

Minutes of **Wimborne Minster Town Council** meeting **19 December 2023 at 7pm,**

in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, 37 West Borough, Wimborne Minster, Dorset BH21 1LT.

**Present**: Town Councillors (Cllrs): S Bartlett, D Burt, C Chedgy, J Hart, L Hinks, D March (Chairman and Town Mayor), J Morgan, B Richmond and A Roberts.

Officers: L Harrison (Town Clerk) and K Brooks (Deputy Town Clerk).

Members of the public: none.

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| **FC/2023/084** | **Apologies for absence**  Apologies were received from Cllrs C Butter, M Hopkins and S Wheeler (all non-business). Cllr Hinks proposed to accept the apologies, seconded by Cllr Chedgy, all in favour.  **Resolved apologies for absence from Cllrs Butter, M Hopkins and S Wheeler were accepted.** |
| **FC/2023/085** | **Declarations of interest and dispensations**  Cllr Bartlett declared a non-pecuniary interest (member of Dorset Council).. |
| **FC/2023/086** | **Public Participation**  None. |
| **FC/2023/087** | **Updates, announcements and reports**  The Town Mayor provided a verbal summary of seven events recently attended (see appendix 1).  Cllr Bartlett, as the Dorset Council ward member, confirmed the following:   * elderly care service provided by Care Dorset was doing very well; * alderman appointments had been approved; * officers were liaising with the developer at Riversedge to address parking issues, and * guidance from the Government in relation to the transport and development plans remained outstanding.   It was agreed that item 9 on the agenda (draft budget 2024/25) would be moved up to the next item for discussion. |
| **FC/2023/088** | **Draft budget 2024/25**  The Town Clerk and Cllr Chedgy explained the disparity in the expenditure figure recorded in the draft Finance and Governance Committee minutes and the expenditure figure in the draft budget document appendix 11 and confirmed a reduction of £955 was to be taken from the grant cost centre. Cllr Chedgy proposed to approve the draft budget for 2024/24 with an income figure of £98,590, expenditure figure of £683,183 and precept request of £584,593 to Dorset Council, seconded by Cllr Hart, all in favour.  **Resolved:** **the draft budget for 2024/25 with an income figure of £98,590, expenditure figure of £683,183 and precept request of £584,593 to Dorset Council was approved.**  Cllr Chedgy left the meeting. |
| **FC/2023/089** | **Updates, announcements and reports continued**  Cllr Hart, as the representative on Planet Wimborne, passed on the organisations thanks to the Town Council for supporting the Green Festival via the Town Council’s Community Grant Scheme.  Cllr March confirmed the East Dorset and Purbeck Citizens Advice Annual General Meeting had taken place (see appendix 1), that the service remained busy and passed on the organisations thanks to the Town Council for supporting the service via the Town Council’s Community Grant Scheme.  Cllr Hinks, as the representative on Wimborne Cemetery JMC, confirmed Colehill Parish Council had requested changes to the draft exit terms which were to be reviewed by the Town Council’s solicitor and referred back to Full Council for consideration in due course and confirmed the next JMC meeting was on 22 January 2024.  Cllr Hinks, as the representative on the Valognes Twinning Association, confirmed the recent wine tasting event had gone well and a planned programme of events was in place for 2024.  Cllr Bartlett, as the representative on Dreamboat’s, confirmed the Dial a Ride scheme was well used but remained short of driver volunteers and the charity continued to face financial challenges as a result of the pandemic. |
| **FC/2023/090** | **Minutes of Wimborne Minster Town Council meeting 28 November 2023**  Cllr Bartlett proposed to approve the minutes of the meeting on 28 November 2023 as correct record to be signed by the Chairman, seconded by Cllr Morgan, seven in favour, two abstentions.  **Resolved: the minutes of the meeting on 28 November 2023 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.** |
| **FC/2023/091** | **Actions from previous meetings**  None. |
| **FC/2023/092** | **Minutes, notes and recommendations from committees and working groups**  The draft minutes and notes for the Recreation Leisure and Buildings Committee 21 November, School Council 21 November, Recreation Leisure and Buildings Working Group 21 November, Town Liaison Group 1 December, Finance and Governance Committee 5 December, Community Events and Liaison Committee 6 December, HR Committee 12 December, Planning and Environment Committee 12 December and Cemetery JMC 11 December were noted. |
| **FC/2023/093** | **Recommendations from Committees and/or Working Groups**  Finance and Govnernance Committee 5 December 2023 (2024/25 draft budget and precept request) - see FC/2023/088 above. |
| **FC/2023/094** | **Draft Strategic Plan**  The draft Strategi Plan was discussed and agreed in principle. The Town Clerk was delegated authority to proofread and make further improvements to the layout of the document and bring back to Full Council. |
| **FC/2023/095** | **Correspondence, consultations, training and forthcoming meetings**  The correspondence from Life Education Wessex was noted and discussed. Cllr Bartlett proposed to authorise the Town Mayor, Chairman of the Finance and Governance Committee, Finance Manager and Town Clerk to review the correspondence and make a decision on the funding request once the organisation had submitted a grant application and appropriate associated documents in line with the Town Council’s Community Grant Scheme, seconded by Cllr Hart, all in favour.  **Resolved: the Town Mayor, Chairman of the Finance and Governance Committee, Finance Manager and Town Clerk were authorised to review the correspondence and make a decision on the funding request once the organisation had submitted a grant application and appropriate associated documents in line with the Town Council’s Community Grant Scheme.**  The forthcoming meetings were noted. |
| **FC/2023/096** | **Close of meeting**  The Town Mayor closed the meeting at 19.50pm and wished everyone an happy Christmas. |

Signature of Chairman: ……………………………… Date: …………………………

**Appendix 1 – Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor engagements 29 November to 19 December 2023**

1 December The Town Mayor attended the Dorset Federation of Women’s Institute’s Carol Festival in the Minster.

5 December The Town Mayor attended East Dorset and Purbeck Citizens Advice Annual General Meeting in the Allendale Centre in Wimborne Minster.

6 December The Town Mayor attended St John’s CE First School “Don’t Be Afraid – A Positively Uplifting Nativity” Christmas performance in Wimborne Minster.

The Town Mayor and escort, Cllr Roberts, attended Blandford Forum Town Council’s Civic Carol Service in Blandford Forum Parish Church.

10 December The Town Mayor attended the Royal British Legion “Service of Dedication of the new County Standard” in the Minster.

13 December The Town Mayor attended Dorset Police’s Carol Service in the Minster.

17 December The Town Mayor and escort, Cllr Butter, attended Corfe Mullen Town Council’s Civic Carol Service in St Nicholas Church, Corfe Mullen.

[end]