



Minutes of **Wimborne Minster Town Council** meeting on **28 January 2025** 7pm
Council Chamber, Town Hall, 37 West Borough, Wimborne Minster, Dorset BH21 1LT.

Present

Town Councillors: J Billington, C Brown, W Chakawhata, J Hart (Town Mayor), L Hector, J Morgan, 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 (including Police Sergeant S Payne).

FC/2024/149 Town Mayor's welcome

The Town Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting, reported on recent fundraising activities, and reminded everyone to speak clearly through the Chairman as the meeting was being recorded and live streamed. The Town Mayor also requested feedback from town councillors regarding the new room layout for the meeting.

FC/2024/150 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors S Bartlett (business), D Burt (business) (*received before the meeting but not reported in error*), B Jaggs (non-business) and D Trimm (business). Councillor Billington proposed to accept apologies, seconded by Councillor Wheeler, all in favour. **Resolved**

FC/2024/151 Declarations of interest and dispensations

Councillor Brown (Town Crier and member of Wimborne Militia).

FC/2024/152 Public participation

It was agreed to move item 10 on the agenda (youth service provision) to the next item of business to facilitate the presence of a member of the public.

The member of the public provided information on a previous youth café service in the town a number of years ago and confirmed plans were being progressed with Dorset Council to reinstate a similar youth service at the current home of Radio Wimborne in the town. The member of the public requested the Town Council defer the item until Dorset Council had confirmed the reinstatement of the youth café service. The Town Clerk confirmed she had not received information from any town councillors regarding the content of the report deferred from the last meeting. The Town Clerk read out an email from Councillor Barlett who requested the item be deferred pending a visit from the Dorset Council Executive Director for Place on 17 February and an explanation of Dorset Council's intended plans for youth service provision in Wimborne. Councillors debated the item and Councillor Wheeler proposed to approve option 1 (to fund an additional youth service provision once a week across two age groups from the Reef in Colehill delivered by Dorset Youth Association) and set up a working party to explore option 2 (provide a new youth service initially once a week building up to two sessions a week from one location in Wimborne across two age groups) alongside the youth café project, which would not interfere with any youth café plans or Dorset Council's visit on 17 February. Seconded by Councillor Chakawhata, ten in favour, one abstention. **Resolved**

FC/2024/153 Updates and reports

Sergeant Payne reported on anti-social behaviour in the Crown Mead area, confirmed a request for additional officers in the area had been submitted, partnership work to deliver outreach services with Dorset Council was going well, work with the licensing team to address shoplifting of alcohol by individuals under the age of 18 was progressing and bike/tools/vehicle 'pop up' marking events were continuing.

A report was read out by the Town Clerk from Dorset Ward Councillor David Morgan who sent apologies for not being able to attend the meeting:

- Ward councillors and Dorset Council officers had undertaken a site visit at Wimborne Chase and the following issues discussed: parking outside the school; lack of signposting for the other end of Bluebell Crescent; speeding, and shrubbery cut back at the upper pedestrian crossing with negotiations ongoing with Bloor Homes regarding the Stone Lane crossing
- a meeting had taken place with Beaucroft Foundation School and Wimborne Community Garden regarding a new entrance into the School's carpark to allow minibuses to access the site and a viability survey was to be presented to the Highways Team
- discussions were ongoing to improve the surface of the Co-op supermarket carpark with the private landowner

The above was noted. Councillor Wheeler stated he was disappointed the Town Council had not been invited to the site visit at Wimborne Chase as specifically requested and requested Councillor Morgan was invited to the next Planning and Environment Committee meeting. Councillor Roberts commented she hoped County councillors were taking into account protected tree status regarding the Beaucroft Foundations School item and the road markings to protect emergency vehicle access were not visible. The Town Mayor reported on his fundraising activities and thanked Malcolm Angel for his work in undertaking walks in sometimes adverse weather conditions. Town Mayor engagements were also reported on (see appendix 1).

Councillor Chakawhata, as a Dorset ward councillor, reported he had dealt with two fly tipping incidents and the temporary traffic lights for gas works had been removed after the work finished following complaints.

Councillor Brown, as the representative for Walford Mill Education Trust, reported two makers spaces were currently vacant and the café was doing well.

Councillor Billington reported that school feedback regarding Dorset's Town of Culture 2026 application had been positively received.

Councillor Morgan, as the representative for Wimborne BID, reported the ballot was due in October and councillors were invited to the business 'catch up' event tomorrow evening.

Councillor Hector, as the representative for Planet Wimborne, reported the green festival cup design was underway, a swift box project in the town was progressing, the town's plastic fee status was still valid, and plans were underway for the 'Spring Green' event in April.

Councillor Roberts, as the representative for Wimborne in Bloom, invited councillors to organise a team for the forthcoming quiz event.

Councillor Nash, as the representative for Wimborne Fairtrade, reported fairtrade signage was being erected to encourage businesses to take on more fairtrade items.

Councillor Brown reported a meeting with the local fire brigade service had been arranged for councillors and further information would be emailed.

FC/2024/154 Full Council minutes 17 December and 21 January

Councillor Nash proposed to approve the minutes of the meetings on 17 December and 21 January as a correct record to be signed by the Chairman, seconded by Councillor Chakawhata, all in favour.

Resolved

FC/2024/155 Committee minutes and working group notes

The following Committee minutes and working group notes were noted: Planning and Environment 7 January, Joint Working Group 9 January, and Recreation Leisure and Buildings Committee 21 January.

One member of the public left the meeting.

FC/2024/156 Recommendations from Council's Standing Committees

The recommendation from the Planning and Environment to accept a quote to deliver a Neighbourhood Plan was considered. Councillor Wheeler proposed to accept the quote, press forward with a Neighbourhood Plan and apply for appropriate funding, seconded by Councillor Morgan, all in favour.

Resolved

The recommendation from the Joint Working Group to approve the draft travel document was discussed and background information provided on the collaborative work of the Group to date. Councillor



Wheeler proposed to approve the travel document, seconded by Councillor Morgan, all in favour. **Resolved**

FC/2024/157 Cemetery report

The Cemetery report was noted.

FC/2024/158 Motion from Councillor Richmond

Councillor Richmond requested more work was done outside of the Town Council's website and social media pages to promote council and committee meetings. Councillor Richmond proposed more effort was made to publicise all council and committee meetings on social media, seconded by Councillor Roberts, all in favour. **Resolved**

FC/2024/159 Strategic Plan 2024 – 2025 review

The tracking document was discussed and it was agreed this document would be presented to all committees as a standing agenda item for actioning and reviewed by Full Council in a quarterly basis.

FC/2024/160 Correspondence and consultations

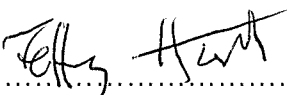
The correspondence from St Margaret's and Stone Charity was discussed. Councillor Hart proposed to appoint Councillor Roberts as the Town Council representative for St Margaret's and Stone Charity for the next four to five years, seconded by Councillor Morgan, all in favour. **Resolved**

It was agreed to delegate authority to the Town Clerk to respond to the Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government consultation on audit reform.

Councillor Morgan proposed to set up a group of councillors and staff to respond to the Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government consultation on strengthening standards and conduct framework for local authorities in England, seconded by Councillor Nash, all in favour. **Resolved**

FC/2024/161 Close of meeting

Members of public were thanked for attending the meeting, no future motions were requested, forthcoming meeting dates were noted, and the meeting was closed at 8.05pm.

Signature of Chairman: 

Date: 25-2-2025

Appendix 1 - Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor engagements from 17 December 2024 to 27 January 2025

18 December	The Town Mayor and Mayoress, Mrs Barbara Hart, attended the Dorset Police Christmas Carol Service in Wimborne Minster Church.
20 December	The Town Mayor and Mayoress, Mrs Barbara Hart, accompanied by the Town Serjant, attended the Carols in the Cornmarket event.
24 December	The Town Mayor and Town Serjant attended the Christian Aid Christmas Eve lunch at the Wimborne Methodist Church.
31 December	The Town Mayor and Mayoress, Mrs Barbara Hart, accompanied by the Town Serjant, led the New Years Eve event at the Kings Head and Town Square.
19 January	The Town Mayor and Mayoress, Mrs Barbara Hart, accompanied by the Town Serjant, attended the Holocaust Memorial Service in Wimborne Minster Church.

