

# 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 14 May 2018 at 6 pm.

PRESENT: Councillor S Best – Mayor  
Councillor R G Beale  
Councillor Ms J Bolton  
Councillor Mrs C Bowden  
Councillor G R Brookes  
Councillor G Duffy  
Councillor L Evans  
Councillor Mrs S Harris  
Councillor Mrs A Hawkins  
Councillor S Laird  
Councillor W T Moy  
Councillor R E Murphy  
Councillor T J Noyes  
Councillor A Roberts  
Councillor A M Sinton  
Councillor Mrs K Tomalin

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillor A Humphries and Councillor RJ Morris

## 1 ELECTION OF MAYOR

It was proposed by Councillor T Noyes and seconded by RG Beale that Councillor Mrs C Bowden be appointed to the office of Town Mayor.

In support of his proposal, Councillor T Noyes advised,

### Chris Bowden – Town Mayor Elect

*“Thanks you Mr Mayor. It hardly seems a year ago when we were performing this for your own election to this office and I would like to congratulate you on your achievements during the year and hope you have enjoyed the experience.*

*This year I would like to nominate Cllr Mrs Christine Bowden for the position of Town Mayor for the following reasons.*

*Since joining the council at the last elections in 2015 Chris has missed just the one meeting,*

*In 2015 Chris joined the C and A committee, in 2016 she took on the role of Chairman of Planning as well as continuing her role on C and A, and in 2017 she became Deputy Chairman Planning and continued to play a valuable role as a member of C and A.*

*Councillor Bowden has been chairman of the local Stroke Club for over 10 years and for her services in this area was runner up at the WDC Chairman’s Diamond Jubilee Recognition Award 2016/17.*

*Christine is keen and is looking forward to representing the Town in whatever comes up. In her role as Deputy Mayor she has provided a back-up service for our current mayor and on such occasions has been ably supported by her husband Eric.*

*I am sure that Chris will continue to be a great ambassador for Droitwich and will keep a cool head using her training as a nurse and afterwards as a matron of a Droitwich care home.*

*She possesses an excellent pedigree which will enable her to perform this role and I am delighted and honoured therefore to nominate Councillor Christine Bowden Droitwich Spa Town Mayor for the year 2018 – 19.”*

There being no other nominations, it was

RESOLVED That Councillor Mrs C Bowden be duly elected Town Mayor for the ensuing municipal year.

Councillors S Best and Mrs C Bowden retired from the meeting and exchanged robes.

Upon return, Councillor Mrs Bowden made the statutory acceptance of office before the Town Clerk.

Councillor Mrs C Bowden, Mayor - In the Chair.

The Mayor introduced her husband Eric as her Consort and presented him with the badge of office.

## 2 ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs S Harris and seconded by Councillor A Sinton that Councillor WT Moy be appointed to the office of Deputy Mayor.

In support of his nomination Councillor Mrs S Harris read out the following statement.

*“Bill moved to Droitwich Spa in 1971 with his wife and to quote his words ‘they fell in love with the Town’, and so they decided to raise their family here. Bill set up a business in our Town and has been an active member of our community. Bill enjoyed community life to the extent that he became involved with our salt heritage and the Brine Baths. Last year Bill became a Town Councillor to further support our Town and the campaign for the return of our Brine Baths.*

*"I would like to nominate Cllr Bill Moy for the role of Deputy Mayor. Bill has been an active member of the SOBB group who have campaigned for the return of our Brine Baths and I am a great advocate of anyone who supports our Town's heritage".*

There being no other nominations, it was

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

Councillor WT Moy signed the acceptance of office before the Town Clerk and then the Mayor presented him with the Deputy Mayor’s badge of office. Councillor Moy then introduced his wife Dilys and his daughter Helena, who will both share his Consort duties. Councillor Moy then presented his wife with the badge of office.

## 3 VOTE OF THANKS TO OUTGOING MAYOR

Councillor A Sinton proposed the vote of thanks and congratulated Councillor S Best outgoing Mayor, on his year in office.

Vote of thanks to Councillor Shaun Best, the outgoing Mayor of Droitwich Spa

*“It gives me great pleasure to propose the vote of thanks to our outgoing Mayor Councillor Shaun Best. He was born and bred in Droitwich Spa and I know that he is honoured and privileged to have been the Mayor of our wonderful town. To say he is a well –known figure locally is to put it mildly and it is impossible to overestimate the contribution he has made over many years. Much of this contribution of course arises from the fact that he is a highly talented musician and it is apt that several events in his year of office reflected his love of many styles of music. In July 2017 for instance the town celebrated the 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the composition of Handel’s Water Music by hosting a performance of that joyous piece by the canal in Vines Park. As an organist of some repute he was the driving force behind the successful Civic Service of 9 Lessons and Carols at St Andrews Church.*

*Other notable events he and Helen were involved with this year included the Picnic in the Park to celebrate John Corbett’s 200<sup>th</sup> Birthday in June 2017, the Civic Reception involving “Salt on the Barge” at the Canal Festival last weekend of course the conferring of the title of Honorary Alderman and Honorary Freeman ex- councillor Mrs Pam Davey and her husband Alan respectively.*

*It is impossible to list all of Shaun’s achievements in the last year but I know one of which he and Helen were justly proud was that of being instrumental in ensuring that the late Frank Holliday – whose contribution to the Droitwich Spa Boys and Girls Football Club has been well –documented- was suitably commemorated by the presentation of a memorial trophy in his name.*

*Charity is of course a very important part of the Mayors role and Shaun has been very keen to promote his chosen charities Gateway and St Richards Hospice.*

*I sincerely hope you have enjoyed your year in office Shaun and I hope you have as well Helen. The passionate way you have carried out the office this year has been appreciated by us all. On behalf of not just the Town Council but the Town as a whole I thank you sincerely for all you have done this year.*

This was seconded by Councillor GR Brookes who read out the following statement of support.

*“Madam Mayor,*

*It gives me great pleasure to second the vote of thanks to Councillor Best for his time and effort supporting Droitwich Spa as our Mayor.*

*As you have heard from Councillor Sinton, Shaun has worked very hard to support our town.*

*Shun has a natural gift in speaking and relating to his audience which he used to the full. Dressed in the full Mayoral regalia, he always looked to me to be the epitome of a Dickensian Mayor , a character as one might find in a novel by Charles Dickens, appropriately filling the red robes and looking and acting the part to perfection.*

*Shaun, Thank you so much for everything you have contributed over the last year”.*

RESOLVED                      That a Vote of Thanks to Councillor S Best for his year as Mayor 2017/2018 be given.

Whereupon the Mayor presented Councillor S Best with the Past Mayor’s Jewel.

#### 4      REPLY BY THE OUTGOING MAYOR

Councillor S Best responded by advising that it had been a great honour to wear the chain of office and to represent the Town throughout the year. He wished the new Mayor a very enjoyable term of office. Councillor Best personally thanked the Town

Council Officers – Mrs Jane Greenfield, Miss Sharon Abbott and Mark Keld as well as a special mention to the recently retired Town Clerk – Mrs Pam Craney. To finish Councillor Best read out the following statement.

“Farewell Message.

*“When I was a young boy back in the Dark Ages, Roller-Coasters were in their infancy, but due to modern technology they have progressed in leaps and bounds, (which is why some of them are rather uncomfortable to ride in) and I was scared stiff of them. Helen and I have recently finished a ride on one that lasted a year and have we had fun. With the help of the Droitwich Standard announcing at my inauguration that my ‘Office’ was the front bar of the Talbot it answered the question “where do we go to see the Mayor?” and the Visibility aspect of the job was answered. The second point was to give Helen her own part to play in the organisation of events and, when neither myself or the Deputy Mayor were available, to represent the town on our behalf to which end I can honestly say “I could not have done it without you Kid”. There is an overriding sense of optimism in the town at the moment, the Brine Baths Campaign is gathering pace, Droitwich Salt is now or soon to be available nationally, and the Arts here are in somewhat of a revival. Please all could you make sure we build on this and not return to the apathy which we experienced just before the turn of the century. I hope that I have been approachable to everyone and that Helen and I have been of some help to both individuals and Town. Now that it is all over we would like to thank everyone who has worked so tirelessly to make Droitwich stand out and become one of the leading Festival spots of Worcestershire. I am thinking especially of fellow members of the Council, Patrick Davies and the Gang at Churchfield’s Farm, Rhys Jones and all members of the Arts Network, Anne Lane and all members of the Norbury Theatre, Members of the sports clubs, Rugby, Football, Cricket, Swimming etc: and last but not least to the three people that have attempted to keep me in line this last year and for the main part succeeded, Jane, Sharon and Mark. As some of you know I play for the midweek Communion Service in St Andrews Church on a Wednesday morning and this week the churchwarden said to me when I walked in “I know it’s a bit of a cheek but could I ask you to play one of your improvisations as the incoming voluntary and incorporate today’s hymn and a modern song that I think is rather apt?” and so the piece I played was-*

*Crown him with many Crowns interspersed with THE CARNIVAL IS OVER.*

*IT IS NOW.....THANK YOU ALL.*

5 ADDRESS BY THE TOWN MAYOR

The Mayor welcomed everyone and made the following Address:

Speech of Acceptance, 14<sup>th</sup> May 2018.

*“Firstly may I say thank you to my fellow Councillors for the chance of becoming Mayor of Droitwich, I will not let you down. Shaun, you will be a hard act to follow! My husband, Eric, has agreed to be my Consort, and I know that he will be there for me, as*

*he always is, throughout my year as Mayor. Thanks Eric, you always support me, whatever I get myself into.*

*Nigel Byard has agreed to be my chaplain for the duration and invitations will be sent out shortly for the civic service, which will be held at St Andrews church on 10<sup>th</sup> June.*

*My charities for the year are three. First as you will all probably guess is Droitwich Stroke Club, the second is SOBBS, and the third is Wychbold Swan Rescue.*

*In conclusion I promise I will dedicate my year to the people of Droitwich, and will endeavour to attend as many engagements as I am able.*

*So now I will say Mace Bearers, you may stand down and take a seat, whilst we continue a little bit of council business”.*

## 6 POLITICAL PARTY LEADERSHIP

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

## 7 APPOINTMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

On a proposition by Councillor GR Brookes, seconded by Councillor A Sinton, 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 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.

It was proposed by Councillor A Sinton and seconded by Councillor GR Brookes, 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 2018/2019

It was proposed by Councillor A Sinton and seconded by Councillor WT Moy.

RESOLVED That the Programme of Council and Committee Meetings for 2018/2019 attached at Appendix C be approved.

10 COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

There were none.

The meeting closed at 6.45 pm.

The Mayor thanked everyone for attending and advised that she was looking forward to celebrating the start of her Mayoral year with those joining her in the John Corbett Room afterwards for light refreshments.

Chairman of Council \_\_\_\_\_  
18 June 2018

Droitwich Spa Town Council - Annual Meeting 14 May 2018

Minute 7 – Membership of Committees 2018/19

Planning Committee

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

Councillors:

G Duffy - Chairman

GR Brookes – Vice-Chairman

G Beale

Ms J Bolton

A Humphries

Mrs A Hawkins

R E Murphy

AM Sinton

Mrs C Bowden (Ex -officio)

Community & Amenities Committee

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

Councillors:

Mrs S Harris - Chairman

AH Laird– Vice-Chairman

S Best

Ms J Bolton

WT Moy

Mrs A Hawkins

Mrs K Tomalin

A Humphries

Mrs C Bowden (Ex-officio)

Resources Committee

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

Councillors:

Mrs K Tomalin - Chairman

A Humphries – Vice-Chairman

L Evans

A Sinton

G R Brookes

G Duffy

G Beale

A H Laird

Mrs C Bowden( Ex-officio)

Grants Appraisal Panel (Community & Amenities Committee)

A H Laird – Chairman

Mrs S Harris

WT Moy

A Roberts

A Humphries

A Sinton

Droitwich Spa Town Council - Annual Meeting 14 May 2018 – Minute 8

<b><u>Organisation</u></b>	<b><u>Representatives 2018/2019</u></b>
1. Droitwich Spa Twinning Association (Voiron and Bad Ems)	Cllr Mrs C Bowden -Mayor (Ex-officio) as President.
2. Droitwich Council for Voluntary Service (Executive Committee)	To be confirmed at Council 11.6.18
3. Age UK (Droitwich)	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
8. Droitwich & Rural Neighbourhood Watch Association	Councillor R G Beale



**DROITWICH SPA TOWN COUNCIL - CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2018 – 2019**

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.

MAY 2018		JUNE 2018	
07	Bank Holiday	04	<i>Grants Appraisal Panel</i>
14	Annual Council*	04	Planning Committee
28	Bank Holiday	04	Community & Amenities Committee
		04	Resources Committee
		11	Council ( <i>Annual Accounts</i> )
JULY 2018		AUGUST 2018	
02	Planning Committee	27	Bank Holiday
02	Community & Amenities Committee		
30	Planning Committee		
30	Resources Committee		
SEPTEMBER 2018		OCTOBER 2018	
03	<i>Grants Appraisal Panel</i>	15	Planning Committee
10	Planning Committee	15	Resources Committee
10	Community & Amenities Committee	29	<i>Grants Appraisal Panel [if required]</i>
24	Council		
NOVEMBER 2018		DECEMBER 2018	
12	Planning Committee	10	Planning Committee
12	Community & Amenities Committee	10	Resources Committee
JANUARY 2019		FEBRUARY 2019	
14	Planning Committee	11	Planning Committee
14	Community & Amenities Committee <i>(Budget Estimates and Precept)</i>	11	Resources Committee

14	Resources Committee <i>(Budget Estimates and Precept)</i>		
28	Council <i>(Budget Estimates and Precept)</i>		
MARCH 2019		APRIL 2019	
04	Planning Committee	01	Planning Committee
04	Community & Amenities Committee	01	Resources Committee
04	Resources Committee	14	Council
18	Town Meeting **	22	Bank Holiday
MAY 2019		JUNE 2019	
06	Bank Holiday	03	<i>Grants Appraisal Panel</i>
13	Annual Council*	10	Planning Committee
27	Bank Holiday	10	Community & Amenities Committee <i>(Sub-Committee appointments etc)</i>
		10	Resources Committee
		17	Council <i>(Annual Accounts)</i>