



Minutes of **Wimborne Minster Town Council** meeting on **24 September 2024** 7pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, 37 West Borough, Wimborne Minster, Dorset BH21 1LT.

Present

Town Councillors	S Bartlett, J Billington, C Brown, J Hart (Town Mayor), L Hector, R Nash, B Richmond, A Roberts, C Ryan, I Sandy, D Trim, and S Wheeler (Deputy Town Mayor).
Officers	K Brooks (Deputy Town Clerk) and G Singleton (Finance Manager).
Members of the public	Seven including representatives from Wimborne Football Club and Wimborne Tennis Club.

Before the meeting started the new town crest as unveiled at the Town Hall by the Town Mayor.

FC/2024/076 Town Mayor's welcome

The Town Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting, reminded everyone present the meeting was being recorded and anyone addressing the Council did not have to stand.

FC/2024/077 Councillor vacancy

Councillor Roberts proposed to suspend standing orders and a secret ballot take place for the co-option process, seconded by Councillor Richmond, seven in favour, three against and one abstention. **Resolved.**

Following a voting process the Deputy Town Clerk confirmed Bill Jaggs was elected Town Councillor for Wimborne East.

Councillor Ryan joined the meeting at 7.20pm.

FC/2024/078 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Burt, Chakawhata and Morgan (all non-business). Councillor Nash proposed to accept apologies, seconded by Councillor Wheeler, all in favour. **Resolved.**

Apologies were also received and noted from Dorset Councillors David Morgan and Andy Todd, and the Town Clerk.

FC/2024/079 Declarations of interest and dispensations

Councillor Bartlett declared a non-pecuniary interest (member of Dorset Council) and did not vote in relation to minute reference FC/2024/090 (tree survey).

FC/2024/080 Public participation

A presentation was given by a representative from Wimborne Football Club regarding its progression since moving to its new location in 2020, the youth section through to the first team, and its future. The Town Mayor thanked the representative for attending. Three members of the public then left the meeting.

FC/2024/081 Updates, announcements and reports

The Deputy Town Clerk read out information provided by local police which was noted. Councillor Sandy expressed concerns regards anti-social behaviour on

Redcotts Recreation Ground and the Deputy Town Clerk recommended, if witnessed, reporting to Police via 101 non-emergency number.

The Town Mayor read Dorset Ward Councillor Todd's report which was noted. Dorset Ward Councillor Bartlett reported a new enforcement policy which related to offences dealing with waste was due to be adopted by Dorset Council.

The Town Mayor reported on Mayoral events that had taken place between 30 July and 23 September (appendix 1).

Councillor Brown, as the representative for Walford Mill Education Trust, reported the Trust was looking for more artists to fill spaces.

Councillor Hector, as the representative of Planet Wimborne, reported the Green Festival event was taking place for one week from 12 October in the Town.

Councillor Roberts, as the representative for Wimborne in Bloom, reported planters and baskets were coming down on the 1st October and the colour theme for next year were apricot, white and burgundy. Councillor Roberts also confirmed she had attended the recent Corfe Mullen and Wimborne Minster Joint Working Group meeting and a site visit had been agreed with a representative from the Group and National Highways.

FC/2024/082 Minutes of Wimborne Minster Town Council meeting 30 July and 20 August

Councillor Nash proposed to approve the minutes of the meeting on 30 July and 20 August as a correct record to be signed by the Chairman, seconded by Councillor Billington, all in favour. **Resolved.**

FC/2024/083 Committee membership

Councillor Hector requested to be removed from the Finance and Governance Committee to focus on a Committee better suited her skill set. Councillor Wheeler proposed Councillor Sandy replaced Councillor Hector on this Committee, seconded by Councillor Nash, all in favour. **Resolved.**

FC/2024/084 Committee minutes and working group notes.

The Planning and Environment Committee minutes 13 August and 16 September and Corfe Mullen and Wimborne Minster Joint Working Group notes were noted.

FC/2024/085 Recommendations from Council's Standing Committees.

Councillor Wheeler proposed to approve and adopt the Enhanced Tree Protection and Coverage Strategy for Wimborne Minster as recommended by the Planning and Environment Committee, seconded by Councillor Sandy, all in favour.

Resolved.

Councillor Wheeler proposed authority was given to the Planning and Environment Committee to undertake speed / traffic surveys to support and evidence the work of the Corfe Mullen and Wimborne Minster Joint Working Group and report back to Full Council, seconded by Councillor Nash, all in favour. **Resolved.**

Two members of the public joined the meeting at 7.55pm.

FC/2024/086 Council's Strategic Action Plan 2024-2029

The Full Council noted the format of the planned tracking document for the Strategic Plan and it was agreed councillors were to email the Town Clerk with comments / suggestions.

Councillor Billington proposed to resurrect the Town Council's Climate Action Working Group and prioritise a review of the Town Council's Low Carbon Dorset Carbon Energy Efficient Report commissioned in November 2019, seconded by Councillor Brown, all in favour. **Resolved.**



FC/2024/087 Civility and Respect Pledge

Councillor Nash proposed to adopt and sign the National Association of Local Councils Civility and Respect Pledge, seconded by Councillor Brown, all in favour. **Resolved.**

FC/2024/088 Finance and governance

Councillor Nash proposed to approve the bank statements, reconciliations, payments and receipts for month ends July and August 2024 and signed by the Chairman, seconded by Councillor Brown, all in favour. **Resolved.**

The following reports were noted: income and expenditure report from 1 April to 31 August 2024; Ear Marked Reserves and first quarter debt report.

The Annual Governance and Accountability Return for year end 31 March 2024 including the notice of conclusion was noted. The Town Mayor thanked the Finance Manager for their work on this matter.

Councillor Hart proposed to authorise the addition of the Town Clerk / RFO as a signatory on the Churches, Charities and Local Authorities (CCLA) deposit fund account, seconded by Councillor Nash, all in favour. **Resolved.**

FC/2024/089 Replacement grounds machinery / equipment

Councillor Billington proposed to authorise the ongoing replacement of petrol equipment / machinery which was not working and not cost effective to repair with appropriate electrical versions to reduce environmental impact and improve grounds staff health and safety exposure to hand arm vibration and replace the current cemetery strimmer and blower for electrical versions with batteries and charger at a total cost of £1,434.50, seconded by Councillor Ryan, nine in favour, one against and two abstentions. **Resolved.**

FC/2024/090 Recreation, leisure and buildings

Councillor Wheeler proposed to accept quote 1 for a tree survey at a cost of £750.00 for all Town Council owned / managed land, seconded by Councillor Roberts, eleven in favour. **Resolved.**

Wimborne Tennis Club representatives took questions from Councillors regarding the proposed renewal of the Tennis Club lease on Redcotts Recreations Ground and it was agreed to debate this item under exempt business at the end of the meeting. The representatives from Wimborne Tennis Club and another member of the public then left the meeting.

FC/2024/091 Community events and liaison

The Finance Manager updated the Council on the use of card readers and management of collection tins and following a debate it was agreed to defer this matter until further research was undertaken.

Councillor Bartlett proposed the multi-coloured light option for the Christmas tree lights for this year's festivities, seconded by Councillor Wheeler, all in favour.

Resolved.

Councillor Billington proposed to except the option of purchasing 20 Hi-Vis vests with two logos ("Marshall" and "WMTC" in full) at a cost of £189.40, seconded by Councillor Brown, all in favour. **Resolved.**

Forthcoming events were noted: Tree Trail event 29 September 2pm, 10 November 2024 Remembrance Sunday parade and service, 11 November 2024 Armistice Day, 30 November 2024 Christmas Lights switch on event, 31 December 2024 New Year Eve, and 22 March 2025 Royal Signals Freedom of the Town.

FC/2024/092 Cemetery

Two further conditions in relation to listed building consent for the roof repairs at the Lodge arch (a Methodology Statement and information on roof membrane material) were noted.

Councillor Wheeler proposed to accept quote 2 to cut the perimeter hedges at the Cemetery at a cost £2,300 (3-year fixed price) with the proviso that any further future contracts needed to be sympathetic to noise pollution, seconded by Councillor Billington, all in favour. **Resolved.**

The activity report from 1 April to 31 August 2024 was noted.

FC/2024/093 Councillor representatives.

Councillor Hart proposed Councillor Nash as the Town Council representative on the Allendale Community Centre in a liaison role, second by Councillor Wheeler, all in favour. **Resolved.**

It was agreed that Councillor Chakawhata be appointed the Town Council representative on the Folk Festival.

FC/2024/094 Recent town and parish council elections

Councillor Richmond proposed the Town Clerk was to contact the Dorset Association Of Parish and Town Councils, National Association of Local Councils and the Town Council's Member of Parliament to lobby government in line with Colehill Parish council's recent resolution (amend election legislation to promote effective local government at the Town and Parish level following the recent town and parish elections in May 2024), seconded by Councillor Nash, all in favour.

Resolved.

FC/2024/095 Local fire service provision

The motion from Councillor Brown to formally register the Town Council's concern at the proposed loss of a fire tender unit from Wimborne Fire Station was deferred for further information.

FC/2024/096 Councillor Mentor Scheme

Councillor Billington proposed to adopt the draft Councillor Mentoring Scheme, seconded by Councillor Wheeler, all in favour. **Resolved.**

FC/2024/097 Correspondence, meetings, training and consultations

The following were noted by the Town Council:

- Wimborne Library re-nomination and addition to Dorset Council's list of Assets of Community Value
- the information from Dorset Association of Parish and Town Council's Eastern Area Committee meeting on 7 August
- the notes from the Community Sports Facility meeting on 11 September with Wimborne Rugby Club and Dorset Council

To forthcoming meetings were noted: Recreation Leisure and Buildings Committee 1 October 2024, Planning and Environment Committee 8 October, School Council 15 October (3.45pm) (*subsequently cancelled*), Community Events and Liaison Committee 22 October, Full Council 25 October and Finance and Governance Committee 15 October.

Remaining members of the public left the meeting.

FC/2024/098 It was agreed to go into Exempt Business due to the confidential nature of agenda items (items 15 (ii), 22 and 23) and the members of the public left the meeting.

Councillor Bartlett proposed to delegate the Tennis Club lease renewal negotiations to the Recreation, Leisure and Buildings Committee, seconded by Councillor Wheeler, all in favour. **Resolved.**

Item 22 (legal transfer of Parmiter Drive allotments) was deferred.

Item 23 (the notes from the Community Sports Facility meeting on 11 September with Wimborne Rugby Club and Dorset Council) were noted.

FC/2024/99

Motions and dates of future meetings and close of meeting

Councillor Sandy enquired about the future plans for the old grass tennis courts at Redcotts Recreation Ground and Councillor Bartlett suggested the Town Council conduct a site visit to Sherborne Town Council which had recently undertaken a refurbishment project of a recreation park.

Forthcoming meeting dates were noted, and the Town Mayor closed the meeting at 9pm.

Signature of Chairman:

Jeffrey Hart

Date:

29 October 2024

Appendix 1 - Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor engagements from 26 July – 23 September 2024

27 July 2024	The Town Mayor and Mayoress, Mrs Barbara Hart, accompanied by the Town Crier, Chris Brown, attended the Wimborne Foodbank Family Fun Day at Leigh Park.
11 August 2024	The Deputy Town Mayor attended the Dreamboats Regatta.
18 August 2024	The Town Mayor and Mayoress, Mrs Barbara Hart, attended the second mayoral walk in the town raising funds for the mayor's charities (Planet Wimborne and Friends of Victoria Hospital).
23 August 2024	The Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor visited the Wimborne Community Garden.
24 August 2024	The Town Mayor and Mayoress, Mrs Barbara Hart, accompanied by the Town Crier, Chris Brown, attended the Wimborne in Bloom Duck Race.
11 September 2024	The Town Mayor and Mayoress, Mrs Barbara Hart, attended the Mayor of Bridport Civic Day.
13 September 2024	The Town Mayor and Mayoress, Mrs Barbara Hart, attended the Town Trail raising funds for the mayor's charities (Planet Wimborne and Friends of Victoria Hospital).
18 September 2024	The Town Mayor and Mayoress, Mrs Barbara Hart, attended the Mayor of Christchurch Civic Day.
22 September 2024	The Town Mayor and Mayoress, Mrs Barbara Hart, attended the third mayoral walk in the town raising funds for the mayor's charities (Planet Wimborne and Friends of Victoria Hospital).

