

Droitwich Spa Town Council

MINUTES of the meeting of the COMMUNITY AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE held in the Council Chamber at St Richard's House, Victoria Square, Droitwich Spa on Monday 11 September 2017 at 6.37pm.

PRESENT: Councillor Mrs S Harris (Chairman)
Councillor S Best (Ex-officio)
Councillor A M Sinton (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor Mrs C Bowden
Councillor A Humphries
Councillor A H Laird

ALSO PRESENT: Councillors T Noyes, G R Brookes, L Evans, R Murphy, W Moy and A Roberts.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Councillors Ms J H Bolton, G Duffy and Mrs K Tomalin committee members, also Councillors Mrs A Hawkins and R J Morris.

102. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest made.

103. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE HELD ON 3 JULY 2017

RESOLVED That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 3 July 2017 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

104. GRANTS APPRAISAL PANEL – RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 4 SEPTEMBER 2017

The Committee was advised that Mrs Elaine Newman (from the Leave a Lido Park Legacy Group) and Mr Neal Bates (from the Droitwich Spa Tennis Club) both attended the Appraisal Panel meeting in order to support their application which had been submitted in writing in June 2017. Clarification was provided that Wychavon District Council had responded to requests to repair and invest in the Lido park tennis courts facility in spring 2016. Details of other funding was noted, in particular that raised by the community which had been added to that provided by Wychavon District Council. The recommendation was for £2,000 which enabled the project to be completed and for the tennis coaching and participation sessions to flourish for all ages in the Town.

The next scheduled Grants Appraisal Panel meeting was scheduled for 30 October 2017 and there was £950.00 remaining in the budget for the current municipal year.

In response to questions from Councillor G R Brookes the Chairman confirmed that the project was tailored for younger players and was more community-orientated. She congratulated the project organisers for bringing a prestigious project to fruition.

RESOLVED That £2,000 be allocated for the project for the repair of Lido Park Tennis Courts.

105. DROITWICH SPA ASSET MEDIA SPONSORSHIP SCHEME - UPDATE

The Committee noted the progress to date, enquiries having been raised with Immediate Media Solutions regarding payment. As previously reported the Town Council has had cause to raise several concerns with the company including non-compliant signage, failure to ensure planning permission was in place despite assurances to the contrary and many chasers for the outcome of business leads referred across directly. As such several points remained outstanding and the overall standard of service delivery and progress was disappointing.

Immediate Solutions confirmed that revenue payments were normally made on a six monthly basis but had been delayed due to the necessity to temporarily suspend part of the scheme whilst retrospective planning permission was sought. An interim amount of £4936.76 covering from inception to 14 July 2017 was advised as being ready for payment.

This value was derived from 3 different sponsors and roundabout sites as follows:

- Richmond Restaurants , Macdonald's franchise - A38 Roman Way and A442 Kidderminster Road roundabout = £1598.56
- Mystic Isles Coaches – Ombersley Way roundabout = £2120.49
- William Davies Builders – Copcut A38 roundabout= £1217.71

In addition an invoice for £1717.75 had been issued to Immediate Media Solutions for payment with regard to reimbursement of additional costs for work connected with the temporary withdrawal and later reinstatement of signage whilst retrospective planning permission was sought. This had been paid.

Councillor A Sinton congratulated Mr M Keld, Assistant Town Clerk for his perseverance and hard work in this matter, it being a difficult project to bring to fruition.

RESOLVED

1. That the report be noted.
2. That Mr M Keld, Assistant Town Clerk be congratulated for his excellent work in bringing this project to fruition.

106. DROITWICH SPA ARTERIAL ROADS ENTRANCE SIGNS

Pursuant to Minute No 73 of the Community & Amenities meeting held on 3 July 2017, provisional enquiries had been made with two national suppliers of street furniture for initial estimates of the costs to manufacture five replacement arterial road gateway signs

for positioning in the approximate original locations. Indicative costs were considered. It was noted that matters such as planning permission and consultation with the Highways Authority required consideration.

The Committee considered that the costs were prohibitive especially as ‘Welcome to Droitwich Spa’ signage already existed. Display of the five old pictorial signs that had been removed, such as in local churches and schools was discussed.

RESOLVED

1. That no further action to reinstate the gateway signage be taken; and
2. Officers investigate the display of the old pictorial signage locally.

107. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON – SATURDAY 25 NOVEMBER 2017

Pursuant to Minute No 256 of the Community & Amenities meeting held on 6 March 2017, the Chairman and Councillor Best met with the Assistant Town Clerk on 2 August 2017 and decided to maintain the arrangements in a similar format to the past two years. The programme for the day was to be finalised ready for promotion by October. Regretfully the ongoing High Street refurbishment works meant that contingency plans were required, it being prohibitive to including a component part of the switch on event in that part of town this year.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted and the actions taken to date be endorsed.

108. WYCHAVON DISTRICT COUNCIL – OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE'S CCTV REVIEW TEAM

The recently-formed CCTV Review Team had been tasked with making recommendations on future CCTV monitoring provision in the district after 31 March 2018. As part of the team’s information-gathering process, it was to host a public discussion on 26 September 2017, 9am for 9:30am, in the Committee Rooms at the Civic Centre in Pershore. The Town Council had been asked if it wished to send a representative along.

RESOLVED

1. That Councillor G R Brookes be appointed to represent Droitwich Spa Town Council at the public discussion hosted by Wychavon District Council’s Overview and Scrutiny Committee’s CCTV Review Team.
2. That Councillor Brookes report back to the Town Council upon the current operation and any proposed changes to the future provision of CCTV in the town.

109. WEEKLY CHARTER MARKET

The three-year contract was due for renewal in October 2017. The existing operator (Mr Joe Jones of One to One Events) had confirmed verbally that he wished to continue the weekly arrangement. An expression of interest had also been received on 23 February 2017 and acknowledged from Mr Dan Tomlinson of LSD Promotions. Both operators participated in a tendering exercise and interviews for the original contract in 2014.

The Committee considered whether to renew the existing contract or to invite further applications for tender. The Town Clerk advised upon the recent experiences of Evesham Town Council in the matter.

RESOLVED That the Chairman and Vice-Chairman be delegated to enter into preliminary discussions with both Joe Jones of One to One Events and Mr Dan Tomlinson of LSD Promotions.

110. CCTV PROPOSAL FOR HERITAGE CENTRE AT ST RICHARD'S HOUSE, COPCUT PARK AND OTHER REMOTE SITE LOCATIONS

Pursuant to Minute No 76 of the Committee meeting held on 6 July 2015 and Minute No 74 of the meeting held on 3 July 2017 the Committee was advised that all related works were underway with anticipated completion by late October.

RESOLVED That the report be noted.

111. COUNCILLOR S BEST, MAYOR - REPORT ON OPTIONS FOR THE LATE MR FRANK HOLLIDAY MEMORIAL

The Committee considered a verbal report from the Mayor as to the options for a fitting memorial and lasting tribute to the late Frank Holliday.

He advised that talks with the family had identified that trees and/or benches would not be fitting memorials. Several individual suggestions had been put forward, including the dedication of the proposed St Peter's Fields Pavilion should the project to enhance it ever come to fruition, there apparently being an issue with heritage matters. Councillor G R Brookes offered his services to this end, and the Town Clerk advised that she would inform Mr Field (one of the project organisers). It was noted that the King George's Community Interest Company had arranged for suitable plaques for both the King George V and St Peter's Fields Pavilions.

In the meantime the Mayor had arranged for Finlay Holiday (grandson) to switch on the Christmas Lights, which he intended to do wearing a suitably decorated Tottenham Hotspur FC shirt, his grandfather being a lifelong fan of the team.

There then ensued a full debate on the merits or otherwise of providing a memorial trophy cup.

RESOLVED

1. That the Mayor be thanked for his very full report and actions to date.
2. That a memorial trophy cup be purchased and presented to Droitwich Football Club for use, options to be submitted to the Committee at the next meeting.

The meeting concluded at 7.30pm.

Chairman of Committee

13 November 2017

Chairman of Council

25 September 2017