

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

**12<sup>th</sup> November 2025, Festival Drayton Centre**

### **Attendees**

Charlotte Hollins – General Manager, Fordhall Community Land Initiative / We're Right Here Campaign.  
Melanie France - Public Health Principal Integration & Inequalities Health, Wellbeing and Prevention Directorate, Shropshire Council  
Hannah Thomas – Community and Wellbeing Team Manager, Shropshire Council, community outreach.  
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  
Mark Lawrence - Pastor, Freedom Church, Market Drayton.  
Jenny Horner, Chair, Market Drayton Patient Group  
David Strudley, Chair, Market Drayton Foodbank

### **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.  
Catherine McBride - Market Drayton St. Mary's Church  
Dan Woolley, Power to Change (observer)

### **1. Presentation from Shropshire Council on the Winter Outreach Wellbeing programme (WOW)**

Presentation was circulated to the group beforehand.

1.10pm

### **2. Update on Engagement Event held at Raven House in October half term. 1.25pm**

35 people completed the survey. All were individuals who currently accessed services at Raven House. All noted the service as excellent and would be happy to continue to access services here. Thanks were given to the Covenant members who attended the drop-in session.

No new members of the wider Market Drayton community attended the launch event, which is indicative of the reach/awareness of the current Hub.

### 3. **Summary of Covenant Group progress so far:**

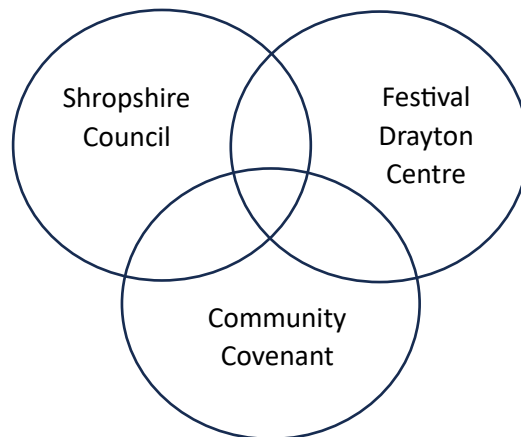
- The Market Drayton and Rural Parishes Community Covenant have:
  - Reviewed and identified the needs of our local community
  - Identified and summarised what our community needs from a Community and Family Hub
  - Noted the outcomes we would like to see from the Hub
  - Identified how we will measure success
  - Identified suitable locations within the town to locate the Hub, independently evaluated each location and made a group decision on the most suitable location for our Community and Family Hub
  - Identified a basic framework for the operations of the Hub including no. of days we want it to be open, the objectives of a dedicated Hub staff member, and where we could source funding from to support these operations.
- Nationally, our work continues to be followed, shared and used as evidence within policy briefings for the new English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill.
  - For the first time, they are discussing power going to communities at neighbourhood level, and noting that this should include community anchor organisations and not simply Town and Parish Councils.
  - Civil Servants from Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government and Department for Culture Media and Sport, will be visiting the Fordhall Community Land Initiative (as the anchor organisation facilitating the pilot) on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November and we would like as many covenant members there as possible. These civil servants will be informing and writing the statutory guidance which is attached to the Bill and we need them to see how this can work in practice, understand the benefits of such an approach and provide them with the confidence that it can work.

### 4. **How do we work together and best support each other?**

We reviewed how we can add more flesh to the bones of the framework we have put together for the new Community and Family Hub in Market Drayton.

We recognise that service hosting, rather than formal provision, is the Festival Drayton Centres normal domain, and so hosting and managing the Community and Family Hub will be a new direction of travel for them.

**We asked ourselves: As a community covenant group of people and organisations, how can we best offer Festival Drayton Centre support in this next step?**



1.35pm – 2.15pm

Split into three groups with individuals going to the group they feel they can contribute to the most.

**Each group to create an action plan / brainstorm or to answer specific questions**

1. What is needed to make it work?
2. How can we help?
3. What resources do we have/support we can offer?

**Teams:**

- a. Marketing and promotion of the Hub (Iana to lead)
- b. Management and Recruitment of staff and delivery (Charlotte to lead)
- c. Service provision (Judith to lead)

**Marketing and Promotion of the Hub**

Things we can do to build awareness

- Social Engagements – Launch event
- Press Release – 12 weeks before the lunch
- Newspapers
- Radio
- Facebook etc..
- Market stalls- leaflets & QR code
- Leaflets/posters& QR code
- Market Stall

Groups that can help:

- School Newsletter - Richard to get contact

- School Website – Richard to get contact
- Make it Market Drayton – can promote it on Social Media and through general marketing activities – Tim to arrange
- GP Surgeries – Jenny to arrange
- The Zone & Rural communities – posters and Facebook groups

## **Management, recruitment of staff and delivery**

### Employer

- Ideally this would sit under Festival Drayton Centre as the host.
- If not possible, could another charity be the main employer?
  - Do not want to set up a new charity/organisation to do this
  - Community Covenant group is not suitable and is constituted
  - Fordhall Community Land Initiative is a local charity which could be an option
  - Other local charities?

### Employee – Community Hub Coordinator

- Home worker who engages with target audience, in partnership with Council and Festival Drayton Centre.
- Marketing and excellent communication skills, empathic
- IT literate and good with social media

### **Next meeting:**

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2025, 1-3pm at Festival Drayton Centre