Droitwich Spa Town Council

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1 June 2026

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the **COMMUNITY AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE** to be held in The Council Chamber at St Richards House, Victoria Square, Droitwich Spa on Monday 8th June 2026 at 6.15 pm or at the close of the Planning Committee meeting which precedes.

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. All Full Council and Committee Meetings have been 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 13th April 2026 *[previously circulated]*.

4. To note the Membership and Chairmanship of the Committee as resolved at the Annual Council Meeting held on 11th May 2026 *[details at end of agenda]*

5. Grants Appraisal sub- Committee – 5th June 2026 – To consider the recommendation from the sub-Committee meeting as outlined. The updated schedule of grant applications will be provided after the Appraisal Panel Meeting on 5th June 2026*[summary of recommendations to follow]*.

6. Christmas Lighting – To update that WCC Street Lighting have introduced revisions to the Street scape policy with effect from January 2026. Pursuant to minute reference 391/2025-2026 of the Committee meeting held on 17th April 2026. To confirm that structural testing of all WCC Street Lighting infrastructure used to attach hanging baskets and Christmas lighting components by DSTC has been tested for structural integrity by a recommended metallurgist specialist between 20 and 22 May 2026. A report by way of confirmation and to detail any defects or recommended interventions will be maintained on DSTC files. This accords with the WCC policy and their new requirements for third party shared user part liability. The lamp standards for the Rik Mayall Comedy Festival banners have also been included in this work. It is important that this testing has been achieved prior to deployment of the summer hanging baskets which are scheduled from 26 May onwards.

   The cost of the work is an ongoing statutory obligation to accord with the WCC Policy revisions for all third-party users of public realm Street Lighting infrastructure. This will require a two-year renewal test to be completed. The estimated cost is currently £4,800.00 and this will be to added and split between the Christmas Lighting and Planting budget provisions for future periods. WDC have offered to support with a contribution to cover the inclusion of the lamp posts used for the Comedy Festival advertising banners.

   Some additional revisions to the Christmas Lighting arrangements are also required for the new WCC Policy. These considerations are currently being finalised by the Service Provider for final approval through DSTC and in readiness for the Festive Lights from November 2026 *[for information].*

7. Wychavon Community Stars Nomination – Details for the 2026-2027 scheme nominations have been provided for all DSTC and Local Elected Members by email on 15th My 2026. The Heritage Volunteer Team have been nominated by Becky Butler – Heritage Manager on behalf of the Town Council and in recognition of their dedicated and essential support in maintaining the Heritage Centre and Visitors Service for the Community. The Teams part in maintaining service and delivery to achieve the refurbishment project is deserved of special mention *[nomination details attached for information]*

8. Charter Market – Following changes to the Market Service provider operating partnership notified in April 2026, to confirm that a new contract has been agreed and signed up to reflect the amendments. To move forward a review meeting of the Charter Market Sub Committee has been arranged with the Operators for the 12th June 2026. This is to proactively develop any ideas for the expansion & variety of stalls, promote general interest in the markets and offer collaborative support *[for information].*

9. Heritage Centre – Marking the Occasion of the Official Closure of the BBC Long Wave Service on Saturday 27th June 2026. – This date will be the end of an important chapter in British Radio Broadcasting history. Droitwich Spa has a unique connection to the longwave service through the famous Wychbold Transmitter Station and the Heritage Centre exhibition. For these reasons it is important to take this opportunity to celebrate and reflect on the significant part Droitwich has played in connecting the nation for

long wave radio broadcasts over the decades. The suggested approach includes the following ideas which are currently being finalised.

- Marking the day with a short speech in the Museum heralded by the Town Crier
- An informative talk with reminiscence of the local broadcasting station history and significance,
- Inviting visitors to share their memories of listening to BBC Long wave.
- Links to current BBC Coverage and interest
- A themed social media campaign through the Heritage Centre counting down to the final broadcast on that day
- Blog Post through the Town Council/ Heritage / Tourism website
- Limited print run of the originator of the Museum Radio Room Story and his Career in Radio Broadcasting booklet. DSTC maintains publication permission rights to proceed.

This date coincides with the Armed Forces Day and it is anticipated that the formal recognition for the BBC Long Wave Service finishing, will be at 12 Noon, (following shortly after the Armed Forces Day arrangements which commence from assembly at 10.45am and the flag raising at 11.00am outside St Richards House). The finalised details for the BBC Long Wave aspect will be provided in due course with publicity *[for information]*.

10. Heritage Centre – National Year of Reading 2026. To confirm that the Heritage Centre have joined the pledge for the National Year of Reading. This supports the National initiative and includes participation in the book share and exchange which is now I place in the Centre for visitors to enjoy. The mandate for the National Year of Reading is as follows taken from the County Council publicity.

The National Year of Reading 2026 is a UK campaign encouraging everyone to go all in with reading, responding to falling reading enjoyment, especially among children and young people. Throughout 2026, libraries are offering a wide programme of activities, including new book clubs, author talks, and activities for all ages. From everyday opportunities to read and relax to special campaigns and challenges, there will be something for everyone to enjoy all year round.

The Heritage Centre currently features the cartoonist illustrator exhibition from Mr Charlie Grigg which is in conjunction with the Rik Mayall Comedy Festival and the Reading Pledge. The Centre are proactively encouraging school visits and there is a local Year Six Group visiting on 5th June *[for information].*

11. South Worcestershire Citizens Advice- To receive the attached general update on Droitwich Spa projects being taken forward by Citizens Advice (South Worcestershire). The report has been provided by Sara Turner – Advice Services Manager for Wychavon and aligns with the £4K annual grant contribution paid to the Organisation through the DSTC Resources & Sustainability Committee. The next payment resolved in the January 2026 budget setting for 2026/2027 is scheduled to paid in June 2026 following Full Council on the 15th *[for information as attached].*

12. Winslow Thanksgiving 2026- To confirm that the dates for this year's Event span the three days from Thursday 26th until Saturday 28th November. This officially marks Thanksgiving Day on Thursday 26th. The First Steering Group meeting took place on 21st May to review the previous years arrangements and plan for 2026.A follow up meeting is arranged for the 23rd June in order to finalise the draft program. The format is anticipated to follow successful arrangements in 2024 and 2025. The Thanksgiving Service element at St Peters Church and the accompanying Winslow Community Awards have been particularly well received in 2025. This Year marks the 250th

Anniversary of American Independence on the 4th July which is directly connected to Edward Winslow and the Pilgrim Fathers. The opportunity is being taken to officially register a Civic Letter to mark this occasion with the United States Ambassador and the Mayor's Office of Plantation, Plymouth, Massachusetts *[for information]*.

13. The National Youth Advocacy Service – NYAS – An approach and contact have been received from the Regional Coordinator of this children's rights charity. They are seeking help and interest in the local Droitwich Spa area for adult volunteers to support children in care by providing friendship, life skills & mentoring opportunities. Details and contact information are attached for wider networking. Publicity and networking is being taken forward collaboratively by way of assistance – including an introduction made to Partner Agency – Droitwich CVS *[for information]*.

14. Public Realm Infrastructure – To confirm that the arrangement of Town Council owned benches adjacent the toilets and Morrisons Store near the Shopping Centre have been instructed for a repaint and any necessary repairs during May 2026.This will be part of the ongoing general maintenance and upkeep regime within the infrastructure budget allocation for 2026/2027*[for information as attached]*

Distribution:
All Members of the Community & Amenities Committee

Councillors: -

Mrs C Bowden (Chairman)
RJ Morris (Vice-Chairman)
EJ Bowden
PD Clements
DI Davidson
Mrs K Fellows
N Franks
RP Hopkins
S Brazier - Mayor (Ex- Officio)

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