

Market Drayton Town Council

**Minutes of an Extraordinary Council meeting
held at The Town Hall, Frogmore Road on Thursday 29 June 2023 at 7.00pm.**

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

ABSENT: Councillors: M. Erwin, R. Hughes and M. Whittle.

In Attendance: 3 members of the public was present, and 3 members of the public listened to the meeting via Teams.

Clerks: Sue Thomas, Town Clerk and Kate Harvey, Assistant Clerk.

The Mayor announced the meeting was being recorded and live streamed.

1.C APOLOGIES

Members **NOTED** the following apologies:

Councillor R. Hughes	-	Prior Arrangement
Councillor M. Whittle	-	Prior Arrangement

2.C DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

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

3.C EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC PRESS

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

That in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted which will involve the likely disclosure of exempt information relating to establishment and contractual matters as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972, and pursuant to the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be temporarily excluded from the meeting and they are instructed to withdraw.

Three members of the public left the meeting.

4.C COUNCILLOR CO-OPTION

Written applications for the Town Council vacancy were circulated prior to the meeting.

The Mayor said there were originally four candidates but one has recently withdrawn their application.

The Clerk went through the Co-option procedure with all members.

Each candidate returned to the chamber in turn and gave a presentation about themselves explaining why they would like to become a councillor; councillors were then given the opportunity to ask them any questions.

After all applicants had spoken, a brief discussion was had.

Councillor T. Beckett proposed, Councillor Love seconded, and it was **RESOLVED**, with four votes for and four votes against. The Mayor used his casting vote:

To Co-opt Gary Groves to the vacant position of Town Councillor.

The Clerk left the Chamber to inform the applicants of the decision.

The Clerk and Councillor Groves re-entered the Chamber and re-joined the meeting.

The Mayor congratulated and welcomed Councillor Groves to the Council.

He said there were three very strong candidates, he thanked them all and would like to see them again if a vacancy arises.

Councillor Groves accepted the position of Councillor and thanked members for the opportunity to be part of the Council.

Councillor Groves signed the declaration of acceptance of office.

The meeting concluded 7.45 pm.

Chairman: 

Date: 23/7/23