

Droitwich Spa Town Council

MINUTES of the Meeting of the **RESOURCES COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, St Richards House on Monday 8th April 2024 at 6.44 pm

PRESENT: Councillor M Brook (Chairman)
Councillor SJ Brazier
Councillor M Brook
Councillor Mrs J Chaudry
Councillor GA Duffy
Councillor N Franks
Councillor RP Hopkins
Councillor Mrs K Fellows (Ex- officio)

ALSO PRESENT: Councillors Mrs C Bowden, EJ Bowden, P Clements, DI Davidson, V Humphries & RJ Morris.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillors GR Brookes, J Grady & AM Sinton.

409. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None.

410. MINUTES OF THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 26 FEBRUARY 2024.

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the Resources Committee meeting held on 26th February 2024 in the Council Chamber, St Richards House [*circulated previously*].

RESOLVED That the Minutes of the Resources Committee held on 26th February 2024 at the Council Chamber , St Richards House, be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

411. MINUTES OF THE EXTRA- ORDINARY RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 26 MARCH 2024.

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the Extra – ordinary Resources Committee meeting held on 26th March 2024 in the Council Chamber, St Richards House [*circulated previously*].

Councillor N Franks asked whether an additional scheduled meeting can be included for the next year approaching Year End in March 2025. The Town Clerk confirmed that the provision had already been made in the draft schedule of meetings being prepared for consideration at the AGM in May 2024.

Councillors N Franks and RP Hopkins abstained from voting for the reason that they did not attend the Meeting on 26th March 2024.

RESOLVED That the Minutes of the Extra – ordinary Resources Committee held on 26th March 2024 at the Council Chamber , St Richards House, be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

412. To consider the exclusion of the Public and Press by passing the following motion:

That the press and public be now excluded from the meeting under the provision of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 by virtue of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted which involves financial and legal matters.

The Town Clerk explained that this was for the reason that the next two agenda items covered matters of commercial sensitivity through Contractual Arrangements.

RESOLVED That the press and public be now excluded from the meeting under the provision of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 by virtue of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted which involves financial and legal matters.

413. Cloud and Wireless Broadband – Pursuant to draft minute reference 369 /2023-2024 of the Resources Committee Meeting held on 26 February 2024, to confirm that a meeting has been arranged with the nominated Service Provider for the Cloud and Wireless Broadband. This accords with the resolution to commence arrangements for the transition of the existing Office phones and Broadband systems to the new provider and format after 1st April 2024. The initial meeting is scheduled for 10th April 2024 [*for information*].

RESOLVED That the information be noted.

414. Asset Media Signage – Since last reported in February 2024 there has been no further responses from the Service Provider. Minute Reference 219/2023-2024 of the Resources Committee meeting held on 4th December 2023 refers. The timescale for the outstanding invoice for the period up to 31st March 2024 Year End has now expired. For these reasons the matter of the invoice is being passed to a debt recovery Agent and steps are proceeding to notify final cancellation of the sponsorship arrangements to the Company, under breach of contractual terms [*for information*].

The Town Clerk updated that Calc did not have a recommended Debt agent and enquiries with Worcestershire County Council had ascertained that they dealt with such matters through their own internal Legal Department. To this effect DSTC can approach the preferred Solicitor through their debt recovery services option which will indicatively incur costs of approximately £400- £ 500 including the courts costs for the recovery. Councillor N Franks commented that he had professional experience on two occasions for a similar debt recovery matter using a local Company. That arrangement guaranteed recovery of the whole debt and additional fees were passed on separately. The Town Clerk thanked Cllr Franks for his recommendation and confirmed that an enquiry would be made with the suggested Company whilst the final recovery arrangements were being made.

Cllr Franks asked whether any ongoing asset media sponsorship arrangements and potential options can be considered at a forthcoming Resources Committee meeting, including consideration of a delegated working group. The Town Clerk confirmed that this provision was noted to be made following recovery of the outstanding invoice and severance of the existing contractual arrangement with the Service Provider. It was also commented that there were three existing sets of sponsorship signage in place.

415. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Creditor accounts in the sum of £6,930.27 were considered for payment. Total expenditure presented **£6,930.27** [full list attached with Agenda].

Total expenditure authorised = £6,930.27

RESOLVED-. That the statement of accounts appended be received and the expenditure totalling £6,930.27 be authorised and duly passed for payment. Total expenditure authorised =£6,930.27

The meeting closed at 6.48pm.

Chairman of Committee

03 June 2024

Chairman of Council

29 April 2024