



Minutes of **Wimborne Minster Town Council** meeting on **25 February 2025** 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, J Morgan, R Nash, B Richmond, A Roberts, C Ryan, D Trim and S Wheeler.
Officers: L Harrison (Town Clerk) and K Brooks (Deputy Town Clerk).
Public: Two (including Dorset Police and Crime Commissioner David Sidwick)

FC/2024/162 Town Mayor's welcome

The Town Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting and reminded everyone to speak clearly through the Chairman as the meeting was being recorded and live streamed.

FC/2024/163 Presentation from Dorset Police and Crime Commissioner

The Commissioner introduced himself and provided a presentation on his role, vision and priorities. Following the presentation councillors asked questions regarding the future of Wimborne Police Station, improving shoplifting reporting, staff budget reductions and children vaping. The Police and Crime Commissioner confirmed officers were to continue to use Wimborne Police Station but were parading from Ferndown Police Station, partnership work was continuing to encourage shoplifting reporting and national bureaucratic guidelines needed to be simplified, staffing budget reductions had been achieved from civilian staff resignations and redundancies, and trading standards were to be notified if councillors were concerned about vaping as they were responsible for monitor vaping licenses. The Town Mayor thanked the Police and Crime Commissioner for attending.

FC/2024/164 Apologies

D. Trim (business)

Apologies were received from Councillors S Bartlett (business), B Jaggs (non-business) and I Sandy (business). Councillor Morgan proposed to accept apologies, seconded by Councillor Chakawhata, all in favour. **Resolved**

Apologies were also received from Dorset Ward Councillor's J Atwal, D Morgan and A Todd.

FC/2024/165 Declarations of interest and dispensations

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

FC/2024/166 Public participation

None.

FC/2024/167 Updates and reports

A report was read out by the Town Clerk from Dorset Ward Councillor A Todd:

- Dorset Council had achieved a balanced budget of £417.2 million with £231.6 million allocated on Adult Social Care and Children's Social Care
- the plan to introduce nighttime parking charges had been suspended subject to a review, in large part due to the campaigning by Councillor Bartlett and concerns at the impact this would have on Wimborne's night time economy
- the graffiti on the rail bridge on North Leigh Lane had been removed
- the Beryl Bike Scheme was ending in Colehill, Wimborne and Ferndown on 28 February
- the Aldi planning application at Canford Bottom remained outstanding
- the Safer Spaces Scheme meeting had been delayed to accommodate representatives from BCP

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- a meeting regarding By the Way SANG was taking place on 4 March to discuss maintenance
- the Dorset councillor was supporting a request from MP Vikki Slade to obtain information from NHS Dorset regarding GP appointments in Wimborne following negative social media comments
- the Wessex devolution request had not been included in the Government's Devolution Priority Programme

The above was noted.

The Town Mayor reported on his ongoing fundraising events.

Councillor Brown reported Dorset and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Authority had decided not to withdraw the second fire engine from Wimborne Fire Station, and a tour of Wimborne Cemetery was due to be organised in line with Commonwealth War Graves week 2-11 May.

Councillor Morgan, as the representative for Wimborne BID, reported permission remained outstanding with Dorset Council to replace the mural on Hanham Road underpass commissioned by the BID, and the footbridge near the Co-op supermarket had been reported to Dorset Council (suffering wear and tear).

Councillor Hector, as the representative for Planet Wimborne, reported the next War on Waste litter pick was taking place on 23 March, a networking event was taking place on 1 March, and the blister pack box collections were working very well. Councillor Hector also requested volunteers for the Community Speedwatch project.

Councillor Roberts, as the representative for Wimborne in Bloom, re-invited councillors to take part in the quiz event on 7 March, confirmed preparations were in place for planting beds, and the group were considering entering the national town bloom category this year.

FC/2024/168 Full Council minutes 28 January

Councillor Hart proposed to approve the minutes of the meetings on 28 January as a correct record to be signed by the Chairman, seconded by Councillor Morgan, all in favour. **Resolved**

FC/2024/169 Committee minutes and working group notes

The following Committee minutes and working group notes were noted: School Council and Climate Action Working Group 4 February, Finance and Governance Committee and HR Committee 11 February, and Town Liaison Group 14 February. The draft minutes of the Recreation Leisure and Buildings Committee 18 February were deferred.

FC/2024/170 Recommendations from Council's Standing Committees

The recommendations from the Climate Action Working Group were considered. Councillor Morgan proposed the Town Council's climate emergency declaration from 2019 was fit for purpose, seconded by Councillor Wheeler, all in favour. **Resolved**. The Terms of reference for the Group were noted. Councillor Morgan proposed to apply for an up-to-date carbon audit for all Town Council buildings, seconded by Councillor Billington, all in favour. **Resolved**

The Town Clerk confirmed Dorset Council had supported the use of the Town Council's Community Infrastructure Levy monies for the replacement water fountain at Redcotts toilets. Councillor Nash proposed to support the recommendation from the Finance and Governance Committee to fund the cost of the replacement water refill fountain at Redcotts toilets for £2,320 from the Town Council's Community Infrastructure Levy monies, seconded by Councillor Morgan, all in favour. **Resolved**

FC/2024/171 Cemetery report

The Cemetery report was noted.

The allotment fee report was debated. Councillor Wheeler proposed to support the recommendation in the report of an increase of ~~£50~~ ^{£25} per square meter over a two year period from 1 April 2026 onwards, seconded by Councillor Billington, all in favour. **Resolved**

FC/2024/172 Correspondence and consultations

The confidential consultation item was deferred to the end of the meeting

FC/2024/173 Future motions

Councillor Hart confirmed two future motions (councillor surgeries and live streaming committee meetings) and the forthcoming meeting dates were noted.

FC/2024/174 Exempt business

Councillor Hart proposed to go into exempt business due to the confidential nature of the consultation item to be discussed, seconded by Councillor Wheeler, all in favour. **Resolved**
The members of the public left the meeting.

Councillor Wheeler proposed to approve and submit the response prepared by Councillor Richmond including the offer of a site meeting, seconded by Councillor Brown, all in favour. **Resolved**

FC/2024/175 Close of meeting

Councillor Hart thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 20.20pm.

Signature of Chairman: *Jeffy Hart* Date: *25 March 2025*

Appendix 1 – presentation for Dorset Police and Crime Commissioner

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