

**Market Drayton Town Council****Minutes of a Community and Governance Committee Meeting  
held at The Town Hall, Frogmore Road on Thursday 26 January 2023 at 7.35 pm.**

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

**ABSENT:** Councillor R. Aldcroft.

In attendance: 3 members of the public 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 apology:

Councillor Aldcroft - Prior Arrangement

**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 Whittle proposed, Councillor J. Beckett seconded, and it was **RESOLVED:** with 2 abstentions:

**To agree and confirm the minutes of the Community and Governance Committee meeting held on 10 November 2022.**

Councillor Erwin proposed, Councillor Chapman seconded, and it was **RESOLVED:** with 1 abstention:

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

Councillor Erwin proposed, Councillor J. Beckett seconded, and it was **RESOLVED:** with 3 abstentions:

**To agree and confirm the minutes of the Extraordinary Community and Governance Committee meeting held on 15 December 2022.**

## 5.CG THE MESSENGER

Documents were circulated prior to the meeting.

Councillor Whittle proposed, Councillor T. Beckett seconded, and it was **RESOLVED**:

**To suspend Standing Orders to allow Mr. Thomas from The Market Drayton CIC, who produces the Market Drayton Messenger to talk to members.**

The Chairman welcomed Mr Thomas to the meeting.

Mr Thomas said a shortfall in funds for production of The Messenger in 2023/24 had been identified. The production costs have already increased as a result of increased postage and printing costs, as shown on the documents circulated.

To reduce costs previously the production of the magazine was reduced from 4 to 3 editions per annum.

Members discussed increasing revenue for the March edition by charging more for advertising space. Mr Thomas informed the meeting that an increase in advertising costs of 10% has been agreed.

Mr Thomas said other options to help fund the shortfall include asking neighbouring parishes to contribute to production costs, reducing the distribution coverage and/or reducing the size of the magazine from A4 to A5.

Members discussed the importance of the magazine especially for residents who do not use the internet.

The Chairman thanked Mr Thomas for attending the meeting.

The meeting went back into Committee.

Councillor Hughes proposed, Councillor Whittle seconded and it was **RESOLVED** with 3 votes against:

- **To agree to produce and print the next edition of The Messenger in A5 size.**
- **To agree to underwrite any shortfall in budget for this edition.**
- **To put an item on the next agenda to consider setting up a Working Group to look at the production and costs of The Messenger in more depth.**

Mr Thomas left the Chamber.

## 6.CG DIVISIONAL BOUNDARY REVIEW

Documents and maps were circulated prior to the meeting.

The independent Local Government Boundary Commission England (the Commission) is asking for residents and parishes to help in drawing up a new pattern of electoral divisions in Shropshire.

In drawing up the new divisions, the Commission aims to ensure that each councillor represents roughly the same number of electors. The review will also try to create divisions that as far as possible reflect the interests and identities of communities across Shropshire.

Councillor Whittle left the Chamber.

The Working Group presented their recommendations to members. Following a discussion on the recommendations:

Councillor Hughes proposed, Councillor Nellins seconded, and it was **RESOLVED** with 1 abstention:

**To submit Appendix CG116 to the Local Government Boundary Commission as the Town Councils formal response to the Shropshire Divisional Boundary Review**

Councillor Whittle entered the Chamber and re-joined the meeting.

#### **7.CG BUILDING CONDITION INSPECTION (Cllr Chapman)**

Documents were circulated prior to the meeting.

Councillor Chapman updated members on the town centre property inspection he along with two other fellow members carried out. He requested members consider formalising a Working Group for the project.

Councillor Chapman and others involved were thanked for their hard work.

A discussion was had on the importance of keeping the town attractive for residents and visitors.

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

- **To set up a Town Centre Working Group. The remit of the group to include sourcing suitable funding for Town Centre enhancement.**
- **Members are Councillors: Chapman, Erwin, Manton, Love, and Sanderson.**
- **To arrange a meeting with officers from Shropshire Council to discuss what actions can be taken regarding properties in the town and to discuss potential town centre regeneration projects that could be funded through the Shared Prosperity Fund.**

#### **8.CG FUEL PRICES IN MARKET DRAYTON (Cllr Manton)**

Documents were circulated prior to the meeting.

Councillor Manton said several residents have approach him regarding the high price of fuel within the town compared to surrounding areas.

Fuel price comparisons were reported and Councillor Manton asked members to consider raising concerns with the towns petrol stations, asking them to assist our community at this time of hardship and come in line with lower fuel prices.

After a brief discussion:

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

**To write to the local fuel providers within the town and the local MP to outline the Town Councils concerns about the high fuel prices within the town.**

#### **9.CG WARP IT**

Documents were circulated prior to the meeting.

A discussion took place about the initiative which assists with the re-using of items to avoid good stuff being skipped. and the benefits of signing up to the scheme; an online tool to assist with re-using items to avoid good stuff being skipped.

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

**To sign up to the Wrap It scheme.**

#### **10.CG OUTSIDE BODIES**

Councillor Manton reported:

RAF Shawbury Noise Liaison Group – 14 November 2022

Group Captain Phil Wadlow RAF Shawbury Station Commander confirmed he will be leaving his position in the near future and will be replaced by Group Captain Andy Barron.

RAF Shawbury utilise an area known as Low Flying Area 9 (LFA 9) within this area for training at Tern Hill, Chetwynd, Nesscliffe Training Area and Sleaford. In addition to these areas, there were 84 fields and clearings that they had permission to use from Landowners. New sites were always being sought after; if anyone knew of suitable sites to let RAF Shawbury know.

Noise complaints directly to RAF Shawbury; to date are currently matching the same period in the preceding year and works out to approximately 70 hours of flying per one complaint. Shropshire Council reported they had not had any direct complaints since the last noise liaison group meeting on 8 March 2022.

RAF Shawbury currently have 20-23 aircraft in operation each day and that 40% of training is done in simulators. Social media is being used to increase the awareness of the training and why it was so important.

The next meeting will be in March 2023.

#### Grove School Community Steering Group – 9 January 2023

13 attendees were present from community groups, including for the Town Council, representatives from the Grove School and local policing team.

The aim of the group is to develop a range of community initiatives which will enhance the image held of the Grove school by the community it serves by addressing social problems evident in Market Drayton.

These initiatives will be overseen by the steering group and will include:

- combating anti-social behavior
- helping parents learn how to manage challenging behaviors in their children
- helping alleviate the burden of poverty in the community
- the level of drug use and dealing.
- reducing the amount of litter on the streets and country lines.
- addressing the dilapidation evident in the town.

Each initiative has been allocated to two members of the group who will develop a plan for their initiative to present to the committee to approve prior to implementation. Progress will be measured and reported at each steering group meeting.

It is hoped in developing these plans it will draw other community resource providers into the scheme possibly via a convention hosted at the Grove School. It will also be useful to draw on best practice from towns who have successfully implemented similar initiatives.

The next meeting of the group will be held on Monday 6 March.

#### **11.CG** **UPDATES/INFORMATION**

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

- \* Visit Shropshire – a meeting is taking place on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2023 with a representative from McDonalds to discuss a joint membership.
- \* Arrangements are being made for the VAS's to be installed.

The meeting concluded 8.33 p.m.

Chairman .....

Date .....