

# Droitwich Spa Town Council

MINUTES of the ANNUAL MEETING OF DROITWICH SPA TOWN COUNCIL  
held in the Community Hall, Heritage Way, Droitwich Spa  
on Monday 16 May 2016 at 6 pm.

PRESENT: Councillor R G Beale - Mayor  
Councillor S Best  
Councillor Mrs J Bolton  
Councillor Mrs C Bowden  
Councillor G R Brookes  
Councillor Mrs S Harris  
Councillor Mrs A Hawkins  
Councillor A Humphries  
Councillor S Laird  
Councillor Mrs M A Lawley  
Councillor R J Morris  
Councillor R E Murphy  
Councillor T J Noyes  
Councillor A Roberts  
Councillor A M Sinton  
Councillor Mrs K Tomalin

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillor L Evans.

## 1 ELECTION OF MAYOR

It was proposed by Councillor T J Noyes and seconded by Councillor G R Brookes that Councillor R E Murphy be appointed to the office of Town Mayor.

In support of his proposal, Councillor T J Noyes advised upon Councillor Murphy's service over the past four years, the last as Deputy Mayor and his membership of many local clubs and societies including the History & Archaeological Society.

There being no other nominations, it was

RESOLVED That Councillor R E Murphy be duly elected Town Mayor for the ensuing municipal year.

Councillors R G Beale and R E Murphy retired from the meeting and exchanged robes.

Upon return, Councillor R E Murphy made the statutory acceptance of office before the Town Clerk.

Councillor R E Murphy, Mayor - In the Chair.

## 2 ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR

It was proposed by Councillor R J Morris and seconded by Councillor A Humphries that Councillor S Best be appointed to the office of Deputy Mayor. There being no other nominations, it was

RESOLVED                      That Councillor Best be duly elected Deputy Town Mayor for the ensuing municipal year.

Councillor Best signed the acceptance of office before the Town Clerk and then the Mayor presented him with the Deputy Mayor's badge of office. Councillor Best then introduced his wife Helen as his Consort and presented her with the badge of office.

## 3 VOTE OF THANKS TO OUTGOING MAYOR

Councillor Murphy proposed the vote of thanks and congratulated Councillor R G Beale, outgoing Mayor, on his year in office. This was seconded by Councillor T J Noyes. Whereupon the Mayor presented Councillor R G Beale with the Past Mayor's Jewel.

## 4 REPLY BY THE OUTGOING MAYOR

Councillor R G Beale made the following response:

*"I have been impressed by the enthusiastic efforts my previous Mayor, Bob Brookes portrayed in enabling the 'Charter Day' to come about after much research supported by the colourful Norbury Theatre. They and the 'Pamela May' canal boat and many others made a vivid historical pictorial display to the delights of residents and visitors. The annual Food Festival with its many stalls and the more humble weekly Friday Markets which adds colour and bustle to Droitwich Spa help bring in the visitors and add variety for residents. The year has gone very quickly yet I have been delighted at how many events, services and invitations I have found most interesting and hopefully I have been an encouragement to them all as I have had the honour of attending. Within 3 days of accepting the Mayoral duties I was jointly opening the two million pound MRI scanner in the Droitwich Spa Private Hospital, a machine that had proved invaluable in the recent months examining 350 patients successfully. I had hoped I could try it out but I was assured it was fully booked!!! Many of the projects within Droitwich Spa are supported by an army of volunteers who willingly, tirelessly and enthusiastically enable the youth of various ages through repeatedly going in all weathers to sports events getting the pupils to succeed in their chosen interest. There is no doubt as watching 6 and 7 year olds confidently crossing the school stage to collect their individual prizes with proud parents in the audience smiling at the compliments said to the youngsters by their instructors, whether in that case foot ball, or Dolphin swimmers getting their individual photos, to look at the camera, smile and to shake my hand. Many others such as Probus, Rotary, the French and German Twinning groups and Droitwich Arts Network, the latter I found very difficult to choose the best Art results, however the smiles on the children's faces were a real picture and well worth the effort. On several occasions I have found double bookings where my Deputy Mayor, Roy Murphy has been invaluable in taking the opportunity, indeed quite often to share the load as the summer period of fetes and events came to the for. I wish him well in taking on the Mayor mantel to continue the good work and to encourage the many young and mature people that put so much effort into making*

*up Droitwich Spa a thriving Town. The sea of colours displayed by Banners from the British Legion, Scouting groups, Army and Royal Air Force colours and Bands from the RAF and Salvation Army either of which might be supporting the Remembrance Day service. The solitary trumpeter is always greatly moving as the large crowd has fallen silent for those who never came home from the Two Great Wars and the myriad of minor ones that have always continued to involve our young men and women somewhere in the world. I have been pleasantly surprised how many businesses are thriving in Droitwich Spa and the surrounding area, some of which such as recently the international Doncaster Group, specialist turbine manufacturers, wishing to expand and hopefully bring hundreds more jobs to the town, subject to requirements being completed in the near future. So many quietly get on with their businesses great and small that make up this thriving Town of Droitwich Spa of which the staff of the Town Clerk, Pam Craney, and Mark Keld with Jane Greenfield in the Town Hall, each and all have been invaluable in guiding me in the bookings and legal requirements of being the Mayor. Fellow councillors have all been available to uphold the Mayor and supported by Wychavon District Council teams in the Droitwich Spa Parks and Canal area. The many compliments received concerning the flower displays throughout the year have been a great asset to the colour of Droitwich Spa. The many Christian Civic Services I have been invited to throughout the County have shown the high standards all try to maintain for the benefit of our society as a whole and my they continue into the future. Finally I would like to wish Councillor Roy Murphy, the new Mayor of Droitwich Spa every Blessing and opportunity to continue the exciting and rewarding work he will find behind the scenes for the next 12 months in and around Droitwich Spa.”*

## 5 ADDRESS BY THE TOWN MAYOR

The Mayor welcomed everyone and made the following Address:

*“I must firstly thank Councillor Noyes for proposing me and Councillor Brookes for seconding my appointment. I must also thank Councillor Graham Beale for giving me opportunities as deputy mayor to attend some fascinating events. The function of mayor has changed over the years. In the 18<sup>th</sup> century the mayor was the chief executive of the borough and the mace bearers were body guards and the mace was a club for protection. Today the mayor represents Droitwich at civic functions in neighbouring towns along with events in Droitwich. The position is strictly non-political. The mayor raises funds for nominated charities. Two very deserving charities I have nominated are the Council for Voluntary Service and the Westlands Community Hall Association. The CVS has oversight for a range of charities and has an important educational function with young people who are outside mainstream education. The Westlands Community Hall Association assists charities based on the Westlands estate and is home to several groups that meet there regularly. To earn an income to finance these charities I propose to organise events which will be profitable but inexpensive. I intend to offer events which have a wide appeal and will attract a wide audience. The first event will be a Sunday lunch to be held at the Droitwich Golf Club on Ford Lane on Sunday 24 July chosen for its magnificent surroundings and attractive dining area. I hope you will all join me at this event and please contact Jane Greenfield, Assistant Town Clerk if you wish to make an early booking as places are limited.*

*Fund raising is only one activity of the role of Mayor. Much more importantly, it is my intention to raise the profile of societies in Droitwich by publicising their activities and to encourage a greater involvement of their management by their membership. I hope you will find this programme acceptable and I look forward to visiting you in due course."*

## 6 POLITICAL PARTY LEADERSHIP

It was

RESOLVED That it be noted that the Leadership of each political party on the Town Council is as follows:-  
Councillor T J Noyes, Conservative:  
Councillor A Humphries, Labour.

## 7 APPOINTMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

On a proposition by Councillor S Best, seconded by Councillor Mrs C Bowden, it was

RESOLVED (1) That the three Standing Committees be constituted as follows, each having nine members, Mayor as ex-officio on each:-  
Planning Committee  
Community and Amenities Committee  
Resources Committee.

(2) That the membership of the Council's Standing Committees for the ensuing municipal year be in accordance with the list attached as Appendix 'A' to these Minutes, including the Chairmanship and Vice-Chairmanship thereof.

(3) That the Grants Appraisal Panel and New Homes Bonus Working Party be re-appointed in accordance with the list attached as Appendix A to these Minutes, including the Chairmanship thereof.

## 8 REPRESENTATION ON OTHER BODIES

The list of representatives on other bodies was considered and a proposed change reported by the Town Clerk.

It was proposed by Councillor A Humphries, seconded by Councillor T J Noyes, that the amended list of nominations be approved.

RESOLVED That the list of Representatives on Outside Bodies attached at Appendix B be approved.

9 PROGRAMME OF COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS 2016/2017

It was proposed by Councillor Ms J Bolton, seconded by Councillor Mrs S Harris and

RESOLVED That the Programme of Council and Committee Meetings for 2016/2017 attached at Appendix C be approved.

10 COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

There were no communications.

The meeting closed at 6.30pm. The Mayor thanked everyone for attending and advised that he was looking forward to celebrating the start of his Mayoral year with those joining him in the John Corbett Room afterwards, for light refreshments.

Chairman of Council \_\_\_\_\_  
20 June 2016

Droitwich Spa Town Council - Annual Meeting 16 May 2016

Minute 7 – Membership of Committees 2016/17

Planning Committee

*(9 Members, including The Mayor, Ex-officio)*

Councillors:

Mrs C Bowden - Chairman  
Ms J H Bolton – Vice-Chairman  
R E Murphy (Ex-officio)  
G R Brookes  
Mrs A Hawkins  
A Humphries  
Mrs M A Lawley  
R J Morris  
T J Noyes

Community & Amenities Committee

*(9 Members, including The Mayor, Ex-officio)*

A M Sinton - Chairman  
A H Laird – Vice-Chairman  
R E Murphy (Ex-officio)  
S Best  
Ms J H Bolton  
Mrs C Bowden  
Mrs S Harris  
Mrs A Hawkins  
A Humphries

Resources Committee

*(9 Members, including The Mayor, Ex-officio)*

Councillors:

A Humphries - Chairman  
S Best – Vice-Chairman  
R E Murphy (Ex-officio)  
R G Beale  
L Evans  
A H Laird  
T J Noyes  
A M Sinton  
Mrs K Tomalin

New Homes Bonus Working Party (Resources Committee)

Membership: 5 members of the Town Council, to include the appointment of the Chairman of Resources Committee, Group Leader(s) and 2/3 others.

T J Noyes – Chairman

G R Brookes

Mrs S Harris

A Humphries

Mrs K Tomalin

Grants Appraisal Panel (Community & Amenities Committee)

A H Laird – Chairman (V-Ch C&A)

S Best

Mrs S Harris

A Humphries

A M Sinton

## Appendix B

### Droitwich Spa Town Council - Annual Meeting 16 May 2016 – Minute 8

<b><u>Organisation</u></b>	<b><u>Representatives 2016/2017</u></b>
1. Droitwich Spa Twinning Association (Voiron and Bad Ems)	Mayor (ex-officio) as President.
2. Droitwich Council for Voluntary Service (Executive Committee)	Cllr Mrs C Bowden and A H Laird
3. Age Concern (Droitwich & District Exec. Committee) (bi-monthly - 2nd Thurs.)	Cllr A L Roberts
4. Droitwich Spa Arts Network and Arts for All	Cllr Mrs A Hawkins
5. Coventry Homes	Cllr Mrs A Hawkins
6. Fair Trade Organisation (Droitwich Branch)	Cllr Mrs S Harris
7. Droitwich Spa Area Young People's Action Group	Cllr R J Morris (substitute Cllr Mrs S Harris).
8. Droitwich & Rural Neighbourhood Watch Association	Councillor R G Beale

**DROITWICH SPA TOWN COUNCIL - CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2016 – 2017**

Town Council & Standing Committees meet on Mondays at 6pm in the Council Chamber  
(except the Annual Meeting which is held in the Community Hall\*)

The Town Meeting takes place at 7pm in the Community Hall\*\*

Sub-Committees and Panels etc meet at times to suit.

Please note:

1. The Annual Accounts must be approved by Council by 30 June in each year.
2. Precept requests, and therefore the Financial Estimates for the following year, are now to be finalised by the end of January each year.
3. It has not been possible to set a date for the Civic Service at the present time.

MAY 2016		JUNE 2016	
02	Bank Holiday	06	Planning Committee
			Community & Amenities Committee
05	Police & Crime Commissioner Elections	06	<i>(Sub-Committee appointments etc)</i>
16	Annual Council*	06	Resources Committee
30	Bank Holiday	13	<i>Grants Appraisal Panel</i>
		20	Council <i>(Annual Accounts)</i>
JULY 2016		AUGUST 2016	
04	Planning Committee	01	Planning Committee
04	Community & Amenities Committee	01	Resources Committee
		29	Bank Holiday
SEPTEMBER 2016		OCTOBER 2016	
05	<i>Grants Appraisal Panel</i>	17	Planning Committee
12	Planning Committee	17	Resources Committee
12	Community & Amenities Committee	31	<i>Grants Appraisal Panel [if required]</i>
26	Council		
NOVEMBER 2016		DECEMBER 2016	
14	Planning Committee	12	Planning Committee
14	Community & Amenities Committee	12	Resources Committee
JANUARY 2017		FEBRUARY 2017	
02	Bank Holiday	13	Planning Committee
16	Planning Committee	13	Resources Committee
16	Community & Amenities Committee <i>(Budget Estimates and Precept)</i>		
16	Resources Committee <i>(Budget Estimates and Precept)</i>		
30	Council <i>(Budget Estimates and Precept)</i>		
MARCH 2017		APRIL 2017	
06	Planning Committee	10	Planning Committee
06	Community & Amenities Committee	10	Resources Committee
06	Resources Committee	17	Bank Holiday
20	Town Meeting **	24	Council
MAY 2017		JUNE 2017	
01	Bank Holiday	05	Planning Committee
			Community & Amenities Committee
04	County Council Elections	05	<i>(Sub-Committee appointments etc)</i>
15	Annual Council*	05	Resources Committee
29	Bank Holiday	12	<i>Grants Appraisal Panel</i>
		19	Council <i>(Annual Accounts)</i>