

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 13 November 2017 at 6.15pm.

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

ALSO PRESENT: Councillors R G Beale, G R Brookes, T Noyes and R Murphy.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Councillors G Duffy and Mrs K Tomalin, committee members, also Councillors Mrs A Hawkins, R J Morris, W T Moy and A Roberts.

156. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Declarations of non-pecuniary interest made as follows:

- Councillors Mrs S Harris and A Humphries in Agenda Item 4 – Grants Appraisal Panel inasmuch as they were members of the Board of Trustees of Age UK;
- Councillor S Best in Agenda Item 5 Christmas Lights Switch On and Agenda Item 8 – the late Frank Holliday Memorial Trophy;
- Councillor T J Noyes – Agenda Item 7 Arterial Road Gateway Signage.

157. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE HELD ON 11 SEPTEMBER 2017

RESOLVED That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 11 September 2017 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

158. GRANTS APPRAISAL PANEL – RECOMMENDATION FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 30 OCTOBER 2017

[Councillors Mrs Harris and A Humphries declared an interest in this item as recorded in Minute No 156 above.]

The recommendation to grant £950 to Age UK, being the allocation of the remaining budget was considered.

RESOLVED That the recommendation of the Grants Appraisal Panel to grant financial assistance in the sum of £950 for Age UK, Droitwich Spa towards their local befriending service and the associated volunteers costs be approved.

159. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH-ON, SATURDAY 25TH NOVEMBER 2017

[Councillor S Best declared an interest in this item as recorded in Minute No 156 above.]

The Committee noted that pursuant to Minute No 107 of the Community & Amenities Committee Meeting held on 11 September 2017 the programme for the above forthcoming event had been arranged. This together with publicity arrangements were reviewed, feedback received over the past few years has been very positive towards a similar format and programme of attractions for this final community event of the calendar year.

In addition, options for the High Street opening were discussed, it having been confirmed by the County Council's Contractors that the enhancement works would be completed prior to the Switch-On.

[Subsequent to the meeting it was confirmed that the High Street Traders and the Droitwich Means Business Group plus Patrick Davis from the Food & Drink Festival were organising the official opening of High Street for 2 December 2017.]

RESOLVED That the report be noted and the arrangements endorsed.

160. DROITWICH SPA CHARTER MARKET

Pursuant to Minute No 109 of the Community & Amenities meeting held on 11 September 2017, the Assistant Town Clerk updated the Committee upon the discussions that had taken place, including at a meeting on 20 October attended by the Chairman and Vice Chairman. Options had been discussed and the following outline, actions and timescales agreed:

- Weekly Friday Charter Markets to continue as normal from 20 October until 15 December 2017 inclusive.
- A Christmas Festive Market on Victoria Square to operate from Saturday 16 December 2017 to Saturday 23 December 2017 inclusive trading daily, this to be at no charge.
- For the Assistant Town Clerk to contact One to One Events and also the Worcestershire Farmers Market Group separately at the beginning of March 2018 to enable options to be revisited and considered further, with a view to a full relaunch of the weekly Charter Market to coincide with Good Friday – 30 March 2018.

It was noted that One To One Events and the Farmers' Market Group had indicated that their individual circumstances may change by March 2018 and different options may be viable, including the possibility of a collaborative working approach between the two operators.

RESOLVED That the actions of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Committee for the provision of a Charter Market and a Christmas Market 2017 and the proposed way forward be endorsed.

161. ARTERIAL ROAD GATEWAY SIGNAGE

[Councillor T J Noyes declared an interest in this item as recorded in Minute No 156 above.]

Pursuant to Minute No 106 of the Community & Amenities Committee meeting held on 11 September 2017 the Committee noted that two of the five original wooden sign boards had now been allocated locally for display purposes. One sign had been released to Mr Patrick Davis and Mr Will Kerton from the Droitwich Salt Works on a short term renewable loan basis. The second sign has been loaned to Droitwich High School, History Department.

In response to the article published in the ‘Droitwich Standard’ on 22 September 2017 consideration was given to the disposal method of the signage. Several expressions of interest in the remaining three sign boards had been received and a decision was required as to appropriate recipients being offered a sign on outright sale, short term renewable loan or permanent donation terms. The two signs that had already been allocated on loan were also considered as to the method of disposal.

RESOLVED

1. That three signs be offered to the following:
 - a) One sign to Mrs Eunice Williams at St Richards Hospice in consideration that the Hospice originated in Droitwich Spa.
 - b) Two signs to Mr Alan Davey of the Probus 87 group for restoration and safe custody.
2. All five signs (including two loaned on a six months renewable term, one at Droitwich Salt Works and the other at Droitwich Spa High School – History Department) to be donated.
3. All arrangements and costs incurred being the recipient’s responsibility and further that the signs be removed from the Town Council storage by 1 December 2017.

162. COUNCILLOR S BEST, MAYOR - OPTIONS FOR THE LATE MR FRANK HOLLIDAY MEMORIAL

[Councillor S Best declared an interest in this item as recorded in Minute No 156 above.]

Pursuant to Minute No 111 of the Community & Amenities meeting held on 11 September 2017, Councillor Best confirmed that the Holliday family was very pleased with the decision to purchase and present a memorial trophy cup to Droitwich Football Club. Options were considered for the purchase of the trophy and appropriate wording.

RESOLVED

That a trophy costing approximately £100.00 be purchased and suitably engraved “The Frank Holliday Memorial Trophy” and thereafter presented to the Droitwich Football Club.

163. COMMUNITY HALL – MAIN KITCHEN GAS RANGE

Following the annual British Gas service inspection on 13 October 2017 the gas range in the Main Kitchen had been identified as not conforming to current standards and therefore was unusable on a commercial basis. As this appliance was reaching obsolescence and the gas supply had been isolated, it was

RESOLVED That the gas-fuelled range in the Main Kitchen of the Community Hall be replaced with an electric cooking range and the current gas supply capped off permanently. The new appliance to be sourced from a local electrical retailer with an appropriate warranty cover in place.

The meeting concluded at 7.15pm.

Chairman of Committee
15 January 2018

Chairman of Council
29 January 2018