea and the Divisional Engineer had also inspected the road in the last twelve months.

Clair Greenaway of West Mercia Police had sent apologies for non-attendance but had stated that the Group could email specific items to her in order that she could respond to any concerns before the next meeting.

Regarding town centre parking, and the absence of any reply by Shaun Sutton, it appears that Park Rite are targeting legally parked vehicles for overstaying by a few minutes rather than illegal parkers. The Group agreed that an email was to be sent to Shropshire Council as the number of vehicles being parking illegally and in obstructive positions has increased and the problem is not being addressed.

Outstanding items were mentioned with a view to trying to create and maintain a log of these. Currently outstanding are:-

- Alexandra Road / Longslow Road / Prospect Road junction (November 2015);
- Belisha Beacons (March 2016);
- Loading / Pedestrian area in Cheshire Street (November 2015 and previous);
- A529 Extension of Speed Limit.

6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The following date has been agreed:

Tuesday, 29th November 2016

7. FUTURE MEETING DATES

31st January 2017
28th March 2017
26th September 2017
28th November 2017

Meeting closed at 9.05pm.

This bulletin provides a brief update on a number of this week's meetings and national developments:

Council tax referendum principles

- Last week our chairman Cllr Ken Browse wrote to local government minister Marcus Jones MP in advance of the provisional local government finance settlement being published – which we now expect to be next week – with a further plea not to extend council tax referendum principles to parish and town councils; some extracts are below:

“Our Executive Committee met this week and took stock of where we are on your consultation on the local government finance settlement. We agreed an unprecedented step of me writing to ask you to revisit your stance as this could seriously damage our shared aim of encouraging people to get involved in improving their local communities.

Last month I wrote to you setting out in detail our response to the local government finance settlement consultation including our deep opposition to your proposals. I am now following this up with a personal plea not to take this course of action. In short your proposals will seriously damage the ability of communities to respond to current and future needs and priorities such as neighbourhood planning, protecting and enhancing local assets and services, as well as fundamentally undermining local democracy and the vital community leadership role played by parish and town councils.

Councillors from across the country on our Executive Committee reported to me the consultation was already having the effect of stopping parishes doing things like increasing winter maintenance, grass cutting, getting involved in neighbourhood planning and taking on new services. Alarming many councils are simply not setting precepts which would give them the resources to do these kind of things; this is because of the proposals.

I have to say I have been very struck by the concerns which have been expressed to me directly by councillors from all over the country – ordinary people giving up time freely to serve their community – to what simply amounts to crude capping of parish precepts and a real sense of mistrust of them by central government. Many people who are proud to serve their area as a councillor and who work hard to improve quality of life for residents have told me they will be standing down if these plans go ahead.

I find this is all most worrying indeed and I have to admit that your proposals and indicative lack of trust in our most local level of democracy are making it increasingly difficult for us to persuade councillors to embrace many government initiatives.”

- Delegates at our conference for larger councils on Wednesday unanimously supported a motion opposing the government's plans, calling for more action by NALC, county associations and councils if they are included in the provisional local government finance settlement. I will keep you updated next week!

NOTE FOR A MEETING OF COMMUNITY AND GOVERNANCE HELD ON
THURSDAY 15 DECEMBER 2016.

ELECTIONS

The electoral services have contacted the Town Council on the following points:

- i) Publication of Register of Electors for 2107.

There will be a full version of the register of electors in the Town Hall office from the New Year. If any Councillor wishes to view it they may do so however, this is confidential information and may not be removed from the office. An online version is due to be published and the Clerk will hold the password.

- ii) All Councillors wishing to stand for election in May 2017 must complete and submit a nomination form after the notice of election is published next March (exact date yet to be released). The statutory closing date for nominations will be 4pm on 4 April 2017.