

Droitwich Spa Town Council

St Richard's House
Victoria Square
Droitwich Spa
Worcs
WR9 8DS

27 June 2023

Telephone: 01905 774258
www.droitwichspa.gov.uk

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the **COMMUNITY AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE** to be held at the Council Chamber, St Richards House, Victoria Square, Droitwich Spa on Monday 3 July 2023 at 6.15pm or at the close of the meeting of the Planning Committee if later.



Mark Keld
Town Clerk

PUBLIC SESSION

Members of the public are invited to attend the committee meeting. Time is set aside at 5.45pm to receive views or questions on issues on this agenda, or raise issues for future consideration before the start of the Committee meeting. Notice of these should be lodged with the Town Clerk by 1pm that same day at the latest. Members of the public may not take part in the committee meeting. Town Council Meetings are recorded for monitoring purposes.

NOTES

(1) Webcasting Members of the Council are reminded that meetings of the Council are Webcast on the Internet and will be stored electronically and accessible through the Council's Website. Members of the public are informed that if they attend this meeting their images and speech may be captured by the recording equipment used for the Webcast and may also be stored electronically and accessible through the Council's Website.

(2) This Meeting will be webcast and live streamed on the Internet. It is anticipated that all Full Council and Committee Meetings will be live streamed from June 2023 onwards.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Declarations of Interest
3. To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 12 June 2023 [*previously circulated*].
4. Droitwich Bereavement Café - To receive an update from Gina Pilley representing the St Vincent de Paul Society (England and Wales) Charity with regard to the Droitwich Bereavement Café launching on Tuesday 11th July 2023. The update for the new venture is also pursuant to minute reference 32/2023-2024 of the Community & Amenities Committee

Meeting from 12th June 2023 and the award of Community Grant Funding - recommended from 5th and approved on 12th June 2023[*for information*].

5. Droitwich Ukraine Connections – Details are enclosed for the Celebration of the Friendships and Connections that have been made in Droitwich Spa with the Ukrainian Community during the past year. The Event takes place at the Droitwich Working Men’s Club on Friday 14th July from 6.30pm to 8.30pm [*for information*].

6. Trees Height Reduction Proposal – Copcut Park /Coleford Walk – Pursuant to minute reference 37/2023-2024 of the Community & Amenities Committee Meeting held on 12th June 2023, to confirm that the works have been arranged for week commencing 10th July 2023. The schedule is as previously outlined involving two operatives and access platform equipment hired in. It is anticipated to complete the Coleford Walk and the Lahn Drive/ Copcut Park works within the allocated period [*for information*].

7. Reports of Anti – social behaviour at Copcut Park - Reports have been received that groups of younger people have been congregating at the picnic tables during the evenings at Copcut Park. Residents have reported anti- social behaviour including drinking, loud music and littering. Sadly there has also been considerable damage to Town Council assets including the breaking off of several newly planted blossom trees, breakages and graffiti on the picnic tables & signage and littering of the parkland & pond. The trees had been planted as part of the Plant It Britain and Countryfile National initiatives and included a special Holm Oak Tree donated by County Councillor Tony Miller for the Late Queens Platinum Jubilee Celebrations in June 2022. The damage to the trees is considered to be irreversible and no replacements are being considered for the time being whilst these issues prevail. The Police Crime Reference Report Number from online reporting is - DP-26464-23-2222-01. Any information relating to the circumstances and/or details of those persons responsible should be notified to the Police or Town Council in order to assist with the enquiries [*for information*].

8. Visit Droitwich Spa – Tourism Website. To update that an additional new page has recently been added featuring information provided by “Uncover Britain”. The link is attached as follows <https://www.visitdroitwichspa.com/do/worcestershire-road-trip/>

Pursuant to minute reference 40/2023-2024 of the Community & Amenities Committee meeting of 12th June 2023, this is the second of a series of new editorial articles being collated and published. The articles are being profiled through the Tourism website and connected social media to help promote local and wider tourism opportunities for visitors this summer [*for information*].

9. Westwood Lodge Allotments Site. To update that there are currently issues affecting the large Communal Cabin building on the site. This structure is used by the Allotment Association for their storage purposes. There are concerns regarding the use of the building for excessive storage and that the structural integrity is possibly compromised through age, weathering and water ingress. An approach has recently been taken forward to the Allotment Association seeking their cooperation on these matters. Simultaneously a professional opinion is being arranged to ascertain the structural soundness and viable scope of economic repair for the building. Further information will be updated in due course [*for information*].

10. D Day 80 Anniversary Guide – 6th June 2024. Pursuant to minute reference 48/2023-24 of the Community & Amenities Meeting held on 12th June 2023 further information is now provided from the Pageant Master. The full guide document is attached for information. Members are asked to consider agreement and delegation for Officers to proceed with the next steps for Registration to accord with the message from the Prime Minister encouraging Communities to participate in Commemoration of the 80th Anniversary of the D Day Landings. Relevant pages from the guide are page 3 (Prime Ministers Message), 4 & 5 (Commemoration Event introduction) and 20 (for Charity confirmations). Registration is pages 31 and 32 and follows a similar format to the National Beacon Trail arrangements for the late Queens Platinum Jubilee Celebrations in June 2022 [*full guide document attached*].
11. West Midlands Mayors Community Weekend – 9th & 10th September 2023. Further to details circulated to Elected Members on 23 May 2023 the National Lottery Community Fund are offering grants of up to £2,000 to Groups to organise events on the weekend. The brief is to offer activities which bring communities together, to strengthen existing connections and provide opportunities for networking. The Town Council qualifies for eligibility as a Statutory Body and applications had to be lodged by 7th June 2023. The Town Clerk has registered an application on 23 May 2023. The grant contribution decision has been favourable which will enable arrangements and publicity to proceed. Pursuant to minute reference 42/2023-2024 of the Community & Amenities Committee meeting held on 12th June 2023, the suggestion is to host a Community Picnic afternoon in Lido Park on Sunday 10th September with the Bands in the Park performance. This would be similar to the Coronation weekend event organised on 7th May 2023 which was well received and attended by the public [*for information*].
12. Moment of Poignancy & Reflection for Alfie Steele – An approach has been received on 20th June 2023 from a Family representative for the Town Council to help guide and support with facilitating a befitting memorial service. The provisional preference from the Family is for a short Community Memorial Service presided on by Reverend Laura Handy at the Lido Park Band Stand at 5pm on Sunday 16th July 2023. This will follow the scheduled Sunday Band Concert. The details are all subject to final confirmation. Once finalised the arrangements will be notified including to Wychavon District Council with regard to the Parks permission [*for information*].
13. John Heminge 400th Anniversary 2023- Pursuant to Minute Reference 45//2023-2024 of the Community & Amenities Committee meeting held on 12th June 2023, to update on the following points. To report that the following options are currently being taken forward to mark the anniversary and Droitwich Spa connections.
- (a) Scope being investigated and pursued with St Peters Church for consideration to provide and locate a commemorative plaque and inscription, commenced in April 2023. An update has been requested from the Church regarding the progress for the granting of permissions in late June. The process through the Church requires a faculty to be granted by the DAC (Diocesan Advisory Committee). This is the equivalent of planning permission within Church premises and can take time to complete.
 - (b) The Arrangements for a dedicated exhibition and freely accessible display of the First Folio at the Heritage Centre/ Museum. This is considered important to mark the anniversary year and in keeping with the strong local connections, Civic Pride and Legacy. It is hoped to feature advance publicity to align with other national arrangements for the John Heminge 400th Anniversary, similar to those aspects taking

place in Stratford upon Avon and London. The tentative date for the Heritage Centre exhibition is 11th September to 18th November 2023.

- (c) A further meeting is being arranged between the Heritage Managers and Mr John Armstrong to help take the initiatives forward. Other suggestions made for consideration include the wider arrangements to enlist a Theatre Company to present a performance of one of the First Folio Plays. Different Venue and collaboration options have been suggested including - the High School, Norbury Theatre or open air at the Salt Fest in September.

[for information]

14. Public Art Murals – Ombersley Way and Briar Mill Underpasses – Pursuant to minute reference 49/2023-2024 of the Community & Amenities Committee meeting held on 12th June 2023 arrangements have now been coordinated for the repair and protection of the murals. The Artist intends to repair the designs damaged and affected by graffiti during May and simultaneously contractors will apply a coating of anti- graf protection. This has taken time to arrange following the testing of a suitable protecting product in June which conforms to the abrasive and ribbed surface wall construction of these two underpasses. The work is scheduled for early July and will take approximately one week to complete. Access through the underpasses will be restricted during this time but remain passable for the public. The work is facilitated by the Town Council making the arrangements with WDC, WCC, the Artist and Contractors *[for information]*.

Distribution:

All Members of the Community & Amenities Committee

Councillors: -

Mrs C Bowden (Chairman)

DI Davidson

RJ Morris (Vice-Chairman)

GA Duffy

EJ Bowden

VP Humphries

SJ Brazier

Mrs K Fellows (Ex Officio)

PD Clements

Copy to All Other Town Councillors

Agenda for Information to:

County & District Councillors for Droitwich Spa, Subscribers, Press