



Minutes of **Wimborne Minster Town Council** meeting **23 January 2024 at 7pm**, in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, 37 West Borough, Wimborne Minster, Dorset BH21 1LT.

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

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

Members of the public: two.

<b>FC/2023/097</b>	<p><b>Apologies for absence</b> Apologies were received from Cllrs D Burt, M Hopkins and J Morgan (all non-business). Cllr Wheeler proposed to accept the apologies, seconded by Cllr Butter, all in favour. <b>Resolved apologies for absence from Cllrs Burt, M Hopkins and J Morgan were accepted.</b></p>
<b>FC/2023/098</b>	<p><b>Declarations of interest and dispensations</b> Cllr Bartlett declared a non-pecuniary interest (member of Dorset Council).</p>
<b>FC/2023/099</b>	<p><b>Jubilee Garden</b> The Deputy Clerk provided background information (including a document) to councillors regarding the Garden and introduced the volunteer manager for Scalpel's Garden in Poole who then gave a short presentation on the Garden in terms of past, current and future management. Councillors asked questions and thanked the volunteer for her work. Cllr Bartlett proposed to set up a working group to take this project forward which was to report back to the Recreation Leisure and Buildings Committee and membership to include representatives from Wimborne in Bloom and Wimborne Militia. Seconded by Cllr Wheeler. Cllr Chedgy proposed an amendment to Cllr Bartlett's proposal: as the Town Council had several committees and working groups which were poorly attended, this project was to be delegated to officers who were to report back to the Recreation Leisure and Buildings Committee, rather than a working group. Seconded by Cllr Hinks. The amended proposal was voted on with three in favour, five against and one abstention. The original proposal was voted on with six in favour, two against and one abstention. <b>Resolved: a working group was to be set up to take the Jubilee Garden project forward and report back to the Recreation Leisure and Buildings Committee and membership to include representatives from Wimborne in Bloom and Wimborne Militia.</b> The volunteer was thanked for attending and left the meeting.</p>
<b>FC/2023/100</b>	<p><b>Public Participation</b></p>

	<p>A member of the public (MOP) requested to put a question to the Town Council in relation to item 11 (ii) on the agenda and was asked by the Town Mayor to confirm his address. The MOP confirmed he was a resident in Holt parish. The MOP then asked the Council to consider the closure of the Queen Elizabeth Leisure Centre (Leisure Centre) via the forthcoming Recreation Leisure and Building Committee meetings on 30 January or call an extraordinary meeting of the Town Council. The Town Clerk advised the Town Mayor that the Leisure Centre was not in the parish of Wimborne Minster, the MOP was not a resident of Wimborne Minster, the Leisure Centre was not an item on the agenda, and the Leisure Centre service did not fall within the remit of the Recreation Leisure and Building Committee as the Committee was responsible for existing current services. Cllr Wheeler and Cllr Chedgy informed the MOP that the Town Council had consulted and opposed the withdrawal of funding with Dorset Council two years ago and as the facility was owned by Queen Elizabeth's School with a £500,000 budget the service was not in the remit of the Town Council. Cllr Bartlett, as the ward Councillor for Dorset Council, supported the comments made by Cllrs Wheeler and Chedgy.</p> <p>The Town Mayor closed the item and returned to the agenda.</p> <p>The two MOP's left the meeting.</p>
<p><b>FC/2023/101</b></p>	<p><b>Updates, announcements and reports</b></p> <p>The Town Mayor provided a verbal summary of five events recently attended (see appendix 1).</p> <p>The Town Clerk passed on apologies from Dorset Council ward councillors Morgan and Roe and reported the following information from Cllr Morgan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the proposed 20mph limit in the Town was ongoing;</li> <li>• the meeting with residents from the Wimborne Chase with regards to the speeding on Cranborne Road was ongoing;</li> <li>• the refurbishment of the Hanham Road and Cook Row toilets and the proposal to close the Cook row toilets at night (see item 11 (i)), and</li> <li>• the budget for the Dorset Council was to be agreed at the Dorset Council meeting on 13 February.</li> </ul> <p>Cllr Bartlett, as the Dorset Council ward member, confirmed the following in relation to Dorset Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the draft budget for 2024/25 and level of overspend;</li> <li>• a meeting regarding the proposed 20mph project at Allenvie Road had been put back;</li> <li>• plans were in place for a undertaking a strategic review of market towns, and</li> <li>• the possibility of parish and town councils being involved in the transformation project (specifically working with volunteers).</li> </ul> <p>The Town Clerk passed on apologies from Dorset Police and reported the following information from Police: they were continuing to visit managers and staff at garages and supermarkets in Town to reinforce shoplifting protocols.</p> <p>Cllr Hinks, as the representative on the Valognes Twinning Association, confirmed the AGM was taking place next week.</p> <p>Cllr Chedgy, as the representative on Wimborne Cemetery Joint Management Committee (JMC), confirmed further amendments had been agreed to the draft exit terms and a dissolution date of 31 March 2024. Once an outstanding</p>

	<p>insurance query had been resolved the exit terms would be brought to Full Council for consideration. Cllr Chedgy also confirmed the JMC was continuing with business as usual.</p> <p>Cllr Hart, as the representative on Planet Wimborne, confirmed plans were going ahead for the next green festival.</p> <p>Cllr Butter, as the representative on Walford Mill Education Trust, reported she had attended an AGM / Board meeting.</p> <p>Cllr Butter also reported she had attended an online webinar regarding Dorset Council's Local Transport Plan and requested the provision of an additional roadshow location in Wimborne Minster and a review of cycle lane safety.</p> <p>Cllr Roberts, as the representative on Wimborne in Bloom, confirmed the date of the forthcoming quiz night event.</p>
<b>FC/2023/102</b>	<p><b>Minutes of Wimborne Minster Town Council meeting 19 December 2023</b></p> <p>Cllr Bartlett proposed to approve the minutes with two amendments (FC/2023/087 word "Riversedge" removed and replaced with "old market site" and FC/2023/089 words "the charity" removed and replaced with "Dreamboats") as correct record to be signed by the Chairman, seconded by Hart, seven in favour, two abstentions.</p> <p><b>Resolved: the minutes of the meeting on 19 December 2023 with two amendments were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.</b></p>
<b>FC/2023/103</b>	<p><b>Actions from previous meetings</b></p> <p>The Town Clerk confirmed the following actions remained outstanding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• implications of administering Town Square bookings;</li> <li>• Year of Culture report, and</li> <li>• update form Dorset Council regarding asset transfers.</li> </ul>
<b>FC/2023/104</b>	<p><b>Minutes, notes and recommendations from committees and working groups</b></p> <p>The draft minutes and notes for the Community Events and Liaison Committee 6 December 2023 and 16 January, Planning and Environment Committee 9 January, D Day Anniversary Working Group 15 January, Action Plan Working Group 19 January and New Years Eve Wash Up meeting notes 19 January were noted.</p>
<b>FC/2023/105</b>	<p><b>Recommendations from Committees and/or Working Groups</b></p> <p>The recommendations from the Action Plan Working Group and consultation document were discussed and three amendments agreed. Cllr Chedgy proposed to accept the draft consultation document with agreed amendments, seconded by Cllr Bartlett, eight in favour and one abstention.</p> <p><b>Resolved: the draft consultation document with agreed amendments was accepted.</b></p> <p>The proposed PR strategy regarding the consultation process was discussed. Cllr Bartlett proposed to approve the consultation process including printing 1500 consultation documents, seconded by Cllr Hinks, all in favour.</p> <p><b>Resolved: the consultation process including printing 1500 consultation documents was approved.</b></p> <p>The recommendations from the Planning and Environment Committee to approve and adopt the draft Biodiversity Statement was discussed. Cllr</p>

	<p>Wheeler proposed to approve and adopt the draft document, seconded by Cllr Chedgy, all in favour.</p> <p><b>Resolved: the draft Biodiversity Statement was approved and adopted.</b></p> <p>The recommendations from the D-Day Working Group were discussed and the additional item of a children’s poem competition via local schools and research to identify blue plaque locations linked to World War II were agreed. Cllr Bartlett proposed to approve the recommendations from the Group including the poem competition and blue plaque research, seconded by Cllr Wheeler, all in favour.</p> <p><b>Resolved: the recommendations from the D-Day Working Group including the poem competition and blue plaque research were approved.</b></p> <p>The recommendations from the Community Events and Liaison Committee to approve a PR strategy to promote interest in the forthcoming elections was discussed. Cllr Wheeler proposed to approve the PR strategy including use of DAPTC recent video footage of councillor interviews, seconded by Cllr Hart, all in favour.</p> <p><b>Resolved: the PR strategy including use of DAPTC recent video footage of councillor interviews was approved.</b></p>
<p><b>FC/2023/106</b></p>	<p><b>Planning and Environment Committee membership</b></p> <p>The request to consider increasing the membership of the Planning and Environment Committee from eight to nine by including Cllr Barlett was discussed. Cllr Wheeler proposed to approve the request to the end of the current municipal year, seconded by Cllr Richmond, all in favour.</p> <p><b>Resolved: the membership of the Planning and Environment Committee from eight to nine by including Cllr Barlett until the end of the current municipal year was approved.</b></p> <p>Cllr Bartlett requested adding Cllr Butter onto the current membership of the Recreation Leisure and Buildings Committee. As the item was not on the agenda Cllr Bartlett proposed to suspend Standing Orders, seconded by Cllr Roberts, eight in favour, one against.</p> <p><b>Resolved: Standing Orders were suspended.</b></p> <p>Cllr Butter confirmed her willingness to go on the Recreation Leisure and Buildings Committee and Cllr Bartlett proposed to add Cllr Butter onto the membership of the Recreation Leisure and Buildings Committee to the end of the current municipal year, seconded by Cllr Roberts, all in favour.</p> <p><b>Resolved: Cllr Butter was added to the membership of the Recreation Leisure and Buildings Committee.</b></p> <p>Standing Orders were resumed.</p>
<p><b>FC/2023/107</b></p>	<p><b>Correspondence, consultations, training and forthcoming meetings</b></p> <p>The correspondence from Dorset Council regarding the proposed overnight closure Cook Row toilets following refurbishment work was discussed. Cllr Wheeler proposed that the Cook Row toilets remained open overnight, were deep cleaned once a month and Police were to monitor CCTV to manage anti-social behaviour, seconded by Cllr Bartlett, six in favour and three against.</p> <p><b>Resolved: the recommendation from Wimborne Minster Town Council to Dorset Council was to keep Cook Row toilets open overnight, deep cleaned once a month and Police were to monitor CCTV to manage anti-social behaviour.</b></p>

	<p>The planned refurbishment works to Cook Row and Hanham Road toilets were noted.</p> <p>Following a request from the Wimborne and Colehill Fairtrade Group it was agreed Cllr Hart was to represent the Town Council on this Group.</p> <p>The Town Clerk confirmed all councillors had been emailed the DAPTC and Dorset Council May 2024 Election Toolkit.</p> <p>The forthcoming meetings were noted and it was agreed to hold the next HR Committee meeting on 20 February at 6pm.</p>
<b>FC/2023/108</b>	<p><b>Close of meeting</b></p> <p>The Town Mayor closed the meeting at 20.35pm.</p>

Signature of Chairman: .....

Date: .....

**Appendix 1 – Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor engagements from 20 December 2023 to 23 January 2024**

- 22 December The Town Mayor attended the Carols in the Cornmarket event in Wimborne Minster and read one of the Lessons.
- 23 December The Town Mayor collected and held a raffle for her two charities (Wimborne Model Town and Green Cottage Riding for the Disabled), supported by volunteers, the Town Crier and Wimborne Marching Band, on Wimborne Minster Town Square, and raised £559.58.
- 24 December The Town Mayor visited Streets Meadow Residential Home in Wimborne Minster and wished residents a merry Christmas.
- 6 January The Town Mayor and escort, Cllr C Butter, attended a charity event at Crane Valley Golf Club in aid of Verwood Town Mayor’s charities (the Mayor’s Community Fund and The Worldwide Veterinary Service).
- 9 January The Town Mayor attended the launch of the 2024 Business Awards at the Allendale Centre in Wimborne Minster.

[end]