



Minutes of **Wimborne Minster Town Council Meeting 25 June 2024** 7pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, 37 West Borough, Wimborne Minster, Dorset BH21 1LT.

Present

Town Councillors: S Bartlett, W. Chakawhata, J Hart (Town Mayor), J Morgan, B Richmond, A Roberts and S Wheeler (Deputy Town Mayor).

Dorset Council: D Morgan.

Officers: L Harrison (Town Clerk).

Members of the public: Ten including representatives from Wilding Wimborne, the Militia and Citizens Advice.

FC/2024/029	<p>Town Crest</p> <p>Isabella Simpson (student at Bournemouth University) presented the new Town Crest to Council and provided information on the design, production and finish of the Crest. Mrs Julia Holt, whose husband had designed the original crest, stated she was pleased with the new Crest. Councillors were very impressed with the new Crest, thanked Miss Simpson for her work and were very grateful for her commitment and dedication in completing this project. It was agreed the Council would hold an event / ceremony to celebrate the installation of the new crest to which Miss Simpson and Mrs Holt were to be invited.</p> <p>Mrs Holt, Miss Simpson and a member of the public left the meeting.</p>
FC/2024/030	<p>Apologies for absence</p> <p>Apologies were received from Councillor Burt (non-business) and representatives from the Reef and Dorset Police.</p>
FC/2024/031	<p>Declarations of interest and dispensations</p> <p>Councillors W. Chakawhata and S. Bartlett declared a non-pecuniary interest (members of Dorset Council). Councillor Bartlett did not vote in relation to minute reference FC/2024/036 and FC/2024/043.</p> <p>The Town Clerk declared a non-pecuniary interest in relation to item 10 (iv) grant application Dial a Ride (husband volunteer driver).</p>
FC/2024/032	<p>Public participation</p> <p>It was agreed to move the correspondence item 17 (iii) and grant application items 10 (iv) on the agenda to the next item of business to accommodate members of the public.</p> <p>The representative from Wilding Wimborne requested the Town Council support residents and request Dorset Council retain the Pippins site as an existing natural area in the town centre, enhance and develop it to provide a green 'corridor' running along the bank of the River Allen and into Willow walk area, as an area for the enjoyment of town residents and visitors. Councillor Bartlett, as the Dorset Council ward member, provide background information about the site and confirmed the site was part of a wider strategic asset review currently being</p>

	<p>undertaken by Dorset Council. The Town Mayor confirmed the site was not owned or managed by the Town Council, thanked the representative and residents for their work and in principle stated the Town Council supported the residents request. The representative left the meeting.</p> <p>The grant application from Dial a Ride was discussed. Councillor Morgan proposed to approve the grant application for £750, seconded by Councillor Wheeler, all in favour.</p> <p>Resolved: the grant application for Dial a Ride for £750 was approved.</p> <p>The representative from the Militia provided information on their grant application. Councillor Bartlett proposed to approve the grant application for £8,000, seconded by Councillor Roberts, all in favour.</p> <p>Resolved: the grant application for the Militia for £8,000 was approved.</p> <p>The representative from Citizens Advice provided information on their grant application. Councillor Morgan proposed to approve the grant application for £8,000, seconded by Councillor Bartlett, all in favour.</p> <p>Resolved: the grant application for Citizens Advice for £8,000 was approved.</p> <p>The grant application from the Reef was discussed. Councillor Wheeler proposed to approve the grant request for £2,500 and it was agreed to review the Town Council's youth service funding and aim to provide the Town Council's own youth service next year. Seconded by Councillor Bartlett, six in favour, one abstention.</p> <p>Resolved: the grant application for the Reef for £2,500 was approved.</p> <p>The representatives from the Militia and Citizens Advice left the meeting.</p>
FC/2024/033	<p>Updates, announcements and reports</p> <p>The Town Clerk read out information provided by local police which was noted. Councillor Morgan, as the representative on Wimborne Business Improvement District, confirmed work continued to encourage retail businesses to report shop lifting incidents.</p> <p>The Town Mayor reported he had attended six events between 14 May to 24 June (appendix 1).</p> <p>The Town Mayor, as the representative for Planet Wimborne, confirmed plans were being made for the Green Festival in October, and as the Fair Trade representative, confirmed a Fair Trade fortnight was planned for September. Councillor Wheeler, as the representative for 1069 Squadron Air Training Corps, confirmed the organisation had moved back into its premises after renovation work.</p> <p>Councillor Chakawhata, confirmed as the representative for Walford Mill Education Trust, he had attended a meeting two weeks ago.</p> <p>Councillor Roberts as the representative for Ochsenfurt Twinning Association, confirmed three residents from Ochsenfurt had recently visited the town, and as the representative for Wimborne in Bloom, confirmed summer plants had planted throughout the town.</p> <p>A member of the public and former town councillor and town mayor Mrs Diann March presented the Town Mayor with a gift from the Valognes Mayor (an umbrella) following a recent visit.</p>



	<p>Dorset Council Councillor Morgan reported three matters relevant to Wimborne: ongoing discussion with Wimborne Community Garden and Beaufort Foundation School to resolve student minibus access issues; ongoing communal grass cutting maintenance issues at Cuthbury Gardens which were being resolved via a management committee and potential enforcement order, and the presentation of a petition signed by approximately five to seven thousand people regarding the Queen Elizabeth Leisure Centre to Dorset Council.</p> <p>Councillor Bartlett, as a Dorset Councillor, reported the following: Dorset Council had been highly recommended at the recent MJ Awards for the Digital Transformation category; Dorset Council's cost of living budget had been extended, and the current trial of reduced car parking charges in Weymouth could affect Wimborne Minster in relation to charges and permits.</p>
FC/2024/034	<p>Minutes of Wimborne Minster Town Council meeting 14 May and 4 June 2024</p> <p>Councillor Wheeler proposed to approve the minutes of the meeting on 14 May and 4 June as a correct record to be signed by the Chairman, seconded by Councillor Morgan, all in favour.</p> <p>Resolved: the minutes of the meeting on 14 May and 4 June 2024 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.</p>
FC/2024/035	<p>Committee minutes and working group notes</p> <p>Councillor Morgan proposed to approve the minutes of the Finance and Governance 30 April, Recreation Leisure and Buildings 23 April, and Community Events and Liaison 5 March with one amendment as a correct record to be signed by the Chairman, seconded by Councillor Wheeler, all in favour.</p> <p>Resolved: the minutes of the Finance and Governance 30 April, Recreation Leisure and Buildings 23 April, and Community Events and Liaison 5 March with one amendment were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.</p> <p>The minutes of the HR Committee on 21 May and Planning and Environment Committee on 18 June were noted.</p> <p>The draft Terms of Reference for the Corfe Mullen Town Council and Wimborne Minster Town Council Joint Working Group were noted.</p>
FC/2024/036	<p>Recommendations from Council's Standing Committees</p> <p>The recommendation from the Planning and Environment Committee on 18 June to reaffirm a previous resolution made by Full Council on 3 March 2020 and authorise the Town Clerk to approach Dorset Council to claim adverse possession of the Highland Park Estate amenity areas was discussed. The Town Clerk and Councillor Richmond provided background information.</p> <p>Councillor Wheeler proposed the approve and authorise the recommendation, seconded by Councillor Richmond, six in favour.</p> <p>Resolved: the recommendation from the Planning and Environment Committee on 18 June to reaffirm a previous resolution made by Full Council on 3 March 2020 to authorise the Town Clerk to approach Dorset Council to claim adverse possession of the Highland Park Estate amenity areas was approved and authorised.</p>



FC/2024/037	<p>Strategic Plan Action Plan</p> <p>The Action Plan was noted and the Town Clerk confirmed it would be updated and reviewed by Council at regular intervals via a tracking process.</p>
FC/2024/038	<p>Finance and Governance</p> <p>Councillor Morgan proposed to approve the bank statements, reconciliations, payments and receipts for month ends April and May 2024 and signed by the Chairman, seconded by Councillor Wheeler, all in favour.</p> <p>Resolved: the bank statements, reconciliations, payments and receipts for month ends April and May 2024 were approved and signed by the Chairman.</p> <p>The income and expenditure report from 1 April to 31 May 2024 was noted. The Ear Marked Reserves (EMR) report was noted and it was agreed to set up a working group including Councillor Morgan, the Town Clerk, the Cemetery Manager and Finance Officer to set an amount and timeline for the Cemetery EMR fund.</p> <p>The Town Clerk confirmed the transfer of the Parmeter Drive allotments remained outstanding and the sponsorship agreement documents had been reviewed by solicitors and was to be brought back to the next Full Council meeting.</p> <p>The valuation report was discussed. Councillor Morgan proposed to approve report and the additional pro rata premium cost of £1,368, seconded by Councillor Bartlett, all in favour.</p> <p>Resolved: the valuation report and additional pro-rata premium cost of £1,368 was approved.</p>
FC/2024/039	<p>Recreation, Leisure and Buildings</p> <p>Councillors Bartlet and Roberts confirmed an inspection of Redcotts Recreation Ground and Leigh Park sites had taken place that morning with the Town Clerk and Grounds Manager and any actions around regular maintenance and repairs agreed. The outstanding allotments and cemetery site inspections were noted. The submission of the Shared Prosperity Fund Community Grant application to Dorset Council was noted.</p> <p>The quote to deep clean the Town Hall courtyard paviours and Jubilee Garden slabs at a cost of £3,500 and annual maintenance at a cost of £1,000 PA from 2025 was discussed. The popularity of the venue for weddings was noted. The Town Clerk confirmed there was an existing budget line for maintenance and repairs for the site. Councillor Bartlett proposed to authorise both quotes, seconded by Councillor Chakawhata, all in favour.</p> <p>Resolved: the quote to undertake work to deep clean the Town Hall courtyard paviours and Jubilee Garden slabs at a cost of £3,500 and annual maintenance at a cost of £1,000 PA from 2025 were authorised.</p> <p>The quote to appoint a contractor to reset a section of wobbly and uneven paviours at the Town Hall courtyard at a cost of £2,600 was discussed. Councillor Richmond proposed to authorise the work, seconded by Councillor Bartlett, all in favour.</p>




	<p>Resolved: the quote to appoint a contractor to undertake work to reset a section of wobbly and uneven pavements at the Town Hall courtyard at a cost of £2,600 was authorised.</p> <p>The quote to undertake work to deal with the damp and mould issues at Redcotts Lodge at a cost of £3,460 was discussed. Councillor Wheeler proposed to authorise the work, seconded by Councillor Bartlett, all in favour.</p> <p>Resolved: the quote to undertake work to deal with the damp and mould issues at Redcotts Lodge at a cost of £3,460 was authorised.</p> <p>The three play inspections reports were noted.</p> <p>The quotes to replace two noticeboards outside the Library and Park Lane were discussed. Councillor Wheeler proposed quote D option 1 for the Library, seconded by Councillor Bartlett, all in favour.</p> <p>Resolved: quote D option 1 to replace the noticeboard outside the Library was authorised.</p> <p>The option to undertake a tree survey on council owned / managed land was discussed. The Town Clerk confirmed the survey would include species and size information, location, assessment of health and safety compliance by a qualified professional (arborist). Councillor Wheeler proposed to authorise the Town Clerk to obtain three quotes, seconded by Councillor Richmond, six in favour, one abstention.</p> <p>Resolved: the Town Clerk was authorised to obtain three quotes for a tree survey.</p> <p>The request to purchase an iPad to support hybrid meetings and weddings was discussed. Councillor Bartlett proposed to authorise the purchase, seconded by Councillor Wheeler, all in favour.</p> <p>Resolved: the purchase of an iPad to support hybrid meetings and weddings was authorised.</p> <p>The Town Clerk and Councillor Bartlett updated Council regarding the Redcotts Working Group and requested authority to review the Tennis Club lease with the tenant and Council's solicitors. Councillors Morgan confirmed the current lease expired in three years and the tenant was keen to secure long term stability at the site and carry out improvement works to the current court fencing and lights. Councillor Bartlett proposed to undertake a review of the current lease, seconded by Councillor Morgan, all in favour.</p> <p>Resolved: a review of the current Tennis Club lease was authorised.</p>
FC/2024/040	<p>Community events and liaison</p> <p>The Town Mayor fundraising events were discussed. Councillor Wheeler proposed to support these events, seconded by Councillor Bartlett, all in favour.</p> <p>Resolved: the Town Mayor's fundraising events were supported.</p> <p>The request from Wimborne Business Improvement District to amalgamate a Christmas market with the Christmas Lights switch on event was considered. Councillor Wheeler proposed to support the request, seconded by the Town Mayor, six in favour, one abstention.</p> <p>Resolved: the amalgamation of a Christmas market with the lights switch on event was approved.</p> <p>The quotes to improve the sight and sound from the stage at the Christmas Lights switch on event for 2024 and 2025 were discussed. Councillor Bartlett</p>

	<p>proposed to authorise the addition sound improvements (remote speaker package) and mobile screen with live broadcast facility, seconded by Councillor Wheeler, six in favour, one abstention.</p> <p>Resolved: the additional sound improvements and mobile screen with live broadcast facility for 2024 and 2025 was authorised.</p> <p>The appointments of the Town Mayor's Scout, Guide and Cadet were noted. Councillor Morgan proposed to suspend Standing Orders (to continue the meeting as it had reached two hours), seconded by Councillor Wheeler, six in favour, one abstention.</p> <p>Resolved: Standing orders were suspended (meeting over two hours long).</p> <p>The request to consider awarding the title Honorary Freedom of Wimborne Minster to 280 NATO Signals Squadron via an event on 14 September was considered. Councillor Bartlett proposed to authorise the award and event, seconded by Councillor Hart, four in favour, three abstentions.</p> <p>Resolved: 280 NATO Signals Squadron was to be awarded the title Honorary Freedom of Wimborne Minster at an event on 14 September was authorised.</p> <p><i>The event date of 14 September has been cancelled due to a clash with other events in the town and a new date will be confirmed in due course.</i></p> <p>The forthcoming Armed Forces Day 29 June) was noted and it was agreed to amalgamate the Tree trail walk event with the Town Mayor's events.</p>
FC/2024/041	<p>Wimborne Cemetery</p> <p>The updates regarding listed building consent to roof repairs at the Lodge arch and activity report from 1 April to 31 May 2024 were noted. Councillor Chakawhata left the meeting.</p>
FC/2024/042	<p>It was agreed to move items 14 (asset transfers) and 15 (Freeman/woman) to the end of the agenda.</p> <p>Councillor vacancies</p> <p>The current vacancies and deadline date of 2nd July for notice of elections were noted.</p>
FC/2024/043	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>The correspondence from Dorset Council regarding the end of the five year listing of Wimborne Library as an Asset of Community Value from 13 June 2024 was noted. The Town Clerk was to inform Council if re-nomination status was agreed.</p> <p>The request to support the Safety of Electric-Powered Micromobility Vehicles and Lithium Batteries Bill was considered. Councillor Wheeler proposed to support the request, seconded by the Town Mayor, all in favour.</p> <p>Resolved: Wimborne Minster Town Council supports the Safety of Electric-Powered Micromobility Vehicles and Lithium Batteries Bill.</p>
FC/2024/044	<p>Councillor Wheeler proposed to move the meeting into Exempt Business due to the sensitive and confidential nature of two items to be discussed, seconded by Councillor Morgan, all in favour.</p> <p>Resolved: under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meeting) Act 1960 (as extended by section 100 of the Local Government Act 1972), the public and</p>



	<p>accredited representatives of newspapers were excluded from the meeting for the following two items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 21 A of the Local Government Act 1972.</p> <p>The remaining members of the public left the meeting.</p> <p>Asset Transfers</p> <p>The three asset transfers were discussed and Councillor Bartlett, as the Dorset Council ward councillor, confirmed Dorset Council were undertaking a strategic reviewing of asset transfers. Councillor Bartlett proposed to defer this item pending Dorset Council's strategic review, seconded by Councillor Roberts, all in favour.</p> <p>Resolved: the three asset transfers were deferred pending Dorset Council's strategic asset review.</p> <p>Freeman / woman nomination</p> <p>The nomination was discussed. Councillor Wheeler proposed to approve the nomination, seconded by Councillor Roberts, all in favour.</p> <p>Resolved: the Freeman / woman nomination was approved.</p>
<p>FC/2024/045</p>	<p>Motions for future meetings and close of meeting</p> <p>There were no motion requests for future meetings. The Town Mayor thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 21.24pm.</p>

Signature of Chairman: 

Date: 30/7/24

Appendix 1 – Town Mayor engagements 14 May to 24 June 2024

- 18 May 2024 The Town Mayor and Mayoress, Mrs Barbara Hart, attended the Valognes Civic Reception in Allendale House.
The Town Clerk and Finance Manager, representing the Town Mayor and his escort, attended the Valognes Civic Dinner at Crane Golf Club.
- 25 May 2024 The Town Mayor attended “The Battle of Wimborne” English Civil War Society event at the Minster Green.
- 28 May 2024 The Town Mayor and Mayoress, Mrs Barbara Hart, accompanied by the Town Crier, Chris Brown, and Wimborne Militia, attended the Mayor Making Ceremony at the Town Hall Council Chamber.
The Town Mayor and Mayoress, Mrs Barbara Hart, opened ‘33 Boutique’ in Wimborne Minster.
- 1 June 2024 The Town Mayor and Mayoress, Mrs Barbara Hart, accompanied by the Town Crier, Chris Brown, attended the D-Day commemoration event at Tarrant Rushton airfield.
- 6 June 2024 The Town Mayor attended the 80th Anniversary D-Day event on Willow Walk, presented prizes to the winners of the school poem competition winners and attended the Minster D-Day Service
- 8 June 2024 The Town Mayor and Mayoress, Mrs Barbara Hart, accompanied by the Town Crier, Chris Brown and the Wimborne Militia, led the “Folk Festival Parade” in Wimborne Minster.

