



Minutes of **Wimborne Minster Town Council** meeting on **17 December 2024** 7pm
Council Chamber, Town Hall, 37 West Borough, Wimborne Minster, Dorset BH21 1LT.

Present

Town Councillors: J Billington, C Brown, D Burt, 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 K Brooks (Deputy Town Clerk).
Public: Three (Police Sgt Payne, PCSO N Sykes and Dorset Ward Councillor Andy Todd).

FC/2024/129 Town Mayor's welcome

The Town Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting, reminded everyone present the meeting was being recorded, and from January Full Council meetings were to be live streamed. The Town Mayor informed all present that anyone addressing the meeting did not have to stand. Some councillors stated they preferred to stand as they felt their voices projected in the room when standing. The Town Mayor thanked everyone for supporting recent fundraising events and reminded everyone of forthcoming events.

FC/2024/130 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors S Bartlett (business) and D Trim (non-business). Councillor Wheeler proposed to accept apologies, seconded by Councillor Billington, all in favour.
Resolved.

Apologies were also received and noted from Dorset Ward Councillor D Morgan.

FC/2024/131 Declarations of interest and dispensations

The Town Mayor declared a non-pecuniary interest in relation to item 8 (i) on the agenda (friend and ex-colleague lived on Birchdale Road) and Councillor Brown regarding item 8 (ii) on the agenda (Town Crier and member of Wimborne Militia).

FC/2024/132 Public participation

None.

FC/2024/133 Reports

Police Sergeant Payne reported on two matters relevant to the town currently that were awaiting charging decisions from the Crown Prosecution Service, and anti-social behaviour town which was being addressed via the community consequence scheme and had resulted in 28 actions to date. The police representatives were thanked for their report and left the meeting.

Dorset Ward Councillor Todd reported on the following matters relevant to the town: confirmation that the appeal regarding the planning application at Birchdale Road had been withdrawn; he was to attend a meeting in January with Dorset Council officers regarding a safer spaces scheme and would report back to the Town Council; the planning application for the Aldi store at Canford Bottom had been referred to the Eastern Planning Committee to ensure transparency; councillor surgeries were also taking place at Wimborne Football Club as well as Colehill, and he had dealt with his first homelessness case.

Handwritten initials, likely of the Chairman, in black ink.

Councillor Brown, as the Walford Mill Education Trust representative, reported a number of successful events had taken place with more to come. He also stated he had found the "20 in Plenty" seminar excellent, which was also supported by Councillor Richmond.

Councillor Hector, as the representative of Planet Wimborne, reported she was creating social media content to highlight sustainable living and clothes over consumption.

Councillor Wheeler reported he would arrange a meeting with Councillor Sandy to hand over the representative role for the 1069 Squadron Air training Corps.

Councillor Roberts, as the representative for Ochsenfurt Twinning Association, confirmed the Town Council had been invited to Ochsenfurt to commemorate 80 years of peace on 9 May.

Councillor Sandy, the representative for the Valognes Twinning Association, reported he had attended a wine tasting event.

The Town Mayor reported to date his fundraising activities had collected over £4,000 for his two charities, reminded everyone of forthcoming events, and thanked everyone for their support.

FC/2024/134 Full Council minutes 26 November 2024

Councillor Chakawhata proposed to approve the minutes of the meeting on 26 November as a correct record to be signed by the Chairman, seconded by Councillor Wheeler, all in favour.

Resolved

FC/2024/135 Committee minutes and working group notes

The following Committee minutes and working group notes were noted: Planning and Environment Committee 3 December, and Community Events and Liaison Committee 10 December.

FC/2024/136 Recommendations from Committee(s)

The recommendation from the Planning and Environment Committee to apply to Land Registry to adopt a specific area of green space/amenity land in Birchdale Road was discussed. Councillor Wheeler proposed to set up a working group to identify any interest in land / ownership and value, seconded Councillor Burt, all in favour. **Resolved**

The recommendation from the Community Events and Liaison Committee to establish a steering group with delegated authority to submit a full application for Dorset's Town of Culture 2026 and if successful deliver the project within an agreed budget as per the groups terms of reference was discussed. Councillor Richmond proposed to defer the application until such time as a plan and costs were provided to Full Council, seconded by Councillor Sandy. Councillor Roberts requested a recorded vote.

Councillors for: Richmond, Roberts, Sandy and Burt.

Councillors against: Wheeler, Hart, Jaggs, Nash, Hector, Chakawhata, Brown, Billington and Ryan. Councillor Nash proposed to accept the recommendation from the Community Events and Liaison Committee. Councillor Richmond proposed the following amendment to the recommendation from the Community Events and Liaison Committee: that a steering group was established and in the interests of both accountability and openness, to present to an extraordinary meeting of Full Council on 21 January for approval more detailed plans, extent, scale and costings once established prior to approval to the submission of a full application for Dorset's Town of Culture 2026 and if successful deliver the project within and agreed budget as per the steering groups terms of reference. Councillor Nash agreed to the amendment. Seconded by Councillor Wheeler, ten in favour, three abstentions. **Resolved**

FC/2024/137 Grant application

The application from Life Education for £1,015 was discussed. The Town Council's current grant budget and the accounts submitted by Life Education were noted. Councillor Nash proposed not to support the application, seconded by Councillor Chakawhata, all in favour. **Resolved**

FC/2024/138 Insurance renewal 2024 - 2027

The quotes were discussed. The Town Mayor proposed to accept quote three, seconded by Councillor Nash, all in favour. **Resolved**

FC/2024/139 Wimborne Cemetery

The activity report from 1 April to 30 November 2024 was noted.

The EICR report was noted, and the Town Clerk confirmed all works had been carried out to rectify the issues highlighted in the report.

FC/2024/140 Motion from Councillor Wheeler – youth service provision

Councillor Wheeler introduced the item, and a discussion took place around historical service and aspirations going forward. Councillor Wheeler proposed to defer this item to next Full Council to allow councillors time to digest his report and propose other possible options, seconded by Councillor Chakawhata, all in favour. **Resolved**

FC/2024/141 Correspondence

The following correspondence was noted by Full Council: Planet Wimborne and Mosaic Charity letters of thanks, and Dorset Council parish and town council tax base figures for 2025 2026.

FC/2024/142 Future meetings, motions and close of meeting

Future meetings dates were noted. The Town Clerk confirmed the outstanding report on maintenance costs for the two red telephone boxes in the Square remained outstanding and the "20 is Plenty" scheme fell under the remit of the Planning and Environment Committee.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Signature of Chairman: *Jeffrey Hart*

Date: *28/1/2025*



