

Droitwich Spa Town Council

MINUTES of the ANNUAL MEETING OF DROITWICH SPA TOWN COUNCIL
held by Zoom facility on Tuesday 4th May 2021 at 6 pm.

PRESENT: Councillor WT Moy – Mayor
Councillor R G Beale
Councillor Mrs C Bowden
Councillor E J Bowden
Councillor G R Brookes
Councillor Mrs CM Chaudry
Councillor D M Craigie
Councillor G Duffy
Councillor Mrs K Fellows
Councillor J Grady
Councillor N R Griffiths
Councillor R P Hopkins
Councillor A Humphries
Councillor A H Laird
Councillor D J Morris
Councillor RJ Morris
Councillor C M Murray
Councillor A M Sinton

The Town Clerk updated the following points prior to the commencement of the meeting

- That the meeting would be recorded for internal monitoring purposes.
- To request all present to mute their microphones when not speaking in order to reduce back ground noise and any interference.
- To request that any non - Elected Members present ensure that their individual camera is turned off in order that the vote counts for Councillors can be handled efficiently using the Zoom shared screen view.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: None

ELECTION OF MAYOR

It was proposed by Councillor G Duffy and seconded by Councillor DM Craigie that Councillor WT Moy be appointed to the office of Town Mayor.

There being no other nominations, it was

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

Councillor WT Moy, Mayor - In the Chair.

Councillor WT Moy thanked Reverend Nigel Byard for his support as Chaplin for the previous two Mayoral terms as well as reaffirming this arrangement for the ensuing year.

1 ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR

The Town Clerk updated that there were two nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor and these would be taken in the order received by voting.

It was proposed by Councillor NR Griffiths and seconded by Councillor CM Murray that Councillor A Humphries be appointed to the office of Deputy Mayor. The Town Clerk explained that this nomination had been received from Councillor RP Hopkins who was not able to join the virtual meeting at this point due to technical difficulties.

It was proposed by Councillor RJ Morris and seconded by Councillor Mrs C Bowden that Councillor G Duffy be appointed to the office of Deputy Mayor.

Following the votes it was

RESOLVED That Councillor G Duffy be duly elected Deputy Town Mayor for the ensuing municipal year.

2 VOTE OF THANKS TO OUTGOING DEPUTY MAYOR

The Chairman read out the attached statement, proposed the vote of thanks and congratulated Councillor RG Beale the outgoing Deputy Mayor on his year in office. This was seconded by Councillor G Duffy.

RESOLVED That a Vote of Thanks to Councillor RG Beale for his year as Deputy Mayor 2020/2021 be given.

3 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
Councillor RP Hopkins, Liberal Democrat

4 APPOINTMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

The Town Clerk updated that for the ensuing Year, the Planning Committee, Community & Amenities Committee and Grants Appraisal Sub - Committee had a proposal to remain unchanged. The Resources Committee had a proposed change of Chairman to Councillor Mrs K Fellows and Vice Chairman to Councillor DM Craigie. On a proposition by Councillor E Bowden, seconded by Councillor J Grady, it was

RESOLVED (1) That the three Standing Committees be constituted as follows, each having nine members, Mayor as ex-officio on each: The Grants Sub Committee comprises six members.

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.

Councillor A Humphries requested for it to be recorded in the minutes that the changes only affected the Resources Committee and asked for what reason the changes had been considered. Through the Chairman the Town Clerk responded that the Annual Council Meeting presented the opportunity to review the arrangements for membership of each of the Town Council Standing Committees and these considerations had been taken forward through liaison with the Leader.

The updated list following resolution would be circulated to all Elected Members following the meeting.

5 REPRESENTATION ON OTHER BODIES

The list of representatives on other bodies was considered. The Town Clerk updated on two amendments, these being to the name details for the following Groups,

Droitwich Arts Network & Arts for All.
Droitwich Spa Neighbourhood Plan Group

The Town Clerk updated on the following proposed changes,
For Droitwich Spa Area Young People's Action Group the addition of Councillor DM Craigie with Councillor RJ Morris also maintained.
For Droitwich Spa Neighbourhood Plan Group the change to Councillor GR Brookes.

It was proposed by Councillor G Duffy and seconded by Councillor Mrs K Fellows, that the amended nominations be approved.

RESOLVED That the list of Representatives on Outside Bodies attached at Appendix B be approved.

Councillor A Humphries asked for what reason the changes had been considered. Through the Chairman the Town Clerk responded that the Annual Council Meeting presented the opportunity to review the arrangements for representation. These considerations had been taken forward through liaison with the Leader.
Councillor NR Griffiths added that in his opinion Councillor A Humphries had undertaken the Resources Committee Chairmanship and Representative Role for the Droitwich Spa Neighbourhood Plan Group well.

6 PROGRAMME OF COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS 2021/2022

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs C Bowden and seconded by Councillor G Duffy.

RESOLVED That the Programme of Council and Committee Meetings for
2021/2022 attached as Appendix C be approved.

7 COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

Summary attached.

Councillor RP Hopkins explained that he had joined the meeting late due to technical difficulties encountered logging on to the Zoom call.

The meeting closed at 6.25 pm.

Chairman of Council _____
21 June 2021

VOTE OF THANKS TO THE OUTGOING DEPUTY MAYOR.

When Councillor Graham Beale was elected as Deputy Town Mayor, he kindly accepted with, I believe, great pride and pleasure.

As a past Town Mayor, Graham knew the ropes and assisted me with the dignity and steadfastness required in the role.

Graham stood in for me on occasions , if and when required, and carried out his duties with great pleasure and showing the pride for our Town we have all come to expect.

Sadly, as we all know, Graham became unwell at the lead up to Christmas which cumulated in a long stay in the Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

Unfortunately, although recovering well, Graham decided that continuing in his role may be a little too onerous at this time and has offered his resignation as Deputy Mayor.

I am very pleased to report however that Graham does intend to continue his work as a Town Councillor, so we can all look forward to his banter and good humoured wit, in the Council Chamber in times to come.

I feel sure I speak for us all in saying thank you Graham for your help and support and wish you ongoing good health.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR.

Firstly, may I thank you all for electing me as Town Mayor for the ensuing and hopefully my final year in office.

I can confirm I am more than happy to continue, in what was and continues to be a very difficult time for us all. Having said that, I do believe that the situation will improve and that I shall be able to carry out my normal duties in representing our Town. Also I shall hopefully be in a position to arrange a few functions to top up my charities account.

It is wonderful to report on the Royal visit by Princess Ann, The Princess Royal, last week to Droitwich Rugby club in recognition of the great charitable work carried out by it's members during the pandemic. Unfortunately, given the current rules on large gatherings, I could not be invited to go along as would have been in order pre Covid. I feel sure the visit was a huge boost for all involved and very much deserved.

On a completely different topic, I am pleased to inform that the SOBBS campaign to bring back our Brine Baths is moving along at a pace following recent developments, and that a positive outcome may be expected in the near future. Given this and the brine baths association with the Town Prospectus, I would like to think that all Town and District Councillors will give SOBBS their full support moving forward.

THANK YOU ALL.

DROITWICH SPA TOWN COUNCIL**STANDING COMMITTEES****Planning Committee****2021/22**

G Duffy - Chairman
G R Brookes – Vice-Chairman
G Beale
Mrs C Bowden
Mrs K Fellows
J Grady
R P Hopkins
A Humphries
Mayor (Ex officio)

Community & Amenities Committee**2021/22**

Mrs C Bowden - Chairman
R J Morris – Vice-Chairman
E J Bowden
D M Craigie
Mrs K Fellows
N R Griffiths
A H Laird
C M Murray
Mayor (Ex officio)

Resources Committee**2021/22**

Mrs K Fellows - Chairman
D M Craigie – Vice-Chairman
R G Beale
E J Bowden
G R Brookes
Mrs J Chaudry
A Humphries
R P Hopkins
Mayor (Ex- officio)

SUB-COMMITTEES, WORKING PARTIES AND PANELS

GRANTS APPRAISAL PANEL (COMMUNITY & AMENITIES COMMITTEE)

2021/22

R J Morris – Chairman (V-Ch C&A)
Mrs C Bowden
E J Bowden
A H Laird
C M Murray
Mayor (Ex officio)

Representatives on Outside Bodies

<u>Organisation</u>	<u>Representatives 2021/22</u>
Droitwich Arts Network & Arts for All	Cllr GA Duffy
Fair Trade Organisation (Droitwich Branch)	Cllr NR Griffiths
Droitwich Spa Area Young People's Action Group	Cllrs RJ Morris & DM Craigie
Youth Council	Cllr RJ Morris
Droitwich Spa Twinning Association (Voiron & Bad Ems)	Mayor (Ex Officio) as President
Droitwich Spa Neighbourhood Plan Group (including responsibility for communication & liaison)	Cllr GR Brookes
High School Community Cabin Management Committee	Cllrs DM Craigie & RP Hopkins
Friends of Droitwich Spa Railway Station	Cllr RJ Morris

DROITWICH SPA TOWN COUNCIL - CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2021 – 2022

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.

Please note:

1. The Annual Accounts must be approved by Council by 30 June in each year.
2. Precept requests, and therefore the Financial Estimates for the following year, are now to be finalised by the end of January each year.

MAY 2021		JUNE 2021	
03	Bank Holiday	07	<i>Grants Appraisal Panel</i>
04	Annual Council*	14	Planning Committee
		14	Community & Amenities Committee
		14	Resources Committee
31	Bank Holiday	21	Council (<i>Annual Accounts</i>)
JULY 2021		AUGUST 2021	
05	Planning Committee	30	Bank Holiday
05	Community & Amenities Committee		
26	Planning Committee		
26	Resources Committee		
SEPTEMBER 2021		OCTOBER 2021	
06	<i>Grants Appraisal Panel</i>	11	Planning Committee
13	Planning Committee	11	Resources Committee
13	Community & Amenities Committee	25	<i>Grants Appraisal Panel [if required]</i>
27	Council		
NOVEMBER 2021		DECEMBER 2021	
08	Planning Committee	06	Planning Committee
08	Community & Amenities Committee	06	Resources Committee
		13	Council
JANUARY 2022		FEBRUARY 2022	
10	Planning Committee	07	Planning Committee
10	Community & Amenities Committee (<i>Budget Estimates and Precept</i>)	07	Resources Committee
10	Resources Committee (<i>Budget Estimates and Precept</i>)	28	Planning Committee
24	Council (<i>Budget Estimates and Precept</i>)	28	Community & Amenities Committee
		28	Resources Committee
MARCH 2022		APRIL 2022	
14	Town Meeting **	11	Planning Committee
		11	Resources Committee
		15	Bank Holiday
		18	Bank Holiday
		25	Council
MAY 2022		JUNE 2022	
02	Bank Holiday	02	Bank Holiday
09	Annual Council*	03	Bank Holiday
		06	<i>Grant Appraisal Panel</i>
		13	Planning Committee
		13	Community & Amenities Committee

			<i>(Sub-Cttee appointments etc)</i>
		13	Resources Committee
		20	Council <i>(Annual Accounts)</i>