



# BLANDFORD FORUM TOWN COUNCIL

To: All Town Councillors  
Members of the Public & Press

Dorset Council Councillors

Dear Member

## **TOWN COUNCIL PLANNING MEETING**

You are summoned to attend a meeting of the Town Council Planning meeting which will be held in the **Corn Exchange**, Market Place, Blandford Forum on **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at 7.00 pm** to consider the following items. This meeting will also be available to view online using Microsoft Teams [using this link](#).

Linda Scott-Giles  
Town Clerk  
9<sup>th</sup> January 2023

## **A G E N D A**

Prior to consideration of the following Agenda, there will be a democratic quarter of an hour, which may be extended at the discretion of the Committee, during which time members of the public may speak. During the course of the meeting, members of the public and our elected representatives from the Dorset Council may indicate they wish to speak, and, at the discretion of the Chairman, and with the approval of the Members, they may be allowed to do so on points of information only. The Committee may on occasion invite members of the public to comment on specific issues where points of information or their particular knowledge on a subject might prove of benefit to the Committee.

Members are reminded that the Council has a general duty to consider the following matters in the exercise of any of its functions: Equal Opportunities (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, religion, belief or disability), Crime & Disorder, Health and Safety and Human Rights. Disabled access is available.

All in attendance should be aware that filming, recording, photography or otherwise may occur during the meeting.

1. Public Session
2. Apologies
3. To receive any Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations
4. [Minutes of the Meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2022](#)
5. [Appendix A – New Planning Applications](#)
6. Appendix B – Dorset Council Decisions on Planning Applications and Applications Awaiting Decisions (to be distributed prior to the meeting)
7. Site Visits/Dorset Council Planning Meetings
8. [Clerk's Report & Correspondence](#)

9. [To seek retrospective expenditure approval for Legionella works](#)

### **DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

23 <sup>rd</sup> January	Recreation & Amenities Committee Meeting
30 <sup>th</sup> January	Town Council Meeting
6 <sup>th</sup> February	Planning Committee Meeting

**Minutes of the Town Council and Committee meetings are available from Blandford Library, the Town Clerk's Office and at [www.blandfordforum-tc.gov.uk](http://www.blandfordforum-tc.gov.uk).**

Twinned with Preetz, Germany



Town Clerk's Office  
Church Lane, Blandford Forum  
Dorset DT11 7AD



Twinned with Mortain, France



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**PLANNING APPENDIX A – NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS**  
**Planning Meeting on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

	Application & Date	Application Details	Comments/ Blandford + Neighbourhood Plan 2011-2033
1	P/HOU/2022/07884 Dorset Council – Emma Ralphs Extension granted until the 17th January	<a href="#"><u>Fusion House Peel Close Blandford Forum DT11 7JU</u></a> Erect Garage and Side Extension to House	Blandford + NP Policy B11 - Managing Design in the Conservation Area
2	P/HOU/2022/07830 Dorset Council Jamie Francis Extension granted to the 17th January	<a href="#"><u>21 Kingston Close Blandford Forum DT11 7UQ</u></a> Erect New Conservatory to rear of dwelling	Blandford + NP Policy B11 - Managing Design in the Conservation Area
3	P/HOU/2022/07910 Dorset Council Nicholas Batten 11th January – Extension Granted	<a href="#"><u>12 Mortain Close Blandford Forum Dorset DT11 7XA</u></a> Erect Single Storey Rear Extension, Erect Porch, Move Fence Line to Rear Garden and Erect Fence	Blandford + NP Policy B1 Blandford Forum and Blandford St Mary settlement boundary
4	P/HOU/2022/07772 Dorset Council Jamie Francis Extension granted until the 17th January 2023	<a href="#"><u>1 Cobham Road Blandford Forum Dorset DT11 7YF</u></a> Erect extension to rear and extend front of garage	Blandford + NP Policy B1 Blandford Forum and Blandford St Mary settlement boundary
5	P/HOU/2022/07964 Dorset Council Jamie Francis Extension granted until the 17th January 2023	<a href="#"><u>2 Kingston Close Blandford Forum DT11 7UQ</u></a> Erect Rear Single Storey Extension and Front Porch	Blandford + NP Policy B11 - Managing Design in the Conservation Area
6	P/HOU/2022/07597 Dorset Council Phillip Longhurst Extension granted until the 17th January	<a href="#"><u>30 Albert Street Blandford Forum Dorset DT11 7HZ</u></a> Install two air sourced heat pumps in the yard next to the house	Blandford + NP Policy B11 - Managing Design in the Conservation Area

	Application & Date	Application Details	Comments/ Blandford + Neighbourhood Plan 2011-2033
7	P/HOU/2022/07494 Dorset Council Emma Ralphs Extension granted until the 17th January	<a href="#"><u>Melbury St Leonards Avenue Blandford Forum DT11 7PD</u></a> <b>Erect single storey rear extension. Erect attached garage and garage Conversion. Install air source heat pump. 2 Nr garden sheds/stores</b>	Blandford + NP Policy B11 – Managing Design in the Conservation Area
8	P/HOU/2022/07495 Dorset Council Janet Dobbins 25th January	<a href="#"><u>17 Salisbury Road Blandford Forum DT11 7HN</u></a> Demolish and rebuild first floor rear extension	Blandford + NP Policy B11 - Managing Design in the Conservation Area
9	P/TRC/2023/00027 Dorset Council Charlotte Flippence Tree Works – For Information Only	<a href="#"><u>67/69 East Street Blandford Forum DT11 7DX</u></a> G1 - Conifer x 14 - Fell.	

## Clerk's Report & Correspondence

**HSBC Closure** – The following letter has been received:



Mrs Scott-Giles  
Town Clerk  
[admin@blandfordforum-tc.gov.uk](mailto:admin@blandfordforum-tc.gov.uk)

9<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Dear Mrs Scott-Giles,

I am writing to you further to the news of 30 November 2022, when HSBC UK announced the planned closure of 114 of its UK branches in 2023. Within this group we have taken the difficult decision to close the HSBC UK branch in Blandford on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2023. This will bring our number of branches in the UK to 327 by the end of 2023.

I would like to assure you that this decision has not been taken lightly and reflects the need to maintain a sustainable branch network for the benefit of our customers. Over the past five years, usage of the bank's branches by regular customers has fallen by 65%, with the vast majority of closing branches seeing more than a 50% reduction in footfall. Nine in ten customers' contact with the bank is now completed by telephone, internet, or smartphone, and 99% of cash withdrawals are made at an ATM. The rate of decline in branch usage has accelerated since the Covid-19 pandemic with no signs of recovering, with a number of branches now serving fewer than 250 customers a week.

While the closures are staggered throughout the year, we chose to announce them all at once to give clarity to our staff and customers. We have informed our colleagues at the branch and, wherever possible, are working with them to find them alternative roles with us. Posters are displayed in the branch giving details of the closure, and we are writing to regular branch users to provide more information about the closure, and the alternative services available to them. We have added a report to our website with more information on the closure. This shows how we believe it will affect the local community and can be found at <https://www.hsbc.co.uk/ways-to-bank/branch-banking/>.

Whilst many of our customers are choosing to bank with us using our mobile and digital channels, we appreciate that others still value our face-to-face service. These customers will continue to be able to make use of our other branches, as well as the Post Office network, with over 99% of the closures being within 1 mile of a Post Office.

Our priority over the coming months is to support customers who face particular difficulties as a result of the closure. We will be running Community Pop Up Events, where our branch staff will offer financial education as well as support with digital banking and fraud awareness. Our teams in branch will be available to explain alternative ways of banking and will proactively contact customers who may have difficulty accessing these with the offer of a one-to-one appointment. Support will also be given through our HSBC@Home programme, and we are also able to provide vulnerable customers with free tablets to help them access our digital services. If any customer cases are raised with you, I would be grateful if you could let me know.

We are fully engaged in industry-wide initiatives to maintain access to cash in ways that meet the needs of local communities. We have consulted the Cash Action Group on our planned

closures and will continue to work closely with them and others, including the incoming Banking Hub company, to support the rollout of cash services where they are needed.

In closing, I am sorry to be writing with what I know will be disappointing news and want to reassure you that we remain fully committed to serving our customers in all parts of the UK. We are continuing to invest in our UK business and in 2023 our primary focus is to improve the experience and outcomes for our customers. This includes enhancing our digital self-service capabilities, increasing the availability and responsiveness of our telephony teams, and supporting our customers through the cost-of-living crisis. This will be a pivotal year as we transform our business to benefit our customers, now and in the future.

Please let me know if you would like to arrange a call to discuss further.

Yours sincerely,



Rachel Hill  
Local Director, Bournemouth & West Dorset

**DAPTC Councillors' Networking Event** – The DAPTC is organising an in-person networking event at Kingston Maurward on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2023 from 10am. Registration will open soon and Cllr. Spencer Flower (Leader of Dorset Council) will open proceedings followed by a Q&A. Also in attendance will be the Chair of NALC, Cllr. Keith Stevens and Justin Griggs. Please let the office know if you would like to attend.

**Applications for Tree Works** – Dorset Council is in the process of working on a new module which allows town and parish councils to choose what tree applications they are notified about. However, until this module is live officers have confirmed that they will continue to notify town and parish councils and ward members where proposals are made to fell trees. If information is required on other tree work applications (where felling is not proposed) then a search will have to be made on the Dorset Council planning site <https://planning.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/>. It is possible to carry out a general search of the parish without an application number by using the 'advanced search' option and entering Blandford Forum under 'Parish'.

## **To seek retrospective expenditure approval for Legionella works**

### **Background**

In November 2022 all the Town Council venues were risk assessed for Legionella by a specialist contractor as required by legislation.

We carry out all the testing in house and this is in order but the tanks and calorifiers are now due to be cleaned and disinfected, which can only be done by specialists.

### **Report**

Quotes were sought for this work but only one company responded, and their quote is detailed below:

#### **Rugby Pavilion**

- Clean & Disinfection of CWST x1
- Blowdown Hot Water Services Calorifier x2
- Flushing and purging of Expansion Vessels x2

#### **Cricket Pavilion**

- Blowdown Hot Water Services Calorifier x1
- Flushing and purging of Expansion Vessels x1

#### **Football Pavilion**

- Blowdown Hot Water Services Calorifier x2
- Flushing and purging of Expansion Vessels x3

#### **Corn Exchange**

- Blowdown Hot Water Services Calorifier x2
- Flushing and purging of Expansion Vessels x2

### **All listed works to be carried out at a cost of £2,197.24+VAT**

Due to the Health and Safety implications of not having this work done the order has been placed and therefore retrospective authority is being sought.

### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that Councillors approve retrospective expenditure of £2,197.24 using funds from the PPM budget line (Expenditure Authority: Localism Act 2011 s1-8).

Jon Goodenough  
Operations Manager  
5<sup>th</sup> January 2023