

**Summary of actions agreed at Market Drayton and Rural Parishes Community
Covenant Meeting**

24th September 2025, Festival Drayton Centre

Attendees

Charlotte Hollins – General Manager, Fordhall Community Land Initiative / We're Right Here Campaign.

Catherine Westwood, Manager, Market Drayton Library

Judith James – Parish Councillor, Moreton Say.

Tim Manton – Mayor of Market Drayton Council and Market Drayton Town Councillor.

Gary Hoggarth – Manager, Festival Drayton Centre

Grant Robertson – Chair, Market Drayton Sports Association

Richard Kolbe - Deputy Chair, Parent Governors Grove School and Communities Lead

Carolyn Lawrence – Project Lead, Market Drayton Baby Bank

Iana Jacobson - Ukrainian Hub

Alan Cartwright – Market Drayton Community Enterprise

Catherine McBride - Market Drayton St. Mary's Church

Mark Lawrence - Pastor, Freedom Church, Market Drayton.

Jenny Horner, Chair, Market Drayton Patient Group

David Strudley, Chair, Market Drayton Foodbank

Dan Woolley, Power to Change (observer)

Apologies

David Beckwith – Treasurer, Market Drayton community sports club.

Kerry Williams – Shropshire Youth Association

Andy Brown – The Civic Society (Museum) and Walking for Wellbeing group.

With the decision on where the Community and Family Hub will be hosted made at the last meeting. Our agenda for this meeting was to create some of the framework around that decision to support Festival Drayton in their Expression of Interest Grant application to the Rayne Foundation – deadline early October.

1. Where will our Hub be based?

Main host: Festival Drayton Centre

We also discussed outreach opportunities to ensure the most vulnerable in our community can ask for help in the easiest way possible. Outreach locations identified were

- Churches
- Market Drayton Foodbank, based in Parish Rooms
- Raven House (hosting some existing statutory services)
- The Zone, located in the most deprived neighbourhood in our community
- Rural Parishes, perhaps periodic drop-in sessions for the link worker / coordinator within Parish locations

We also all agreed that the main hub should proactively remain connected to other service provision and the schools within the local area.

2. How will we measure its success?

- Signposting
 - No. of services referred to
 - No. of attended services
 - No. of individuals seen
 - no. of needs identified per individual
- Case studies – stories of impact
- A further joint needs assessment perhaps after 5-years. Have our communities needs changes? Become less severe?
- Support / handholding
 - No. of volunteers offering support at the Hub
 - No. of people supported/seen who would not otherwise have accessed the service
- Building knowledge of what is available in our community
 - Evidence that services work more collaboratively
 - Gaps in service provision are identified
 - New services are created in response to evidenced need
 - New funds are leveraged in to support the continuation of the Hub or new service provision
 - Donations received from the community

3. Operational Delivery

- Funding
 - Match – Shropshire Council
 - Rayne Foundation?
 - Market Drayton Action for Health Trust (January 2026 next meeting)

- Market Drayton Town Council (small grants £500/annum or Community and Events grant may be possible once concept proven max £5k per annum)
- Parish Councils? (max £500/annum over potential 13 Parishes)
- General grants e.g. Supermarkets/Greggs etc
- SIL funding
- Outreach work – suggested that 1-day/week for the new coordinator post role is allocated to outreach work to communities and Parishes that are hard-to-reach
- Main Hub at Festival Drayton Centre
 - Must have a landline
 - Suggest Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Saturdays are first open days.
 - Full time link/Hub coordinator – one person or two people as a job share
 - This person should be responsible for training volunteers
 - 3 days delivery
 - 1-day/week allocated to ongoing development work for the Hub
 - 1 day/week outreach delivery
- Induction for new coordinator
 - 2-3 weeks before getting stuck into Hub launch and delivery.
 - Training to include safeguarding, DBS checks, understanding local need and local services. Meeting service providers.

Action: Gary, Charlotte, Mel and Hannah to take these notes and incorporate them where appropriate into the Expression of Interest application to the Rayne Foundation.

If successful, Festival Drayton Centre will be asked to draw up a more detailed bid and business plan for submission in December.

4. We discussed whether the group would like to now pass over the reigns of the Community and Family Hub to the Festival Drayton Centre or would the Community Covenant like to continue to develop the Hub at Festival Drayton Centre.

All agreed that they would like to continue to support the development of the Community and Family Hub at Festival Drayton Centre.

5. Next Steps

All agreed to look at marketing and Hub management at the next meeting. A basic framework has been put in place, but more detail is still to be added that the Covenant feel they can contribute to and support.

Next meeting:

- Wednesday 12th November 2025 1pm-3pm at Festival Drayton Centre.