



Minutes of **Wimborne Minster Town Council** meeting on **25 March 2025** 7pm in the Council Chamber at the Town Hall, 37 West Borough, Wimborne Minster, Dorset BH21 1LT.

Present

Town Councillors: J Billington, C Brown, J Hart (Town Mayor), L Hector, B Jaggs, J Morgan, R Nash, B Richmond, A Roberts, C Ryan and I Sandy.
 Officers: L Harrison (Town Clerk) and K Brooks (Deputy Town Clerk).
 Public: One (a representative from Dorset Police)

FC/2024/176 Town Mayor's welcome

The Town Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting, reminded everyone to have their mobile phones on silent, and to speak clearly through the Chairman as the meeting was being recorded and live streamed. The Town Mayor also advised councillors they did not need to stand when addressing the meeting.

FC/2024/177 Apologies

Apologies were received from Town Councillors S Bartlett, D Burt, W Chakawhata, D Trim and S Wheeler (all business related). Councillor Hart proposed to accept apologies, seconded by Councillor Richmond, all in favour. **Resolved**

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

FC/2024/178 Declarations of interest and dispensations

Councillor Brown declared a non-pecuniary interest (Town Crier and member of Wimborne Militia).

FC/2024/179 Public participation

None.

FC/2024/180 Updates and reports

The Dorset Police representative reported on the following matters:

- crime statistics in the town which were low compared to the national average and mainly related to shoplifting and domestic violence related issues
- a meeting had recently taken place with MP Vikki Slade to address concerns around shoplifting incidents in the town and had resulted in two additional CCTV volunteers
- the town was to be included in a new Government 'hotspot' operation which should result in an increase in foot patrols by officers

Councillor Roberts asked if smoking drug related crimes were taking place in the town. The Police representative confirmed that these were low and usually related to stop and search incidents.

Councillor Roberts asked if police had jurisdiction over under age smoking and the Police representative confirmed vaping was more of an issue and police were working with schools and outreach services to address the use of vapes by children / young people.

Councillor Billington asked if the local 'derby' football game had resulted in any incidents. The Police representative stated there had not been any problems.

A report was read out by the Town Clerk from Dorset Ward Councillor A Todd: the Safer Spaces Scheme meeting had taken place and a draft policy was being developed. Councillor Hector confirmed she was involved with this project. The Police representative confirmed police were aware and supported the scheme.

The Town Mayor reported on his ongoing fundraising events. Councillors Morgan and Billington commented positively on the success of the recent "Auction of Promises" fundraising event.

Councillor Brown reported the visit to Wimborne Fire Station by councillors had gone well and he would continue to engage with representatives from the Station.

Councillor Roberts, as the representative for Wimborne in Bloom, reported summer planting was going well. Councillor Roberts also confirmed she was to attend a meeting of St Margaret's and Stone Charity later in the week.

Councillor Nash confirmed he continued to attend Fair Trade meetings and had delivered stickers to relevant organisations promoting the fair trade accreditation for the town.

Councillor Morgan congratulated the Town Mayor, Community Events and Liaison Officer and other staff on the success of the Freedom of the Town event.

Councillor Hector, as the representative for Planet Wimborne, reported the three reusable festival cup designs were publicly available for voting and plans were underway to accredit the town with 'hedgehog' friendly status.

Councillor Sandy, as the representative for the Valognes Twinning Association, reported on recent events and plans were being progressed regarding the June visit to Valognes.

FC/2024/181 Full Council minutes 25 February 2025

Councillor Hart proposed to approve the minutes of the meetings on 25 February as a correct record to be signed by the Chairman, seconded by Councillor Nash, all in favour. **Resolved**

FC/2024/182 Committee minutes and working group notes

The following Committee minutes and working group notes were noted: Recreation Leisure and Buildings Committee 18 February, Town of Culture Steering Group 28 February, Planning and Environment Committee 4 March, Community Events and Liaison committee 11 March, Joint Working Group 14 March, and Finance and Governance Committee 18 March.

FC/2024/183 Recommendations from Council's Standing Committees

The recommendation from the Recreation Leisure and Buildings Committee to approve a non-committed trial period for the Town Council's existing CCTV to be amalgamated with Dorset Council's CCTV system was discussed. Councillor Nash proposed to approve the recommendation, seconded by Councillor Billington, all in favour. **Resolved**

The recommendations from the Community Events and Liaison Committee were discussed. Councillor Morgan proposed to approve setting up monthly Town Councillor Surgery's, seconded by Councillor Jaggs, nine in favour, two abstentions. **Resolved**. Councillor Hart proposed to approve the electronic precept information leaflet once it has been reviewed by a working group, seconded by Councillor Brown, all in favour. **Resolved**. Councillor Hart proposed to approve the electronic "wheel" signposting leaflet, seconded by Councillor Hector, all in favour. **Resolved**. Councillor Hart proposed to approve the electronic quarterly newsletter template, seconded by Councillor Brown, all in favour. **Resolved**

The recommendations from the Finance and Governance Committee were discussed. Councillor Brown proposed to approve and adopt the updated Asset Register, seconded by Councillor Nash, all in favour. **Resolved**. Councillor Morgan proposed to approve and adopt the updated Risk Management Strategy, seconded by Councillor Brown, all in favour. **Resolved**. Councillor Jaggs proposed to approve and adopt the updated Risk Management Record, seconded by Councillor Richmond, all in favour. **Resolved**. Councillor's thanked the staff for undertaking the work to update these documents.

FC/2024/184 Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group and Terms of Reference

Councillor Morgan proposed to approve setting up a Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Terms and Terms of Reference circulated, seconded by Councillor Brown, all in favour. **Resolved**

FC/2024/185 Sports and Leisure Forum and Terms of Reference

Councillor's Hart and Jaggs provided background information on the Forum and explained it would run in partnership with the Town of Culture project. Councillor Jaggs proposed to approve setting up a Sports and Leisure Forum and Terms of Reference circulated, seconded by Councillor Jaggs, all in favour. **Resolved**

FC/2024/186 Correspondence

Following the Police and Crime Commissioners presentation at Full Council last month, Councillor Brown proposed to authorise the Town Clerk to write to the Commissioner requesting clarification on the continued use of Wimborne Police Station by Safer Neighbourhood Team uniformed officers in terms of short/medium/long term use, how this would work from an operational point of view, and whether the Commissioner supported a police presence in the town via the current use of Wimborne Police Station / Magistrates Court building by operational officers including the east area Safer Neighbourhood Team. Seconded by Councillor Morgan, all in favour. **Resolved**

FC/2024/187 BCP town councillor representative role

Councillor Jaggs requested creating a new representative role in terms of open dialogue for issues affecting residents including boundary building developments and SANG areas. Councillor Hart proposed to approve the representative role, seconded by Councillor Ryan, all in favour. **Resolved**

FC/2024/188 Close of meeting

Councillor Hart thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 19.52pm.

Signature of Chairman:

Date: