



**DRAFT Minutes of Wimborne Minster School Council meeting 4 February 2025 3.45pm,**  
Council Chamber, Town Hall, 37 West Borough, Wimborne Minster, Dorset BH21 1LT.

**Present:**

School representatives: Allenbourne Middle School – I Harding, M Morris and J Namock  
Castle Court – F Brook and U Sturdy  
Corfe Hills – C Wainwright  
Dumpton – L Mitchell and E Stevenson  
Hayeswood First – R Jackson, O Merritt and R Titterington  
Pamphill First – E Bowman and M Lennon  
Queen Elizabeth – L Hubbard and G Peshins  
St Johns First – M Handley, T Houghton, T Johnson and I Mills  
Witchampton First – L Fazey and I Porretta  
Wimborne First – J Addlington and C Hazel.

Town Councillors (Cllrs): C Brown, J Hart (Town Mayor and Chairman), B Richmond and A Roberts.

Officers: L Harrison (Town Clerk) and K Brooks (Deputy Town Clerk)

Members of the public: 16 (parents, siblings and teachers) and a representative from Planet Wimborne (L Bunting).

**WMSC/2024/29 Welcome**

Councillor Hart thanked everyone for attending the meeting and everyone introduced themselves.

**WMSC/2024/30 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillor Wheeler.

**WMSC/2024/31 Minutes of previous School Council meeting 12 November 2024.**

The minutes were approved.

**MWSC/2024/32 Update from the Town Council**

The Chairman and Town Clerk confirmed:

- last month the Town Council had agreed to deliver an additional youth service provision from the Reef in Colehill as soon as possible, research the option of providing a youth service provision within the town, and were seeking the views of children and young people about the provision of both these services (see minute reference WMSC/2024/33 (iv) below)
- the Town Council had submitted an application for Dorset's Town of Culture 2026 and the Town Mayor and Councillor J Billington had attended a number of school assemblies to present information on this project and had obtained feedback on the types of activities students would like to see if we were successful in our application
- the Town Council was looking at the option of joining a national safer scheme initiative with Dorset Council that would be delivered county wide

### **WMSC/2024/33      Items discussed**

- (i) Planet Wimborne's Earth day event 22 April 2025.

L Bunting provided information on the event and the following ideas were presented by the School Council to celebrate this event: an art competition; cake sale; litter pick competition; planting seeds / trees / herbs / flowers; sponsored walk; use of waste collected at litter picking events to create a recycled sculpture, and non-uniform days with funds raised to help nature. Students were thanked for sharing their ideas.

- (ii) Safety in the town

The Town Mayor asked students to think about safety in Wimborne and give it a mark (out of ten). Following discussion, the average mark was six and the following issues raised: not enough parking spaces, narrow pavements, high volume of moving traffic in the town. Personal safety was also discussed (see item MWSC/2024/32 bullet point three above).

- (iii) Town of Culture 2026

Students were tasked with considering ideas for the project and came up with the suggestions: funding for school trips; an entertainment hub; more volunteer opportunities; a children's art gallery / competition; cadet unit; free after school clubs; art classes; planet / nature festivals; access to stationary for creative / art events; youth activities for children aged five to seven; colour (powder) run; shops for younger people and student discounts; more library activities; musical theatre events, and places for children to go and revise outside of school that were not prohibitive in terms of refreshment costs or accessibility.

The Town Mayor asked the members to vote on whether the Town Council should apply to be Dorset Town of Culture 2026 and everyone was in favour.

- (iv) Youth service consultation process

It was agreed to organise a meeting of the Steering Group to coordinate a consultation process for the Town Council's youth service provision project via the Town Clerk. The following members agreed to be on the Group: Queen Elizabeth School L Hubbard and G Peshins; Dumpton School L Mitchell and E Stevenson; St Johns First School M Handley, T Houghton, T Johnson and I Mills, and Castle Court School F Brook and U Sturdy.

Members were asked to share ideas on youth services and the following ideas were shared: more activities in the town; bring back the leisure centre; a revision café with subsidised rates and donated textbooks; free art space and resources; access for year five onwards; led by youth club leaders not people who do not know anything about children / young people; table tennis, and second hand clothes shops for children / young people.

### **WMSC/2024/28      Future motions and close of meeting**

The following ideas were agreed for discussion future meetings: start-up businesses, summer camps, treasure trails / hunts, gardening opportunities, volunteering opportunities, book deposit / swap, and an activities centre with an area for an art installation.

The Town Mayor thanked everyone for coming and taking part in the meeting and closed the meeting at 16.55pm.

Signature of Chairman: .....

Date: .....