

**BLANDFORD FORUM TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Town Council Meeting**  
**Held on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2023 at 8:41pm in the Corn Exchange**

**DRAFT**  
Subject to confirmation

**PRESENT**

Cllr H Mieville –Chairman of Council  
Cllr Stevens  
Cllr C Jacques  
Cllr S Hitchings  
Cllr R Holmes  
Cllr L Lindsay  
Cllr L Hitchings

Cllr N Lacey-Clarke – Vice Chairman of Council  
Cllr A Cross  
Cllr R Carter  
Cllr P Clark  
Cllr H White  
Cllr E Bray  
Cllr K Herbert

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Town Clerk  
Committee Clerk

Operations Manager

**27. PUBLIC SESSION**

There were no members of public in attendance.

**28. REPORT FROM DORSET COUNCILLORS**

Cllr Lacey-Clarke reported that Cllr Quayle is now the Cabinet member for Children's Services and Cllr Lacey-Clarke is the lead member for Highways, Parking & Travel.

**29. APOLOGIES**

Cllr Osborne

Cllr B Quayle

**30. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS**

None

**31. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE**

The paper was noted (see Appendix A).

**32. CIVIC REPORT**

The paper was distributed to Councillors prior to the meeting (see Appendix B). Cllr Mieville congratulated Cllr Stevens on providing a full report considering his involvement in the events that had taken place over the Coronation weekend.

**33. RECOMMENDATIONS AND RECEIPT OF MINUTES**

None

**34. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE AND CONSIDER ANY REQUESTS FROM THE:**

34.1 Neighbourhood Plan Working Group – Blandford + - Cllr Carter updated Councillors on the Regulation 16 consultation with Dorset Council and the Committee Clerk advised that an examiner is currently being selected. The Committee Clerk has sought a recommendation from the Neighbourhood Plan consultants and asked the Monitoring Group if they have any preferences.

34.2 BFTC Commemoration Group – Nothing to report.

### 34. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE AND CONSIDER ANY REQUESTS FROM THE: (cont)

- 34.3 Climate Change & Biodiversity – At the last meeting, the working group went through the Dorset Council consultation that has been shared with Councillors and a recommendation will be brought to the next Planning meeting.
- 34.4 Dorset Council Grant to support the Market Area Enhancement Project – A discussion was held on how members of the public requested more events in the Market Place like Sunday's event and Cllr Lacey-Clarke advised that he is currently pushing this up the agenda at Dorset Council (landowners of the market area).
- 34.5 The King's Coronation Working Group – The Town Clerk tabled a summary of the weekend of Town Council events. Cllr Stevens and Cllr S Hitchings updated Councillors on the outdoor event with live music, which was very popular and well attended.

### 35. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- 35.1 Planning Application [P/FUL/2022/03360](#) – Former Priory Hospital Fairfield Bungalows Blandford Forum Dorset DT11 7HX

A proposal was made by Cllr S Hitchings and seconded by Cllr L Hitchings but was withdrawn. It was then PROPOSED by Cllr Carter, SECONDED by Cllr Cross and AGREED (13 in favour, 1 against) that

**The Town Council writes to Dorset Council thanking the officer for his comprehensive reply to its recent objections to the planning application and that the Town Council has confirmed it will now withdraw these objections. However, Councillors do object to the change of use of 16 self-contained flats (to be sold at market value) to re-enablement units as it raises questions of the possibility of increased transport in the area and the loss of s106 money, which is urgently needed to support other infrastructure facilities in Blandford. Councillors have asked Dorset Council for clarity on this change of use and questions whether another full planning application needs to be submitted (Blandford + NP policy B1 applies).**

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

### 36. REPORTS FROM COMMUNITY AND LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

- 36.1 BLCCG – Cllr Carter distributed the minutes of the last BLCCG meeting for distribution to all councillors with the agenda.

### 37. CONFIDENTIAL

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

**The public and press may be excluded from the meeting on the grounds that publicity might be prejudicial to the public interest as per the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.**

- 37.1 To consider a nomination to present a certificate of appreciation to a member of the community

The paper was noted (see Appendix C).

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Holmes, SECONDED by Cllr White and AGREED (6 in favour, 2 against, 6 abstentions) that

37. **CONFIDENTIAL (cont)**

The Town Council approves the Certificate of Appreciation.

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

The meeting closed at 9:26pm.

**SIGNED** .....

**DATED** .....