



Minutes of **Wimborne Minster Town Council** meeting on **26 November 2024** 7pm  
Council Chamber, Town Hall, 37 West Borough, Wimborne Minster, Dorset BH21 1LT.

### **Present**

Town Councillors: S Bartlett, J Billington, C Brown, , W Chakawhata, J Hart (Town Mayor), L Hector, B Jaggs, R Nash, B Richmond, A Roberts, C Ryan, I Sandy and S Wheeler.

Officers: L Harrison (Town Clerk) and G Singleton (Finance Manager).

Public: Two.

### **FC/2024/114 Town Mayor's welcome**

The Town Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting, reminded everyone present the meeting was being recorded and confirmed anyone addressing the meeting did not have to stand. The Town Mayor also thanked everyone for supporting recent fundraising events and reminded everyone of his forthcoming events.

### **FC/2024/115 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillors D Burt (non-business), J Morgan (non-business) and D Trim (business). Councillor Richmond proposed to accept apologies, seconded by Councillor Bartlett, all in favour. **Resolved.**

Apologies were also received and noted from Dorset Ward Councillors D Morgan and A Todd.

### **FC/2024/116 Declarations of interest and dispensations**

The following councillors declared non-pecuniary interests: Chakawhata and Bartlett (members of Dorset Council), and Brown (Town Crier and member of Wimborne Militia).

### **FC/2024/117 Public participation**

It was agreed to move item 13 (Redcotts residents) up the next item to the next item of business to facilitate the presence of the members of the public. A resident provide background information on the error in title plans with Land Registry and the Town Clerk confirmed the error was also recorded on the Town Council's title plans for Redcoats Recreation Ground. Councillor Nash proposed the Town Clerk was authorised to refer the error to the Town Council's solicitors for rectifying with Land Registry at a cost of £200, seconded by Councillor Brown, all in favour.

### **Resolved**

The two members of the public thanked the Town Council and left the meeting.

### **FC/2024/118 Updates and reports**

Councillor Bartlett, as a Dorset Council ward member, confirmed discussions were ongoing regarding a devolution deal with the Government and the draft Local Plan was progressing with a timeline of 2026 for the examination process.

Councillor Chakawhata, as a Dorset Council ward member, stated Cabinet hybrid meetings outside of Dorchester had taken place and were continuing across the county.

The Town Mayor reported on the civic and fundraising events he had undertaken since the last meeting (see appendix 1) and confirmed he had raised nearly £4,000 for his mayoral charities. He also confirmed he had been mis-quoted by a building developer and was seeking an apology and retraction.

Councillor Hector, as the representative of Planet Wimborne, reported plans and themes were being discussed for the Green Festival next year and the community speed watch initiative was progressing.

Councillor Sandy, as one of the representatives for Citizens Advice, reported he had visited the organisation and was planning to return to understand the work they undertook to support customers. As the representative for the Valognes Twinning Association he also attended a meeting to review the recent Encore Hello Bonjour and a quiz night events.

Councillor Brown congratulated everyone that had been involved in the recent School Council meeting and the meeting had been an excellent demonstration of involving young people.

Councillor Nash reported he had attended a Fairtrade Steering Group meeting.

Councillor Wheeler, as the representative on the Quarterjack Marchin Band, congratulated all those responsible for delivering an excellent Remembrance Day Parade and service.

The Town Clerk reported she had attended an on-line meeting with Dorset Council who had confirmed water grounds levels were very high for this time pre Storm Bert and work was being undertaken by the Town Council's flood wardens and Deputy Clerk to ensure the Town Council's Emergency Plan was fit for purpose in terms of flooding. Councillor Bartlett stated Dorset Council were reviewing resilience measures within communities.

#### **FC/2024/119 Full Council minutes 29 October 2024**

Councillor Hart proposed to approve the minutes of the meeting on 29 October as a correct record to be signed by the Chairman, seconded by Councillor Nash, all in favour. **Resolved**

Councillor Brown reported he had received a response from the Chief Fire Officer in relation to minute reference FC/2024/112 and Councillor Wheeler proposed to arrange a visit with the Chief Fire Officer to discuss his response, seconded by Councillor Hart, all in favour. **Resolved**

Councillor Sandy challenged the ability of the Town Council to impact the decisions made by Dorset and Wiltshire Fire Service and it was noted the Town Council had the option of lobbying the Dorset Councillor representative on the Fire Authority.

#### **FC/2024/120 Committee minutes and working group notes**

The following Committee minutes and working group notes were noted: Town Liaison Group 25 October, Planning and Environment 5 November, HR Committee's 5 November, School Council 12 November, Recreation Leisure and Buildings Committee 12 November, Joint Working Group 14 November and Finance and Governance Committee 19 November.

Councillor Roberts stated she wished to see the Town Council progress a "safer space" project to support children walking to and from school from bullying that she had witnessed. The Town Mayor confirmed he had requested a safer space motion on the next Full Council agenda for debate.

#### **FC/2024/121 Recommendations for Council's Standing Committees**

The recommendation from the Finance and Governance Committee to adopt the draft budget for 2025 / 2026 was discussed. The appendix document that provided back ground information to the budget process was noted. Councillor Roberts stated she did not agree with a 5.15% increase. Councillor Wheeler proposed to agree the draft budget for 2025 2026 with a total income figure of £205,762, total expenditure figure of £820,466, precept request to Dorset Council of £614,704. Seconded by Councillor Nash, eleven in favour, two against. **Resolved.**

#### **FC/2024/122 Review of committee membership**

The option of opening up membership numbers on the Town Council's standing committees to all councillors was discussed. Councillor Wheeler proposed to suspend the Town Council's Scheme of Delegation and open committee membership up to all councillors until May 2025. Seconded by Councillor Chakawhata. Councillor Bartlett proposed an amendment – on the understanding that when councillors attended a committee meeting they were to take part and vote / abstain in the meeting. Councillor's Wheeler and Chakawhata agreed to the amendment, twelve in favour, one against. **Resolved**



**FC/2024/123 Insurance renewal 2024/2025**

It was agreed to defer this item.

**FC/2024/124 Free parking days**

Councillor Wheeler proposed to support the free parking days on Saturday 30 November, Saturday 7 December and Friday 20 December, seconded by Councillor Nash, all in favour. **Resolved**

**FC/2024/125 Wimborne Cemetery**

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

The quotes to instal secondary glazing at the Lodge were discussed. Councillor Wheeler proposed to accept quote 2 at a cost of £3,771.74, seconded by Councillor Hart, all in favour. **Resolved**

The notes from the recent inspection of the site were read out by the Town Clerk and noted by Full Council. The great work undertaken by the Cemetery Manager was noted.

**FC/2024/126 Legal transfer of Parmiter Drive allotments**

Councillor Richmond proposed Councillors Hart and Wheeler were authorised to sign the TP1 Land transfer document and Deed of Covenant for Parmiter Drive allotments along with the Town Clerk, seconded by Councillor Chakawhata, all in favour. **Resolved**

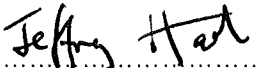
**FC/2024/127 Consultations**

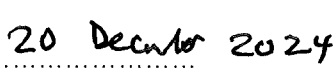
Councillor Wheeler proposed to delegate responsibility for the completion of the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government "Enabling remote attendance and proxy voting at local authority meetings and Law Commission consultation on burial and cremation reforms consultation to the Town Clerk and individual interested councillors, seconded by Councillor Hart, all in favour. **Resolved**. It was agreed interested councillors were to contact the Town Clerk by the end of the week.

**FC/2024/128 Future meetings, motions and close of meeting**

Future meetings dates were noted.

The following motion was suggested for next Full Council: safe spaces initiative. Councillor Wheeler requested the presence of the Police at the next meeting. The meeting closed at 8.09pm.

Signature of Chairman: 

Date: 

**Appendix 1 - Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor engagements from 30 October to 26 November 2024**

- 4 November The Town Mayor and Mayoress, Mrs Barbara Hart, attended the Town Mayor's charity meal at The Rosemary in Wimborne Minster, raising funds for the mayor's charities (Planet Wimborne and Friends of Victoria Hospital).
- 6 November The Deputy Town Mayor and his wife attended the Royal British Legion Concert of Remembrance event at the Barrington Centre in Ferndown.
- 9 November The Town Mayor and Mayoress, Mrs Barbara Hart, attended the Wimborne in Bloom charities fair in the Allendale Centre in Wimborne Minster.
- 10 November The Town Mayor and Mayoress, Mrs Barbara Hart, attended the Remembrance Day parade and service in Wimborne Minster.
- 11 November The Town Mayor attended Armistice Day service on the Wimborne Minster green.
- 14 November The Town Mayor and Mayoress, Mrs Barbara Hart, attended the official opening of the McCarthy and Stone premises "The Old Market Village" in Wimborne Minster.
- 15 November The Town Mayor and Mayoress, Mrs Barbara Hart, attended the Town Mayor's charity skittles evening at The Coach & Horses pub, raising funds for the mayor's charities.
- 16 November The Town Mayor and Mayoress, Mrs Barbara Hart, attended the Mayor of Blandford Civic Day.
- 19 November The Town Mayor hosted Colehill Guides at the Town Hall as part of the "Girls in Parliament Week".

Full Council 26 November 2024

Chairman's initials:



