

Droitwich Spa Town Council

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

9 January 2024

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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 15 January 2024 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.

A G E N D A

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 6th November 2023 [*previously circulated*].
4. Community Grants - To receive and consider the recommendations made by the Grants Appraisal Committee from the meeting held on 8th January 2024 [*schedule attached*].
5. Estimates 2024/2025 and Review of Charges - The Committee is invited to consider the Council's Estimates 2024/2025 for services, fees and charges within its remit [*report enclosed – nb required for Resources Committee meeting also*]

6. Worcestershire Wildlife Trust /Natural Networks. Pursuant to draft minute reference 189-2023/2024 of the Committee meeting held on 6th November 2023, to confirm that a working group delegation meeting has taken place on Friday 8th December 2023. A follow up site visit and further meeting has been arranged for Friday 19th January 2024 to Copcut Park and Spring Meadow in order to help visualise the ideas & scope towards final preparation of the recommendations being considered. This meeting will be supported by Officers from WCC and the Wildlife Trust. Thereafter it is anticipated to present finalised recommendations as part of the next scheduled C & A Committee Meeting on 26th February 2024, including the options for funding applications through the WCC/Worcestershire Wildlife Trust – Natural Networks scheme. Part of the funding opportunity has been announced as increasing from 40% to 70% as at 2nd January 2024. The application process has been registered with WCC following confirmation of Scheme eligibility and in preparation for submission as at 9 January 2024 *[for information]*.

7. Friday Weekly Charter Market - Pursuant to draft minute reference 199-2023/2024 of the Committee meeting held on 6th November 2023, to confirm that a working group delegation meeting has taken place on Friday 1st December 2023 to complete an interim review of the arrangements with the Operators. The consensus of opinion was that the Charter Market is a popular community attraction each week and brings footfall and commerce to the Town Centre. Various ideas were discussed for developing the layout and choice at the Market including a publicity campaign focusing on a Spring Time relaunch ready for the Easter Weekend. Further delegation Group meetings are scheduled for 1st March 2024 for the spring time campaign and 14th June 2024 for the next 6 months review. Notes from the December meeting are attached *[for information]*.

8. Former Raven Hotel Site - Following further reported incidents of trespass and anti-social behaviour on the site and buildings recently, and notably interventions required on Saturday 25th November 2023 during the Annual Christmas Lights Event, dialogue has continued with Agencies to improve the security. A CPNW (Community Protection Notice Warning) was served in early December due to the number of occasions the Raven Hotel has been found to be insecure and the danger posed both to those persons gaining entry and the general public, due to the deteriorating condition of the buildings. The Police and Fire Service asked the Town Clerk to support the arrangements for an urgent Agencies discussion through contacting Wychavon District Council on 8th December 2023. The request was acknowledged and endeavours taken forward to arrange the meeting week commencing 11th December 2023.

Some tangible measures are evident week commencing 11th December 2023 including a pedestrian & traffic cordon in place on St Andrews Street to protect against insecure overhead masonry and falling roof tiles and upgraded strengthening of hoarding covers to windows and doorways. Wooden hoarding has also been fitted to the existing perimeter railings on St Andrews Road and some CCTV *[for information]*.

9. German Twinning. The German Twinning Association has updated on 27 November 2023 that following a successful trip to Bad Ems in 2023 to coincide with the 40th Anniversary of the Towns twinning arrangements, they shall be hosting a return visiting delegation this year. The visitors from Bad Ems will be staying from 30th May to 3rd June 2024 and the hosts are preparing a programme for their time in Droitwich Spa. To this effect the German Twinning Association have requested consideration by the Town Council for the following two points,
 - To reciprocate for the presentation to Droitwich Spa of the 40th anniversary flag in September 2023 with a gift of flag bearing the Town Crest/ Insignia.

- For the Mayor to host a reception for the German Twinning Association Committee Meeting at the St Richards House Council Chamber on Sunday morning 2nd June 2024 at 10.00am.

10. Museum Association Conference on Exhibition Design – To confirm that the Heritage Managers will attend the Event to be held on 7th February 2024 in London. Details are available through the link,

<https://www.museumsassociation.org/events/show-time-designing-great-exhibitions-2024/#>

Discounted tickets have been arranged through Membership of the Museums Association within the scheme of Museums with an operating budget of below £102,500 per annum. The exhibition will support networking and opportunities towards various current initiatives including Community Legacy and support maintaining the accreditation standards for the Museum *[for information]*.

11. Wychavon District Council Community Legacy Grant Opportunities 2024 – Museum and Heritage Centre Application. Pursuant to draft minute reference 232/2023-24 of Full Council on 18th December 2023, to confirm that the Stage One (expression of interest) application for the Museum project is currently being prepared for submission. It is anticipated to complete the application by 25th January 2024.

12. Community Hall – John Corbett Room Improvements – Councillor GR Brookes has requested consideration for acoustic treatment (sound suppression measures) for the hall and for a replacement projector screen and down lighter. These measures are to improve the existing arrangements and to help encourage use of the facilities by Community Groups – particularly for slide and video presentations. Councillor Brookes has generously offered some contribution towards these improvements from the 2023/2024 County Councillors Divisional Fund.

To consider a mandate to proceed including the pricing of the acoustic panelling, replacement projector screen and down lighter to purchase with installation costs.

13. D Day 80 Anniversary Event – 6th June 2024. To note that pursuant to Minute reference 133 of the Community & Amenities Committee meeting held on 11th September 2023 to confirm official registration for the Event scheduled for 6th June 2024 through the Pageantry Office. To consider a Working Party delegation to progress the full event arrangements, which will be reported at the forthcoming Committee Meetings *[for information]*.

14. Band Concerts Programme 2024. To note that the schedule of concerts for 2024 is currently being arranged. The draft will run for 20 weekends again this year commencing from Sunday 5th May until 15th September. Full details and publicity will follow from Easter *[for information]*.

15. Westwood Allotments Site – Allotment Association Communal Shed - Pursuant to minute reference number 132c 2023/2024 of the Committee meeting held on 11th September 2023, to note further correspondence with the Association Branch Chairman with regard to the shed structure and associated liability responsibilities. A final solution has been requested from the Allotment Association this month *[for information]*.

16. Community Public Access Defibrillators - Pursuant to minute reference number 129 2023/2024 of the Committee meeting held on 11th September 2023, to note further correspondence and approaches from Mr Peter Richards representing Droitwich AED *[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

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Agenda for Information to:

County & District Councillors for Droitwich Spa, Subscribers, Press