

# Droitwich Spa Town Council

MINUTES of the meeting of the COMMUNITY AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE held by Zoom video call on Monday 1 March 2021 at 18.25 pm.

PRESENT: Councillor Mrs C Bowden (Chairman)  
Councillor RJ Morris (Vice Chairman)  
Councillor WT Moy (Ex- officio)  
Councillor EJ Bowden  
Councillor DM Craigie  
Councillor Mrs K Fellows  
Councillor NR Griffiths  
Councillor CM Murray

NON-MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors RG Beale, GR Brookes, Mrs J Chaudry, G Duffy, J Grady, RP Hopkins, A Humphries, DJ Morris and AM Sinton.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillor AH Laird

## PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were none received

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## 251. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Cllr DM Craigie declared an interest in Agenda item 4, the Grant application for The Community Cabin Project Team due to being on the Management Committee for The Cabin.

Cllr RJ Morris declared an interest in Agenda item 4, Droitwich Spa Railway Station Adoption as he is involved in creating a Friends of Droitwich Spa Station.

## 252. TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY & AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD ON 11 JANUARY 2021

RESOLVED That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Community & Amenities Committee held on 11 January 2021 be confirmed as a correct record.

## 253. GRANTS APPRAISAL PANEL

The Committee were informed how in the absence of the scheduled Grants Appraisal Panel meetings during the last financial year, the Council had received two applications.

- The Community Cabin Project Team - £600 to purchase 16 chairs with fold out tables for meeting functions.

It was agreed to support this grant request to enable greater community use for meetings, seminars at the Community Cabin

- Droitwich Theatre and Arts Club: The Norbury Theatre - £1500.00 to be put towards the cost of replacing their heating system.

The Committee discussed this application with the understanding that The Norbury Theatre would be unable to re-open with their current heating system as it would not be Covid-19 regulation compliant. Whilst wanting to support this request the Committee agreed that reassurances would be needed that further funding was in place before the grant was issued.

RESOLVED That the Grant of £600 be issued to the Community Cabin Project Team. That the Grant of £1500 be provisionally offered to The Norbury Theatre with the proviso they confirm further funding for the project is in place.

#### 254. BAND CONCERTS

The Committee were updated by the Town Clerk how following the absence of the band concerts in the Lido Park during summer 2020 due to Covid-19 it was hoped that we would be able to plan for these to return late spring, early summer when regulations were eased. The Town Council would look to engage with the Salvation Army Band and other local bands to put together a programme. Cllr Brookes added that when the bands resumed it would be a good opportunity to revisit the suggestion for a PA system for the bandstand.

RESOLVED That the information was noted

#### 255. TREE PLANTING PROJECT

The Committee were informed how, thanks to divisional funding from County Councillor Brookes trees had been planted at Town Council owned landholdings, Copcut Park and Spring Meadow. This is to be linked to the Countryfile and Woodland Trust national planting scheme later in the spring when a ceremonial planting will take place of a tree at St Richards House.

RESOLVED The Committee thanked Cllr Brookes and all information was noted.

#### 256. COPCUT PARK UNAUTHORISED FOOTPATH

It was reported to the Committee how WCC Highways Department had erected a barrier fence on the verge of the A38, leading on to Copcut Park at the top of the embankment. This was to effectively block off access to persons using the unregistered land section of the embankment at their own risk as a cut through to the Town centre via Copcut Park. Options to barrier off the remaining access to this land at the bottom of the embankment adjacent to Town Council land holding, Copcut Park, would now need to be considered. Provision for this would be from 2021/22 budget.

RESOLVED That this information was noted and options would be considered from 2021/22 budget.

257. COMMUNITY CABIN MANAGEMENT CABIN

The Committee were updated how Due to Covid-19 and ongoing restrictions further information is awaited from the High school regarding the commencement of the Management Committee and its responsibilities. It is anticipated that a formal opening ceremony will take place for the new centre when conditions allow.

RESOLVED That the information was noted

258. DROITWICH SPA RAILWAY STATION ADOPTION

It was reported that The Town Council had had an approach from Mr Peter Chapman from Worcestershire Community Rail Partnership with regards to volunteers taking on the adoption of the Town's Railway Station. Cllr RJ Morris updated the Committee how he was currently in the process of setting up a 'Friends of Droitwich Spa Railway Station' and had been in touch with Mr Chapman with regards to combing the two initiatives once a number of volunteers had been found.

RESOLVED That Cllr Richard Morris would collaborate with Mr Chapman and update at a future Community & Amenities Committee meeting.

259. MAYFLOWER 400

The Committee were updated, how due to the continuing Covid-19 pandemic, a decision would need to be made on the already delayed Mayflower 400 Commemoration event. Consideration of contractual obligations with Mrs Caroline Davies from OPUS events was also discussed. Recommendations were put forward that as this event had been delayed for almost a year now, it would be ideal to wait until all restrictions from Covid-19 were permanently lifted and the suggestion of changing it to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II in the summer of 2022 was discussed favourably.

RESOLVED The consensus was reached to hold an alternative event to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June 2022 subject to further discussions with Mrs Davies regarding contractual obligations.

260. VISIT DROITWICH SPA PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

It had been suggested by Mrs Christine Moreton that due to the success of the shop local and countdown to Christmas initiative during December through [www.visitdroitwichspa.com](http://www.visitdroitwichspa.com) a photographic competition for the Public could be launched into spring. Provisionally this may create good public interest, provide a platform to showcase many local features and in general support the transition from Covid-19. Full details to be provided in due course.

RESOLVED That the information was noted.

The meeting concluded at 18.55 pm

Chairman of Committee .....  
14 June 2021

Chairman of Council .....  
19 April 2021