



Minutes of **Wimborne Minster Town Council** meeting **27 February 2024 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, D March (Chairman and Town Mayor), J Morgan, B Richmond, A Roberts and S Wheeler (Deputy Town Mayor)
Dorset Cllr: D Morgan.
Officers: L Harrison (Town Clerk)
Members of the public (MoP): one

FC/2023/115	Apologies for absence Apologies were received from Cllrs L Hinks and M Hopkins (both non-business). Cllr Hart proposed to accept the apologies, seconded by Cllr Morgan, all in favour. Resolved apologies for absence from Cllrs L Hinks and M Hopkins were accepted.
FC/2023/116	Declarations of interest and dispensations Cllr Bartlett declared a non-pecuniary interest (member of Dorset Council).
FC/2023/117	Public Participation None.
FC/2023/118	Updates, announcements and reports The Town Mayor provided a verbal summary of six events recently attended (see appendix 1). Dorset Cllr D Morgan confirmed the following Dorset Council information: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the budget for 2024/2025 had been agreed;• a council tax premium on second homes under the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill was to be charged from 1 April 2025 with 40% of the income generated ringfenced toward building social / affordable housing;• the proposed 20mph limit in the Town had been successful and implementation planned in April;• dialogue with residents regarding speeding on Cranborne Road was ongoing including installation of a “concealed entrance” sign;• a local speedwatch initiative had been revived, and• a local meeting had taken place regarding the Queen Elizabeth Leisure Centre with residents and local group representative and options were being explored to manage the Centre going forward. Cllr Bartlett, as the Dorset Council ward member, confirmed the following information in relation to Dorset Council: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the 2024/25 had been agreed with an 8% increase from £347,552,976 (2023/24) to £376,253,556 (2024/25) and anticipated overspend for the current final quarter reduced from £14 million to £3.5 million;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a meeting with residents, local groups and representatives from the Queen Elizabeth Leisure Centre was to take place on Saturday 9 March 2024, and • a 16 month review was to take place of the 20 mile per hour (MPH) policy. <p>Cllr Bartlett proposed to pass on the Town Council’s thanks to the Deputy Town Clerk for the successful application for the 20 mph extension in the town, seconded by Cllr Wheeler, all in favour.</p> <p>Resolved: The Deputy Town Clerk was thanked for the successful application for the 20 mph extension in the town.</p> <p>The Town Clerk confirmed she had attended a U3A meeting on 14 February and provided a short presentation on the role of the Town Clerk with a tour of the Chamber. The Town Clerk also informed Council that Dorset Association of Town and Parish Councils had published three short videos promoting the forthcoming elections which included footage of Cllrs Hart and Wheeler in the town being interviewed about their town councillor role.</p> <p>The lack of information from the Police was noted. It was agreed the Town Clerk was to contact the Police and remind them of their previous commitment to attend Full Council meetings or if unable to attend provide reports.</p> <p>Cllr Hart confirmed the date of the next School Council meeting as 12 March and everyone was welcome to attend.</p> <p>Cllr Chedgy, as the representative on Wimborne Cemetery Joint Management Committee (JMC), confirmed a Committee was continuing with the business for the site and a response from Colehill Parish Council regarding the further amendments to the draft exit terms was due imminently. The Town Mayor thanked the Town Council representative and Town Clerk for their work on the JMC.</p> <p>Cllr Roberts, as the representative on Wimborne in Bloom, confirmed the date of the forthcoming quiz night 29 February and confirmed some councillors were attending.</p> <p>Cllr Roberts, as the representative on Ochsenfurt Twinning Association, confirmed the annual meeting had not taken place to date and some guest from Ochsenfurt were due to visit the town for D-Day in a private capacity.</p>
<p>FC/2023/119</p>	<p>Minutes of Wimborne Minster Town Council meeting 23 January and 13 February 2024</p> <p>Cllr Chedgy proposed to approve the minutes of the meeting on 23 January with one amendment (FC/2023/100 word “Bartlett” removed and replaced with “Chedgy”) as a correct record to be signed by the Chairman, seconded by Cllr Wheeler, all in favour.</p> <p>Resolved: the minutes of the meeting on 23 January 2024 with one amendment were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.</p> <p>Cllr Chedgy proposed to approve the minutes of the meeting on 13 February as a correct record to be signed by the Chairman, seconded by Cllr Morgan, all in favour.</p> <p>Resolved: the minutes of the meeting on 13 February 2024 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.</p>

FC/2023/120	<p>Actions from previous meetings</p> <p>The response from officers at Dorset Council Highways as detailed in the associated report regarding the Town Square bookings was discussed. Cllr Chedgy proposed Wimborne Minster Town Council was to take over the administration of the bookings for the town square from Dorset Council from 1 April 2024 and review after 12 months, seconded by Cllr Morgan, all in favour. Resolved: Wimborne Minster Town Council was to take over the administration of the bookings for the town square from Dorset Council from 1 April 2024 and review after 12 months.</p> <p>The Town Clerk confirmed an officer from Dorset Council was to attend a future meeting of the Town Council and provide updated information on the asset transfers.</p> <p>The Town Clerk recommended the Town Council should not progress the Dorset Year of Culture project for the town with interested parties due to prohibitive funding requirements (£60,000). Cllr Burt proposed not to progress this project, seconded by Cllr Roberts, eight in favour and one abstention. Resolved: Wimborne Minster Town Council was not to progress a Dorset Year of Culture project.</p>
FC/2023/121	<p>Minutes, notes and recommendations from committees and working groups</p> <p>The draft minutes and notes for Wimborne Cemetery JMC 22 January and 19 February, Recreation Leisure and Buildings Committee 30 January, Recreation Leisure and Buildings Working Group 30 January, Finance and Governance Committee 6 February, D Day Anniversary Working Group 12 February, Planning and Environment 13 February and HR Committee 20 February were noted.</p>
FC/2023/122	<p>Recommendations from Committees and/or Working Groups</p> <p>The Town Clerk confirmed the costings for hybrid meeting infrastructure for consideration by Full Council as recommended by the Finance and Governance Committee were not ready and the item was deferred.</p>
FC/2023/123	<p>Resignation of Cllr Butter and co-option</p> <p>Cllr Butter's resignation was noted. The Town Clerk confirmed Dorset Council had published the Notice of Casual Vacancy. Cllr March proposed not to run a co-option process due to the timing of the forthcoming elections in May, seconded by Cllr Burt, all in favour. Resolved: Wimborne Minster Town Council would not run a co-option process due to the timing of the forthcoming elections in May.</p>
FC/2023/124	<p>Insurance schedule review</p> <p>The current insurance schedule was discussed. Cllr Wheeler proposed to accept and approve annual cyber cover at a cost of £331.12 and defer the other items until a total cost had been identified, seconded by Cllr Burt, all in favour. Resolved: annual cyber cover at a cost of £331.12 was accepted and approved and the other items were deferred until a total cost had been identified.</p>
FC/2023/125	<p>Correspondence, consultations and meetings</p> <p>The correspondence from a local group regarding the Queen Elizabeth Leisure Centre was considered and Cllr Bartlett confirmed he would not be voting on</p>

	<p>this item. Cllr Chedgy proposed to send a letter to Dorset Council stating Wimborne Minster Town Council requested Dorset Council continue to support the Queen Elizabeth Leisure Centre facility that is beneficial to the physical and mental health of the people of Wimborne Minster and surrounding areas, seconded by Cllr Wheeler, eight in favour, one abstention.</p> <p>Resolved: Wimborne Minster Town Council was to send a letter to Dorset Council that requested Dorset Council continue to support the Queen Elizabeth Leisure Centre facility which is beneficial to the physical and mental health of the people of Wimborne Minster and surrounding areas.</p> <p>The invitation to attend the online Councillor Community Safety Training seminar from Dorset Police on 6 March was discussed. It was agreed Cllr Morgan and the Town Clerk were to attend.</p> <p>The Dorset and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Authority draft Community Safety Plan 2024-28 consultation was discussed. Cllr March proposed the Town Clerk was authorised to respond on behalf of the Town Council, seconded by Cllr Chedgy, all in favour.</p> <p>Resolved: the Town Clerk was authorised to respond on behalf of Wimborne Minster Town Council to Dorset and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Authority draft Community Safety Plan 2024-28 consultation.</p>
FC/2023/126	<p>Close of meeting</p> <p>The Town Mayor thanked the member of the public for attending and closed the meeting at 20.30pm.</p>

Signature of Chairman:

Date:

Appendix 1 – Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor engagements from 24 January to 27 February 2024

- 26 January 2024 The Town Mayor and escort, Cllr A Roberts, attended the 2023 Community Chest, Western Area Awards Winners Evening, at the Blandford Brewery Visitor Centre in Blandford Forum.
- 27 January 2024 The Town Mayor attended a “Remembrance of the Holocaust” Service held in the Minster Church of St Cuthburga, in Wimborne Minster.
- 8 February 2024 The Town Mayor and escort, Mrs Butter, attended 1 NATO Signal Battalion DCN(D) Service for the Presentation of Medals held in the Minster Church of St Cuthburga, in Wimborne Minster.
- 13 February 2024 The Town Mayor attended and presented prizes at the pancake race in the Minster Church of St Cuthburga in Wimborne Minster.
- 21 February 2024 The Town Mayor and escort, Mrs Carol Butter, attended Wimborne Drama Production of “Some Mother’s Do ‘ave ‘em” at the Tivoli Theatre in Wimborne Minster.
- 25 February 2024 The Town Mayor and escort, Cllr A Roberts, attended the Ukraine Relief 2nd Anniversary event held at the collection point at Castlepoint in Bournemouth.

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