

BLANDFORD FORUM TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of the Town Council Meeting
Held on Monday 17th October 2022 at 7pm in the Corn Exchange



PRESENT

Cllr C Stevens – Chairman of Council
Cllr S Hitchings
Cllr K Herbert
Cllr B Quayle
Cllr L Lindsay
Cllr P Osborne
Cllr P Clark
Cllr C Jacques

Cllr H Mieville – Vice Chairman of Council
Cllr A Cross
Cllr L Hitchings
Cllr R Carter
Cllr E Bray
Cllr H White
Cllr R Holmes

IN ATTENDANCE

Town Clerk

Nicci Brown

71. PUBLIC SESSION

There were no members of public in attendance.

72. REPORT FROM DORSET COUNCIL COUNCILLORS

Cllr Quayle delivered the report this month.

Staffing – Community Highways Officer, Paul Starkey has left and Dorset Council is currently recruiting to replace him.

Flooding – There have been some issues resulting from the flash flooding.

Meeting with Blandford Group Practice – Meetings have been taking place approximately every six weeks, including Cllrs Quayle, Lacey-Clarke and Lindsay. A new telephone line is being introduced and it appears that this will be a better system.

Boots – Cllr Quayle is attempting to arrange a meeting with a national level representative.

SEND – Through the SEND capital strategy, Dorset Council is expanding its provision of specialist support and schooling and inclusion hubs.

EVCP – A new charging point is being installed in Church Lane car park.

Library – Cllr Quayle encouraged attendees to respond to the library consultation.

Experimental TRO – This will go live on 28th October for the two new loading bays that are being installed on a trial basis.

73. APOLOGIES

Cllr N Lacey-Clarke

74. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

None had been submitted.

75. MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 26th SEPTEMBER 2022

It was PROPOSED by Cllr L Hitchings, SECONDED by Cllr Cross and AGREED (10 in favour, 5 abstentions) that the Minutes be APPROVED and SIGNED.

76. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE

Newsletter – The newsletter for Remembrance and Christmas events has been received back from the printers, collected by Royal Mail and will also be delivered to Blandford Forum properties by Royal Mail from w/c 24th October 2022, which is ahead of schedule this year.

Internal Auditor – The internal auditor visited on Monday 10th October 2022.

Remembrance – Meetings have been held to plan for the Acts of Remembrance in Blandford Forum and a large banner has been ordered to be displayed on the wooden panelling surround the church.

Business Support Officer – Congratulations to postholder, Kathryn Clark who has passed the Introduction to Local Council Administration (ILCA).

Charter Market Transfer – The Town Clerk has sought an update from Dorset Council regarding the awaited market charter transfer and the DC solicitor has responded to confirm that she will discuss this with her manager for approval and will then send it to BFTC so the council and its legal advisors can consider it.

Flood – The stage area in the Corn Exchange flooded last night with the heavy rain and the caretaker cleared it up this morning.

Boots – A letter has been sent to the Head Office following a discussion with the pharmacist, bringing their attention to the queuing that is happening in store and the issues the staff and customers are experiencing.

77. CIVIC REPORT

The paper was sent to Councillors via email.

78. RECOMMENDATIONS AND RECEIPT OF MINUTES

78.1 Town & General Purposes Committee Meeting held on Monday 10th October 2022

78.1.1 Recommendations

There were no recommendations

78.1.2 The minutes were RECEIVED.

79. TO RECEIVE THE APPROVED EXTERNAL AUDITOR'S REPORT FOR 2021/22

The paper was noted (see Appendix A).

It was PROPOSED by Cllr L Hitchings, SECONDED by Cllr Holmes and AGREED unanimously that

The Town Council receives and notes the External Auditor's report for the 2021/22 financial year.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

80. TO REVIEW THE CIVILITY AND RESPECT STATEMENTS AND CONSIDER SIGNING UP TO THE PLEDGE

The paper was noted (see Appendix B).

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Carter, SECONDED by Cllr Cross and AGREED unanimously that

The Town Council has reviewed the statements and signs up to the Civility and Respect Pledge.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

81. TO CONSIDER RESOLUTIONS FROM DAPTC FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The motions have not yet been received and this matter is deferred to the Planning meeting.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

82. TO CONSIDER A REQUEST FROM THE INFORMATION CENTRE TO USE THE TOWN CREST

The paper was noted (see Appendix C).

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Quayle, SECONDED by Cllr L Hitchings and AGREED unanimously that

The Town Council approves the request for the Information Centre to use the Town Crest for the production of jigsaw puzzles.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

83. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE BOXING CLUB AND CONFIRM THE AGREEMENT

The paper was noted (see Appendix D).

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Lindsay, SECONDED by Cllr Clark and AGREED (13 in favour, 1 against, 1 abstention) that

The Town Council agrees that once the Club has signed the agreement starting 1st April 2022 (in line with the other SLA recipients), provided all requested documentation and is in receipt of confirmation of the new signed lease, the payments for April-June and July-September are released to the Club to bring us up to date for the 2022-23 financial year.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

84. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE AND CONSIDER ANY REQUESTS REGARDING THE:

84.1 Neighbourhood Plan Working Group – Blandford +

A meeting will take place on Tuesday 18th October 2022 and the monitoring group will be reviewing the draft modified plan. AECOM has confirmed that they are working on the Design Code document and will be forwarding it to BFTC by the end of October.

84.2 BFTC Commemoration Group

Nothing to update.

84.3 Climate Change & Biodiversity

The next online meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 1st November 2022.

84.4 Dorset Council Grant to support the Market Area Enhancement Project

Cllr Quayle confirmed that the paving is due to be completed early 2023 and Cllr Stevens suggested a working group meeting is held in the New Year.

85. REPORTS FROM COMMUNITY AND LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

Cllr Carter distributed an update on the most recent BLCCG and BSSF meetings prior to the meeting.

The meeting closed at 8:15 pm.

SIGNED

DATED