

Droitwich Spa Town Council

MINUTES of the ANNUAL MEETING OF DROITWICH SPA TOWN COUNCIL
held in the Community Hall, Heritage Way, Droitwich Spa
on Monday 13 May 2019 at 6 pm.

PRESENT: Councillor Mrs C Bowden – Mayor
Councillor R G Beale
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 W T Moy
Councillor C M Murray
Councillor A M Sinton

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillor RJ Morris and Councillor J Riaz- Mayor of Worcester City, Councillor B Thomas-Leader of Wychavon District Council and Mr Peter Pinfield.

ELECTION OF MAYOR

It was proposed by Councillor GR Brookes and seconded by Councillor A Humphries 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.

Councillors Mrs C Bowden and WT Moy retired from the meeting and exchanged robes.

Upon return, Councillor WT Moy made the statutory acceptance of office before the Town Clerk.

Councillor WT Moy, Mayor - In the Chair.

The Mayor introduced his wife Mrs Dilys Moy as his Consort and presented her with the badge of office.

1 ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR

It was proposed by Councillor GR Brookes and seconded by Councillor A Humphries that Councillor RG Beale be appointed to the office of Deputy Mayor.

There being no other nominations, it was

RESOLVED That Councillor RG Beale be duly elected Deputy Town Mayor for the ensuing municipal year.

Councillor RG Beale signed the acceptance of office before the Town Clerk and then the Mayor presented him with the Deputy Mayor's badge of office.

2 VOTE OF THANKS TO OUTGOING MAYOR

Councillor A Sinton proposed the vote of thanks and congratulated Councillor Mrs C Bowden the outgoing Mayor, on her year in office.

Vote of thanks to Councillor Mrs C Bowden, the outgoing Mayor of Droitwich Spa
"Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen

It gives me great pleasure to propose a vote of thanks to our outgoing Mayor Mrs Christine Bowden. You have already heard her speak of being described as down-to-earth by somebody she met at a mayoral function recently. I know Chris you are not sure whether this was a compliment or not so I am going to put your mind at rest. I decided to look up what the phrase meant and here are some of the answers I got from Google:

Down-to-earth means being open and honest. It is easy to deal with someone who is down-to-earth. A person who is down-to-earth is a pleasure to find. He or she accepts other people as equals. A down-to-earth person is the opposite of someone who acts with self-importance and arrogance. Down-to-earth people can be important members of society but they do not consider themselves to be better than others who are less important. They do not let their importance go to their heads. Down-to-earth people have a good understanding of reality. They have common sense. They may have dreams but that does not allow them to block their understanding of what is real. They do not have their noses in the air. They act honestly and openly to others. Their lives are like the ground below us -- solid and strong.

So Chris the person who described you as down-to-earth was actually paying you a great compliment and I have to say on behalf of your colleagues on the Town Council I am sure we all totally agree with his or her sentiments. You have been an excellent ambassador for our Town as you attended multiple events in Droitwich Spa and beyond. You have always shown great enthusiasm for everything you have done during your year as you enjoyed the great multitude of experiences which being Mayor affords. You organised a selection of enjoyable events to raise money for your charities which were very successful both financially and socially. You have kept us all in order very ably during our council meetings. You do not need me to tell you that one or two of them have been interesting to say the least but you have never lost your patience and dignity in dealing with could have been potentially difficult situations.

In proposing this vote of thanks I must not of course forget your consort Eric and the rest of your family. I know you have really appreciated the support they have given you so well last 12 months. I think it would be true to say that they have enjoyed your year of office as much as you have.

I know that you are disappointed to have reached the end of your year but you can hand over to your successor Bill safe in the knowledge that your contribution to our town has been appreciated by everybody you came into contact with. You will remember your year of office with great affection and you will share your memories fondly for many years to come. Will we remember you as a down-to-earth Mayor? Perhaps. Will we remember you as a successful and exemplary Mayor? Definitely. Chris-on behalf of the Town-thank you."

This was seconded by Councillor A Humphries.

RESOLVED That a Vote of Thanks to Councillor Mrs C Bowden for her year as Mayor 2018/2019 be given.

Whereupon the Mayor presented Councillor Mrs C Bowden with the Past Mayor's Jewel.

3 REPLY BY THE OUTGOING MAYOR

Councillor Mrs C Bowden responded by advising that it had been a great honour to wear the chain of office and to represent the Town throughout the year. She wished the new Mayor a very enjoyable term of office. Councillor Mrs C Bowden personally thanked the Town Council Officers – Mrs Jane Greenfield, Miss Sharon Abbott and Mark Keld. To finish Councillor Mrs C Bowden referred to the following statement.

“The past year has been one of the best years of my life.

I have felt so honoured to represent this town as Mayor.

I have attended a wide variety of events, from opening new shops to switching on the Christmas lights, visiting schools, remembrance Sunday parade, and of course opening all our festivals.

I have raised over £3700 for my 3 charities, and met many interesting people, although one gentleman I met said it was nice to talk to a 'down to earth' Mayor.

I don't know if he meant I was common or what, but I hope he meant it as a compliment.

Bill, I hope you enjoy your year as much as I have mine. This really is a great town to represent.

Oh and Bill, say hello to the 'chain gang' for me. (for those not in the know, the chain gang are all the Other Mayors).

I must thank Jane, Sharon and Mark for all their help and support, I will miss our Wednesday meetings. Thanks for my year”.

4 ADDRESS BY THE TOWN MAYOR

The Mayor welcomed everyone and made the following Address:

Speech of Acceptance, 13th May 2019.

“

INITIALLY I WOULD LIKE TO THANK MY FELLOW COUNCILLORS FOR ELECTING ME AS MAYOR OF DROITWICH SPA FOR THE UPCOMING TERM IN OFFICE. I FIRST JOINED DROITWICH TOWN COUNCIL IN MAY 2017 AND HAVE ENJOYED WORKING WITH THEM ALL, I FEEL SURE THAT RELATIONSHIP WILL CONTINUE AND I HOPE THE NEWLY ELECTED MEMBERS WILL ENJOY THE SAME EXPERIENCE.

NO TOWN COUNCIL CAN WORK EFFECTIVELY WITHOUT SUPPORT FROM ITS OFFICERS SO I WOULD LIKE TO THANK OUR TOWN CLERK, MARK AND HIS ASSISTANTS SHARON AND JANE. THEY ALL WORK VERY HARD FOR THE TOWN AND ITS COUNCILLORS TO KEEP DROITWICH SPA RUNNING LIKE A “WELL OILED BRINE PUMP.”

MANY THANKS OF COURSE GO TO OUR OUTGOING MAYOR, CHRISTINE, ALONG WITH HER CONSORT ERIC.

CHRISTINE HAS WORKED INCREDIBLY HARD DURING HER TERM IN OFFICE, WITH ERIC WALKING THE REGULATORY TWO PACES BEHIND, HANDS FIRMLY CLASPED AT HIS BACK, ONLY TO STOP BRIEFLY, NOW AND THEN TO COLLECT FLOWERS AND CHOCOLATES FROM THE ADMIRING CROWDS.

MY WIFE DILYS HAS AGREED TO BE MY CONSORT AND I KNOW SHE WILL SUPPORT ME AS EVER. SHE HAS PUT UP WITH ME FOR MANY YEARS NOW BUT NEVER WHILE I'VE BEEN WEARING A RED ROBE AND TRICORN HAT!

MY DAUGHTER HELENA HAS ALSO AGREED TO HELP OUT, IF NECESSARY, PROBABLY ON THE "NIGHT SHIFT"

NIGEL BYARD HAS KINDLY AGREED TO BE MY CHAPLAIN FOR THE DURATION AND INVITATIONS WILL BE SENT OUT FOR THE CIVIC SERVICE TO BE CONDUCTED AT ST ANDREWS CHURCH.

I HAVE CHOSEN THREE CHARITIES FOR THE YEAR, THESE BEING SOBBS, FODSL & DROITWICH STROKE CLUB.

IN CONCLUSION, IT HAS TO BE SAID, I AM PROUD AND HONOURED TO HAVE BEEN CHOSEN AS YOUR MAYOR FOR THE UPCOMING TERM AND I WILL DO MY UTMOST TO CARRY OUT MY DUTIES IN REPRESENTING YOU AND OUR WONDERFUL TOWN OF DROITWICH SPA.

AND NOW, MACE BEARERS, YOU MAY STAND DOWN WHILST WE CONTINUE WITH COUNCIL BUSINESS.

5 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

6 APPOINTMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

On a proposition by Councillor AM Sinton, seconded by Councillor RP Hopkins, 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.

7 REPRESENTATION ON OTHER BODIES

The list of representatives on other bodies was considered.

It was proposed by Councillor AM Sinton and seconded by Councillor GR Brookes, that the amended list of nominations be approved.

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

8 PROGRAMME OF COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS 2019/2020

It was proposed by Councillor A Humphries and seconded by Councillor AM Sinton.

RESOLVED That the Programme of Council and Committee Meetings for 2019/2020 attached as Appendix C be approved.

9 COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

There were none.

The meeting closed at 6.55 pm.

The Mayor thanked everyone for attending and advised that he was looking forward to celebrating the start of his Mayoral year with those joining him in the John Corbett Room afterwards for light refreshments.

Chairman of Council _____
17 June 2019

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Minute 6 – Membership of Committees 2019/20

Planning Committee

(9 Members, including The Mayor, Ex-officio)

Councillors:

G Duffy - Chairman
GR Brookes – Vice-Chairman
G Beale
EJ Bowden
J Grady
RP Hopkins
A Humphries
AM Sinton
WT Moy- Mayor (Ex -officio)

Community & Amenities Committee

(9 Members, including The Mayor, Ex-officio)

Councillors:

Mrs C Bowden- Chairman
RJ Morris– Vice-Chairman
E Bowden
DM Craigie
Mrs K Fellows
NR Griffiths
AH Laird
CM Murray
WT Moy – Mayor (Ex-officio)

Resources Committee

(9 Members, including The Mayor, Ex-officio)

Councillors:

A Humphries- Chairman
AM Sinton – Vice-Chairman
RG Beale
E Bowden
G R Brookes
Mrs JM Chaudry
DM Craigie
RP Hopkins
WT Moy- Mayor (Ex-officio)

Grants Appraisal Panel (Community & Amenities Committee)

(6 Members,)

RJ Morris – Chairman
Mrs C Bowden
EJ Bowden
AH Laird
WT Moy- Mayor
CM Murray

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<u>Organisation</u>	<u>Representatives 2019/2020</u>
1. Droitwich Spa Twinning Association (Voiron and Bad Ems)	Cllr WT Moy -Mayor (Ex-officio) as President.
2. Droitwich Spa Arts Network and Arts for All	Cllr G Duffy
3. Coventry Homes	To be confirmed
4. Fair Trade Organisation (Droitwich Branch)	To be confirmed
5. Droitwich Spa Area Young People's Action Group	Cllr R J Morris
6. Droitwich & Rural Neighbourhood Watch Association	Cllr R G Beale

DROITWICH SPA TOWN COUNCIL - CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2019 – 2020

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 2019		JUNE 2019	
06	Bank Holiday	03	<i>Grants Appraisal Panel</i>
13	Annual Council*	10	Planning Committee
27	Bank Holiday	10	Community & Amenities Committee
		10	Resources Committee
		17	Council (<i>Annual Accounts</i>)
JULY 2019		AUGUST 2019	
01	Planning Committee	26	Bank Holiday
01	Community & Amenities Committee		
29	Planning Committee		
29	Resources Committee		
SEPTEMBER 2019		OCTOBER 2019	
02	<i>Grants Appraisal Panel</i>	14	Planning Committee
09	Planning Committee	14	Resources Committee
09	Community & Amenities Committee	28	<i>Grants Appraisal Panel [if required]</i>
23	Council		
NOVEMBER 2019		DECEMBER 2019	
11	Planning Committee	09	Planning Committee
11	Community & Amenities Committee	09	Resources Committee
		16	Council
JANUARY 2020		FEBRUARY 2020	
13	Planning Committee	10	Planning Committee
13	Community & Amenities Committee <i>(Budget Estimates and Precept)</i>	10	Resources Committee
13	Resources Committee <i>(Budget Estimates and Precept)</i>		
27	Council (<i>Budget Estimates and Precept</i>)		
MARCH 2020		APRIL 2020	
02	Planning Committee	06	Planning Committee
02	Community & Amenities Committee	06	Resources Committee
02	Resources Committee	13	Bank Holiday
16	Town Meeting **	20	Council
MAY 2020		JUNE 2020	
04	Bank Holiday	01	<i>Grants Appraisal Panel</i>
11	Annual Council*	08	Planning Committee
25	Bank Holiday	08	Community & Amenities Committee <i>(Sub-Cttee appointments etc)</i>
		08	Resources Committee
		15	Council (<i>Annual Accounts</i>)