



## Wimborne Minster Town Council

The Town Hall, 37 West Borough, Wimborne, Dorset, BH21 1LT

### Minutes of the **Community Events and Liaison Committee 10 December 2024**

7pm in the Committee Room, Wimborne Minster Town Hall, 37 West Borough, Wimborne, Dorset BH21 1LT.

#### **Present:**

Councillors: S Bartlett, J Billington, C Brown, W Chakawhata, J Hart (Town Mayor and Chairman of the Committee), L Hector, B Jaggs and A Roberts.

Officers: L Harrison (Town Clerk) and G Mason (Community Events and Liaison Officer).

Members of the public: six members of the public including representatives from the Allendale Centre, the Museum of East Dorset, Walford Mill Education Trust, Wimborne BID, Wimborne Model Town and Gardens and a resident from West Street.

#### **CEL/2024/13 Dorset Town of Culture 2026**

The Town Mayor asked everyone to introduce themselves. He confirmed the Town Council's Expression of Interest had been successful and as a result the Town Council had been invited to complete a full application by 27 January. Discussion took place around the application process, funding, collaboration, inclusivity and events. The Town Mayor proposed to recommend to Full Council that a Steering Group was established 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. Seconded by Councillor Brown, six in favour, one against and one abstention.

#### **Resolved**

The representatives from the various organisations left the meeting and were thanked for attending. It was agreed to move the public participation item up to the next item of business.

#### **CEL/2024/14 Public participation**

The resident from West Street request additional Christmas lighting was installed the length of West Street from the current two properties. The Community Events and Liaison Officer reminded everyone that the "icicles" lights across the main roads in the town centre were not suitable for West Street due to the low building structures and legislation requirements regarding minimum light height (5.2 metres). Councillors agreed West Street was an important route that required Christmas lighting along with other areas such as Leigh Park. The Community Events and Liaison Officer confirmed there was not an electricity supply to support additional lights in West street and the member of the public confirmed that although they were supplying the current supply for two buildings they would not support supply for the entire street. The Town Clerk confirmed the Town Council would be undertaking a tender review for the installation of Christmas lights for 2025 to 2027 in the New Year – *this has been clarified by the Community Events and Liaison following the meeting as incorrect and the correct tender period is from 2026 to 2028*. Councillor Bartlett proposed to investigate the costs of installing additional lighting in West Street this year and expanding the lighting for next year, seconded by Councillor Brown, two in favour, five against, one abstention. Councillor Hector proposed to leave the lights as they were this year and as part of the tender process incorporate expanding the lights into other areas including West Street, seconded by Councillor Jaggs, seven in favour, one abstention. **Resolved**

The member of the public left the meeting and was thanked for attending.

#### **CEL/2024/15 Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Councillors C Ryan, I Sandy and S Wheeler (all non-business). Councillor Chakawhata proposed to accept the apologies, seconded by Councillor Brown, all in favour.

**Resolved**

#### **CEL/2024/16 Declarations of interest and dispensations**

Councillor Brown declared non-pecuniary interests (member of Wimborne Militia and the Town Crier),

#### **CEL/2024/17 Committee minutes 22 October draft**

Councillor Jaggs proposed to approve the Committee minutes from 22 October and signed by the Chairman, seconded by Councillor Billington, all in favour. **Resolved**

#### **CEL/2024/18 Previous events**

The Community Events and Liaison Officer reported on the following events:

- Remembrance Day Parade and Service had gone well and a wash up meeting had taken place and actions agreed to improve the event going forward,
- Armistice Day commemoration had been a quiet and respectful event
- the Christmas lights switch on 30 November had been very well attended, a washup up meeting had taken place and identified positive and negative issues (the screen and market had worked well, sound had been an issue towards the end of the event) and the contractor was due back to rectify the current Christmas tree lean following the recent storm.

#### **CEL/2024/19 Forthcoming events**

The Community Events and Liaison Officer reported on the following:

- the Town Mayors charity collection event was taking place in the Town Square on 21 December including a raffle and invited councillors to come along and support fundraising activity
- plans for the New Years Eve event 31 December was progressing and the venue had confirmed the maximum number of 20 people in the room to support the event. It was agreed the Officer and Town Mayor would discuss and agree the use of the room.

#### **CEL/2024/20 Town Mayor's charity events**

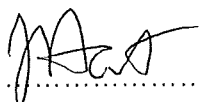
The Town Mayor updated the Committee on the past and forthcoming fundraising events.

#### **CEL/2024/21 Website and social media**

The Community Events and Liaison Officer confirmed statistical in relation to website and social media activity, the huge 'spike' for the Christmas lights event, and current number of Facebook (1500) and Instagram (144) followers were noted. The Town Clerk confirmed a tender process for the website was due to take place in the New Year.

#### **CEL/2024/22 Next meeting, future motions and close of meeting**

The date of the next Committee meeting was noted (11 March). Councillor Bartlett requested to research the delivery of a beer and food festival at a future meeting and the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.12pm.

Signature of Chairman: ..... 

Date: ..... 