

Droitwich Spa Town Council

TOWN MEETING 15TH MARCH 2021

Report of the Chairman of Planning Committee

The Droitwich Spa Town Council maintains an advisory position on consultations, within the town development boundary, submitted to Wychavon District Council as the Local Planning Authority. As a council, we always try to give fair consideration to all applications with care given to the opinions and needs of our town and residents.

We do this through our Town Planning Committee which has met 10 times since the last Town Meeting and consists of nine members including the Mayor and myself. I would like to thank our Town Council Officers who track the applications and ensure we are able to make informed decisions and the members both on and off the committee who help bring local knowledge to the proceedings. With the help of our officers and elected members, the Planning Committee has consulted on 98 applications and of these 64 were recommended support, 4 were of comments only, 12 recommended refusal and 15 were already approved by WDC mostly according with the decisions made by the Local Planning Authority. We have also heard and commented on many Worcestershire County Council Road Traffic regulation orders put in place to keep our roads safe, functional and in good repair.

Our committee has changed a lot in the last twelve months. In response to the pandemic we have moved to virtual meetings, holding the first three by conference call and the following seven by video conference.

We have supported applications for King Georges playing field facilities and opposed additional development around Pulley Lane.

Supporting applications on the former Homebase Unit and applications to see work begin on medium sized industrial units off Salwarpe Road, bringing business into Droitwich.

We were amazed by the level of interest from residents as plans began for the restoration and development of the Raven Hotel site with a huge number joining a public meeting to discuss it and we were proud to reinforce, in our meeting, these comments and messages.

Through the year, we have discussed large and small applications affecting single houses, protected buildings, entire estates and our shared town center and, though some are smaller and caught the attention of fewer, none are less important. I am glad to have put my efforts towards giving each application a fair consideration, outlining the comments of those most closely affected. Leaving me now, just to thank again all Committee Members, our Town Clerk and Officers Mark, Sharon & Jane.

Yours sincerely,

Councillor George Duffy
Chairman of the Planning Committee