

Market Drayton Town Council

**Minutes of a Community and Governance Committee Meeting
held at The Town Hall, Frogmore Road on Thursday 25 January 2024 at 7.30 pm.**

PRESENT: Councillors: R. Aldcroft, B. Chapman, P. Glover, M. Erwin,
G. Groves, W. Love, T. Manton, and I. Nellins (Chairman).

ABSENT: Councillors: Mrs. J Beckett, T. Beckett, R. Hughes, and A. Sanderson.

In attendance: 0 members of the public present and 0 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 Mrs. J Beckett	-	Prior appointment
Councillor T Beckett	-	Prior appointment
Councillor R. Hughes	-	Prior appointment
Councillor A. Sanderson	-	Prior appointment

2.CG DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

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

3.CG PUBLIC SESSION

No members of the public had requested to speak.

4.CG MINUTES

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

To approve the minutes of the Community and Governance Committee meeting held on 16 November 2023.

5.CG SATURDAY TOWN BUS SERVICE

A document was circulated prior to the meeting detailing the number of users on the trial initiative which provides free travel on the Saturday town bus service.

Members agreed that the free travel on a Saturday has been well used, it is a fantastic initiative and although there are still improvements to be made to the bus

route it helps reduce the carbon footprint, frees up parking spaces, and encourages residents to shop within the town.

Members considered continuing to subsidise the Saturday town bus service for the 2024/25 financial year.

After a brief discussion:

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

To continue to subsidise the travel for paying passengers on the Saturday town bus service for the 2024/25 financial year.

To advertise the free Saturday bus service to raise awareness of the service and inform residents that it is subsidised by the Town Council.

A press release to be put in the local paper.

6.CG THE POLICE PARTNERSHIP PANEL

Councillor Manton said the Police Partnership with The Town Council is a real asset, concerns can be raised with the Inspector and she will action them. He said there has been an increased police presence within the town and he urged all members to attend the meetings.

Members **NOTED** the notes from the Police Partnership Panel meeting held on the 8 January 2024.

The Clerk said the Design out Crime Officers recently met with two councillors to walk around the town to identify issues; a report will be produced which will be circulated to members.

7.CG THE TOWN CENTRE WORKING GROUP (BC)

Documents were circulated prior to the meeting.

Councillors Chapman, Glover, Love and Manton have completed a Town Centre audit. A discussion was had regarding Appendix CG139.

Members thanked the Working Group for their hard work in carrying out the audit and producing the report.

After an in-depth conversation:

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

To agree and support all the recommendations from the Town Centre Working Group as set out in Appendix CO139.

Initial: 

To agree the updated Working Group terms of reference.

8.CG VEHICLE ACTIVATED SIGNS

Members were asked to consider purchasing a laptop to be used by the Community Speed Watch Group to download data from the Vehicle Activated Signs.

Council recognised all the all the hard work the group undertake on a voluntary basis.

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

To allocate £200 from the Community and Governance Budget to purchase a suitable laptop to download data from the Vehicle Activated Signs.

9.CG RECYCLING (IN)

The Chairman asked members to consider providing a monthly recycling facility in the town for residents. He said this would help reduce fly tipping and would help towards Town Councils Carbon Neutral policy. Enquiries have been made regarding prices; an eight-yard skip would cost approximately £216.

Members said this service has previously been provided and they were in favour of it being reinstated, however, there are a number of things to consider such as location, manning and size of the skip provided.

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

To look at the viability of supplying a recycling skip once a month for the residents of the town to use.

To bring the item back at the next meeting.

10.CG OUTSIDE BODIES

Pezanas Twinning Committee – Councillor Chapman reported that the group will be visiting Pezanas next year and the secretary welcomes any councillors wishing to go along. Councillor Glover has already shown an interest in representing the Town Council and it was suggested the new Mayor may like to attend. Town Council should purchase a gift to take over; the committee will recommend an item if needed.

The Grove School Community Steering Group – Councillor Manton reported that he has attended a meeting four weeks ago. The next scheduled meeting is on Monday 29 January, which will be chaired by the newly appointed headteacher. He is unable to attend this meeting; Councillor Aldcroft will be attending.


Initial:

Market Drayton Town Football Club are in conversation with the school about using their facilities and the school are getting pupils involved with keeping the town litter free.

Greenfields – Councillor Chapman said the electrical tender work should be completed by the end of the week.

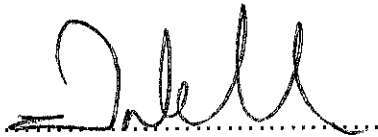
11.CG UPDATES AND INFORMATION

Members **NOTED** the following updates:

- i. Bin Storage – an email was sent to Shropshire Council on the 7 December 2023; no response has been received. The bins which were blocking the fire exit next to the indoor market entrance have all been moved onto Arlon Square.
- ii. The Retail Group has been appointed to produce a Strategic Review and Action Plan for Market Drayton. An inaugural meeting has taken place with the working group and questionnaires are being produced.

The meeting concluded at 8.07 p.m.

Chairman



Date

7th Mar 24

