

## Market Drayton Town Council

**Minutes of a Council Meeting held in The Starmer Room at the Parish Rooms, Church Street, Market Drayton on Thursday 7 May 2026 at 7.30pm.**

**PRESENT:** Councillors: R. Adcock, R. Aldcroft, J. Blandford, A. Cartwright, P. Glover, G. Groves, T. Manton (Chairman), I. Nellins, and I. Sharp.

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

0 members of the public were present and 3 members of the public listening via Teams.

**In Attendance:** Sue Thomas, Town Clerk, and Kate Harvey, Assistant Clerk.

### 1.SF APOLOGIES

Members **NOTED** the following apologies:

Councillor J. Beckett	-	Prior Appointment
Councillor T. Beckett	-	Prior Appointment
Councillor R. Hughes	-	Prior Appointment

### 2.SF DISCLOSABLE INTERESTS

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

### 3.SF PUBLIC SESSION

No members of the public had requested to speak.

### 4.C MINUTES

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

**To agree and adopt the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 15 January 2026.**

### 5.C TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor's announcements were circulated to members prior to the meeting as set out in Appendix CO207.

The Mayor said this is his last Council meeting as Mayor; it has been a pure honour to represent the town; he has thoroughly enjoyed it and thanked everyone for their support.

Members **NOTED** the report from the Town Mayor.

**6.C COMMITTEE MINUTES****Planning Committee**

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

**To agree the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on:**  
 15 January 2026                      29 January 2026                      12 February 2026  
 26 February 2026                      12 March 2026                      9 April 2026

**Community and Governance Committee**

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

**To agree the minutes of the Community and Governance Committee meetings held on:**  
 26 February 2026                      9 April 2026

**Services and Facilities Committee**

Councillor Manton proposed, Councillor Glover seconded, and it was **RESOLVED** with 1 abstention:

**To agree the minutes of the Services and Facilities Committee meeting held on:**  
 29 January 2026                      12 March 2026

**Finance and General Purposes Committee**

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

**To agree the minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting held on:**  
 12 February 2026

**Personnel Committee**

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

**To agree the minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting held on:**  
 12 February 2026.

**7.C SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL SPEED LIMIT CONSULTATION**

Members considered the Shropshire Council Consultation on a proposed 20mph speed limit on roads around Longlands School as set out in Appendix CO208.

After a discussion:

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

**To support the introduction of a 20mph speed limit on the residential roads in the vicinity of Longlands School, Market Drayton with the added inclusion of Longlands Lane Road.**

### **8.C BUNTINGSDALE PARK – TRAMPOLINE**

Members considered the three quotes obtained for replacing the broken trampoline on Buntingsdale Park as set out in Appendix CO209.

Members discussed how well used and loved this piece of equipment is.

Councillor Groves Proposed, Councillor Adcock seconded and it was **RESOLVED:**

**To agree to accept Quote B at a cost of £4,903 to replace the trampoline on Buntingsdale Park to be paid out of Recreation Ground General Maintenance budget.**

A notice to be placed on the fencing to inform residents that the trampoline is going to be replaced.

### **9.C IN BLOOM**

The Town Council puts up over 100 hanging baskets around the town centre in June each year; 40 of these are available to be put outside commercial premises.

The current watering charges for the hanging baskets outside commercial premises is £25.

Members considered the watering fee for this year.

Councillor Manton proposed, Councillor Glover seconded and it was **RESOLVED with 1 abstention:**

**To charge the commercial premises £25 per hanging basket to have them watered in 2026.**

### **10.C TOWN MAINTENANCE**

The seating area on the corner of Frogmore Road and Cheshire Street is in poor repair; the brick wall has collapsed, the floor brickwork is uneven due to the tree roots and the seating is damaged, as set out in Appendix CO210.

1. Members considered taking on the maintenance of this area.

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

**To take on the maintenance of the seating area on Frogmore Road and Cheshire Street.**

2. Members considered if the area should continue as a seating area with all the necessary works undertaken to make the area safe (re-building the wall, relaying the bricks on the floor, repairing the benches) or if the benches should be removed and the wall being made good.

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

**To remove the seats, bricks, block paving at the corner of Frogmore Road and Cheshire Street and replace it with a flower bed.**

### **11.C CIVIC GIFT**

Members considered a request from the Pezenas Twinning Association for funding towards a civic gift to present to the Mayor of Pezenas when they visit later in the year as set out in Appendix CO211.

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

**To agree to pay up to £200 towards a civic gift for the Pezenas Twinning Association to present to the Mayor of Pezenas when they visit later in the year; payment to be from the Civic Hospitality budget.**

### **12.C RAF SHAWBURY PARADE REQUEST**

Members considered a request from RAF Shawbury.

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

**To strongly support the request from RAF Shawbury to organise a parade within the town to celebrate 50 years of flying training at RAF Shawbury and RAF Tern Hill.**

### **13.C COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY**

Members **NOTED** the list of Community Infrastructure Levy Payments Neighbourhood Fund as set out in Appendix CO212.

Members **NOTED** the Neighbourhood Fund payment of £72,365.10 for 2025/26 has been received.

#### 14.C TOWN PARK EXTENSION

The Chairman reported that the Working Group marked and measured the extension out so that they could visualise the extra space required. The original plan was to complete the work in two phases: phase one to do the ground works and railings, the second phase to introduce new play equipment however all the works will be carried out as one stage and quotes will be obtained as required.

The Chairman said the extension will be a good addition to the park and consultations will take place with children when we get to that stage.

#### 15.C SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL UPDATES

Councillor Manton read out a report that was completed by Market Drayton Shropshire Councillors; Councillor Blandford, Dainty and Minnery.

- **Grass cutting** – A new contract has been awarded.
- **Litter Bins** - The new contractor has started and all issues currently experiencing will be resolved.
- **Sports Provision** – The 2G pitch works are being scheduled to take place in the summer holidays at The Grove School for the community to benefit from.
- **Shropshire Council**- The finances have slowly improved.
- **Bus Service** – The new 340 bus service between Whitchurch, Market Drayton, the Princess Royal Hospital and Wellington are proving to be very popular; within three months there has been 6,692 passenger trips taken.
- **Potholes** – The contract is under new administration; £30K has currently been spent on the repairs.

#### 16.C BUDGET AND RESERVES

- i. Members **RECEIVED** and **NOTED** the budget for 2026/27 as set out in Appendix CO214.
- ii. Members **NOTED** the Earmarked Reserves for 2026/27 as set out in Appendix CO215.
- iii. Members **NOTED** the General Reserves were £455,811 on 31 March 2026.

#### 17.C ASSET REGISTER

The Asset Register was circulated to members prior to the meeting as set out in Appendix CO217.

There were no questions raised.

Councillor Glover proposed, Councillor Adcock seconded and it was **RESOLVED:**

**To approve the Asset Register.**

**18.C FINANCE REPORT**

The Financial Report was circulated to members prior to the meeting as set out in Appendix CO217.

There were no questions raised.

Councillor Manton proposed Councillor Cartwright seconded and it was **RESOLVED:**

**To agree the income and expenditure report from 1 March 2026 to 31 March 2026.**

**19.C SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS**

Payment documents were circulated to members prior to the meeting as set out in Appendix CO218 and CO219.

The Chairman asked if any members had any questions they would like to ask.

There were no questions raised.

Councillor Cartwright proposed, Councillor Sharp seconded and it was **RESOLVED:**

**To agree the payments from 1 January 2026 to 31 March 2026.**

The Chairman thanked the Assistant Clerk for all her hard work.

**20.C INFORMMATION AND UPDATES**

Members **NOTED** the following information:

- The Insurance Policy has been reviewed and renewed.
- The Year End 2025/2026 accounts have been closed down.
- The precept has been received for 2026/27.
- The land at Longford Turning, Market Drayton has been listed as an Asset of Community Value; a Land Charge will be placed against the property for a period of 5 years.

The Chairman thanked all Councillors, Officers, and Council staff for all their hard work, commitment, and support during his term as Town Mayor.

Councillors thanked the Mayor for his energy, commitment, and achievements to the town in his role.

The meeting concluded at 8.19 p.m.

Chairman: .....

Date: 21<sup>st</sup> May 2026 .....