

Market Drayton Town Council**Minutes of a Community and Governance Committee Meeting
held at The Town Hall, Frogmore Road on Thursday 7 April 2022 at 7.33 pm.**

PRESENT: Councillors: R. Aldcroft, Mrs. J. Beckett, T. Beckett, G. Chevins, R. Hughes, T. Manton, I. Nellins (Chairman), and M. Whittle.

ABSENT: Councillors A. Allen and B. Chapman and M. Erwin.

In attendance: 1 member of the public present and 4 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 Allen	-	Working
Councillor Chapman	-	Private Matter
Councillor Erwin	-	Private Matter

2. CG DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

There were no disclosable pecuniary interests declared.

3. CG PUBLIC SESSION

No members of the public had expressed a wish to speak at the meeting.

4.CG MINUTES

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

To agree and confirm the minutes of the Community and Governance Committee meeting held on 24 February 2022.

5.CG CAR PARKING CHARGES CONSULTATION

Consultation papers were circulated prior to the meeting.

Members were informed of the proposed car parking increases by Shropshire Council.

The hourly increase is ten pence; car parking is still low compared to other surrounding areas which charge more than double.

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

To support Shropshire Council's proposed car parking charge increases.

6.CG PUBLIC TRANSPORT

A letter from a resident was circulated prior to the meeting.

The Chairman said the 64 Arriva bus service that runs between Hanley and Shrewsbury will have a reduced weekday timetable due to a fall in numbers using the service. The Saturday service was due to be cut from April, but Shropshire Council has agreed to subsidise the Saturday Service until August while alternative funding options are explored.

The Chair explained that Shropshire Council applied for £98m from the Governments Bus Back Better Scheme to improve local bus services, unfortunately the bid was unsuccessful.

Members were extremely disappointed that the town are having further reductions in bus services especially after losing the bus service to Telford. Members want to keep the 64-service going to enable residents to continue going to colleges, hospitals, work and social trips using the bus; people should be able and encouraged to use the service to help the environment.

The Clerk said that user numbers have been requested.

It was agreed to include an item on the next meeting agenda to consider setting up a working group to look at transport issues.

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

To write a letter of dismay to Central Government regarding the allocation of the Bus Back Better funding and the reduction of the 64-bus service. Copies of the letter to be sent to Arriva, Shropshire Council and Helen Morgan MP.

7.CG SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL STREET TRADING POLICY 2023-2027 – INFORMAL CONSULTATION

Documents were circulated prior to the meeting.

Shropshire Council are reviewing the Street Trading Policy with a revised document planned to come into effect from 1 April 2023. As part of an informal consultation Shropshire Council has asked for Town and Parish Councils to review the current Street Trading Policy and submit any requests for amendments, all submissions will be considered before a final draft is put out for formal consultation.

Town Council has previously identified that the charge for the Street Trading License can be prohibitive for small traders who wish to trade in the town at ad-hoc

markets, which in turn makes it difficult for local organisations to organise markets and events.

Town Council has previously considered taking over the administration of Street Licenses for the Town, but this is very complex as Town Council could not administer licenses in the areas covered by the Market Charter.

After a discussion:

Councillor Whittle proposed, Councillor Manton seconded, and it was **RESOLVED with 1 abstention.**

To respond to Shropshire Councils informal consultation on the Street Trading Policy to request the following amendments:

- **The updated policy should make it easier for community markets to be organised.**
- **The fee for trading 7 days or less should be reduced.**
- **The introduction of a new Town/Parish Council Market Trading License that allows ad-hoc council organised markets to be run without the need for all stallholders to have individual trading licenses; similar to markets run under Market Charters.**

8.CG SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL UPDATES

The Chairman reported:

The Bus Back Better funding application has unfortunately been unsuccessful and an appeal will be submitted.

There is a lot of work going on in Shrewsbury regarding the Big Town Development.

The Northwest relief road within Shrewsbury is in the planning process and is being pushed ahead.

Six electric charging vehicle stations are going to be installed on Queen Street Carpark towards the end of April. The original site on Towers Lawn Carpark is unsuitable.

A pavecross trial project is being undertaken, he asks for people who own an electric vehicle, who live in a terraced house/have no off-street parking, who need to charge their vehicle over a pavement to volunteer to trial the scheme.

The mixed recycling bin has been passed at Shropshire Council and the contract has been awarded to a firm in Telford, distribution of the bins will start at the end of April in South Shropshire, Market Drayton should receive their bin by the end of July.

The information gathered from the Local Infrastructure Walk/cycle Workshop held last month, looking at the possible available routes around the town, has been submitted; the results will be released soon.

Following a meeting with the Street Scene contractor who is responsible for the cleanliness of the streets, there has been some improvements made; the railings by the indoor market replaced and some communal areas have been jet washed. He has requested they liaise with the Town Council more to ensure the streets are kept clean.

Councillor Aldcroft reported:

Work relating to HS2 is starting on the A53, A51 junction towards the motorway in October. He advised commuters to use alternative routes when this starts.

Shropshire Council are trying to promote tourism within the county especially along the canal.

9.CG REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

Councillor Manton gave a verbal report on the RAF Shawbury Noise Liaison Group meeting he attended on 9 March 2022.

The meeting was well attended, the principal areas used for training were Tern Hill, Chetwynd, Nesscliffe Training Area and Sleaford. In addition to these areas, there were eighty-four fields and clearings that they had permission to use from Landowners.

Noise complaints to the period 1st March 2022 are currently matching that of the same period in 2020/21 and works out to approximately 70 hours of flying per one complaint.

Shropshire Council reported they had not had a noise complaint since the last noise liaison group meeting in October 2021 and that they are pleased RAF Shawbury take noise complaints very seriously.

RAF Shawbury currently have 20-23 aircraft in operation each day and that 40% of training is done in simulators.

10.CG UPDATES/INFORMATION

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

- Vehicle Activated Signs – The funding application to the Policing and Crime Commissioner is being prepared.
- The Platinum Jubilee Event will be held on Thursday 2 June from 14.00-18.00 at St. Mary's car park. The event will be like a village fete with stalls, games, performers and competitions with confirmed details to follow.

At 21.45 there will be a beacon of light taking place by the side of St. Mary's Church and live streamed to the Rock and Bowl event.

- Lord-Lieutenant Garden Party – nominations have been submitted.
- Covid Monument – The Mayor along with members of the Beacon Community Committee will be unveiling the monument on Thursday 14 April at 11am; all are welcome to attend.
- Honorary Townsperson Awards – The Clerk said due to the Councillor co-option at the Council meeting on 21 April the meeting will take longer than usual making it late for the Honorary Townsperson awards to take place.

After speaking to the Mayor, it was agreed to rearrange the Honorary Townsperson Awards to Wednesday 27 April at 6pm. All are welcome to attend.

The meeting concluded at 8.16 p.m.

Chairman:

Date: