

# Droitwich Spa Town Council

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

Telephone: 01905 774258

15 April 2016

You are hereby summoned to a Meeting of Droitwich Spa Town Council to be held in The Council Chamber, St Richard's House, Victoria Square, Droitwich Spa on **Monday 25 April 2016** at 6.00pm.



Pam Craney  
Town Clerk

Members of the public are invited to attend the Town Council meeting. Time is set aside at 5.45 p.m. to receive views or questions on issues on this agenda, or raise issues for future consideration before the start of the Town Council 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 Town Council meeting itself.

## AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. Declarations of interests
3. To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on 22 February 2016 *[enclosed]*
4. Mayor's Announcements
5. Policing In Droitwich – Update
6. High School – Update from Head Girl & Head Boy
7. Youth Council – Update from Youth Councillors
8. To receive and consider the Minutes of the under-mentioned meetings:-
  - a) Planning Committee – 7 March 2016 *[circulated previously]*
  - b) Resources Committee – 7 March 2016 *[circulated previously]*
  - c) Planning Committee – 11 April 2016 *[enclosed]*
  - d) Resources Committee – 11 April 2016 *[enclosed]*

## 9. Civic Matters

### a) Mayoral Robes

*A request has been submitted for the Mayoral Robes be made available for use on other occasions other than civic and ceremonial, for instance as part of the Well-Dressing tableaux at St Richard's Festival. At present the Civic Robes are used on Civic and Ceremonial Occasions ie Civic Sunday, Remembrance Sunday and Annual Council, together with other Civic Occasions such as Royal Visits and suchlike. This situation altered @ four years ago when they were worn by successive Mayors at Festivals and Events. Following damage to the gown at either St Richard's Festival or Annual Council reversion to their use on civic and ceremonial occasions only was reinforced by Council at its meeting on 22 June 2015. Please note that should Council wish to extend the occasions upon which the Mayoral Robes are worn beyond those of a civic and ceremonial nature then it is suggested that to preserve the gown as long as possible (bearing in mind the public outcry nationally over the repairs/possible purchase of new ones in 2015) that approval to wear the robes be decided on the merits of each occasion and that therefore the matter of the wearing of the Mayoral Robes at events be delegated to the Town Clerk in consultation with the Mayor and Leaders of the Political Parties.*

### b) Honorary Alderman - To consider making arrangements to confer Honorary Alderman status on ex-Councillor M C J Barratt.

*For information: The Council can bestow these honorary titles in recognition of distinguished contribution to civic life. On 12 January 2010 the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 came into being which amended the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 thereby enabling all local councils to confer honorary titles. These are conferred in accordance with Section 249 the Local Government Act 1972 (As Amended) and therefore will be by resolution of the Council, supported by two-thirds of those voting. The Council's adopted Protocol for such Appointments advises that these honours are to be given infrequently as many people provide good service both to the town and to the Council, but it should not be expected that retiring Councillors of many years service will automatically receive such an honour. These honours should be given to reward exceptional service. The criteria states that:*

- Nominees for Honorary Aldermen should be former Councillors who have served in that capacity for a significant time. Their length of service would normally be substantially greater than the average length of service per Councillor.*
- Nominees should also have given service to the wider community in a role outside of their duties as a Town Councillor. This might include notable work with the Voluntary Sector, with Educational Bodies, with Wychavon District or Worcestershire County Councils (ie local authorities operating within the geographical area of the Town), or any other body that the Council deems appropriate.*
- Once the title has been conferred, then the Honorary Alderman can only take part in civic ceremonies and cannot be or become a serving Member of the Council whilst holding this title.*

## 10. St Nicholas's Churchyard – Closure

*Notification has been received that the Parochial Church Council (PCC) is to commence the process of having St Nicholas's churchyard declared closed by Order, as it has been estimated that it will be full before the year's end. Once a churchyard is closed by Order, a PCC may pass its responsibility for the maintenance of the churchyard to the Parish or Town Council, which is obliged in law to accept that responsibility (Local Government Act 1972, section 215). However this legislation permits the Town Council to pass this responsibility on to the District Council within three months from the date of service. Given the contractual requirements for maintenance, health & safety inspection regime, expertise and costs required in this matter it is recommended that this responsibility is passed to Wychavon District Council who already maintain several closed churchyards eg Pershore.*

## 11. County Council Matters

- a) To receive reports on County Council matters *[if appropriate]*.

## 12. District Council Matters

- a) To receive reports on District Council matters – Councillor T J Noyes *[if appropriate]*

## 13. General Matters

- a) Councillor S Best – The Old Cock Inn, Possible Loss of Community Amenity

*To consider passing the following resolution:*

*That a letter be sent to Marston's Brewery re: concerns over the possible loss of a community amenity by the impending change of management of the Old Cock Inn and be advised that the Town Council wishes to see the continuation of this important facility for the town by the careful selection of management.*

## 14. Accounts for Payment *[details attached]*

### **Distribution:**

All Members of the Town Council

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County & District Councillors for Droitwich Spa

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