

**BLANDFORD FORUM TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Town Council Meeting**  
**Held on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2023 at 7:00pm in the Corn Exchange**



**PRESENT**

Cllr H Mieville –Chairman of Council  
Cllr C Stevens  
Cllr S Hitchings  
Cllr P Clark  
Cllr L Lindsay

Cllr N Lacey-Clarke – Vice Chairman of Council  
Cllr B Quayle  
Cllr K Herbert  
Cllr H White  
Cllr R Carter

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Town Clerk

Operations Manager

**51. PUBLIC SESSION**

- 51.1 Cllr Mieville thanked Councillors who have volunteered to sign up to support the Skatefest on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> August 2023 and asked others to consider signing up for this worthwhile event.
- 51.2 Cllr Mieville mentioned the Armed Forces Day Expo held on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2023 and commented on the poignant ceremonies and the excellent variety of exhibitors inside the Corn Exchange. He also thanked the staff for organising the event and hopes it will continue next year.
- 51.3 Cllr Mieville congratulated Cllr Quayle on the arrival of his first child.

**52. REPORT FROM DORSET COUNCILLORS**

- 52.1 Cllr Quayle mentioned the top half of the trailway has been cut. The Rangers do have it on their list but sometimes the growth and wet weather can cause delays. Cllr Quayle reminded Councillors to let him or Cllr Lacey-Clarke know of any grass cutting issues.
- 52.2 The bin on the Stour Meadows that was burnt over the weekend will be replaced as soon as possible.
- 52.3 Round five of the Community and Culture Project Fund is accepting applications for [grants up to £5,000](#).
- 52.4 There are some scams regarding Dorset Council Building Control and attempts are being made to inform/warn residents.
- 52.5 Cllr Quayle has received reports that bins are not being emptied and explained that Dorset Waste Services has been struggling with staffing.
- 52.6 The tree next to Kutting Edge Hairdressers in Langton Short Stay car park is being felled soon.
- 52.7 Cllr Quayle reported that the new traffic calming measures introduced in Heddington Drive, Fairfield Bungalows, Holland Way are working and will continue to be reviewed.
- Cllr S Hitchings raised concerns over the measures and asked what evidence supports this being a positive introduction. Cllr Quayle said many residents had spoken to him and the Road Safety team had checked it and they are satisfied. Cllr Carter described his concerns that when you get a tailback it can lead to cars being stuck out in Salisbury Road. He would like to see double yellow lines all the way down on the left-hand side because visibility is poor due to cars parked both sides.
- 52.8 Cllr Mieville asked about progress with the market area at Dorset Council because a meeting is being arranged with Anthony Woodhouse in July and Cllr Lacey-Clarke said discussions are taking place and a site meeting is being arranged as soon as possible.

**52. REPORT FROM DORSET COUNCILLORS (cont)**

- 52.9 Cllr Quayle apologised that he was unable to attend the Armed Forces Day Expo, however he was proud to hear such positive feedback about the event at County Hall. He thanked staff involved and Councillors who were able to attend the event.
- 52.10 Cllr Quayle reiterated about pathway maintenance and asked Councillors to let him know of any issues they come across.

**53. APOLOGIES**

Cllr Osborne  
Cllr L Hitchings  
Cllr Jacques

Cllr Cross  
Cllr Holmes

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

None

**55. MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 19<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2023**

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Carter, SECONDED by Cllr Lacey-Clarke and AGREED (7 in favour, 3 abstentions) that the Minutes be APPROVED and SIGNED.

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

The paper was noted (see Appendix A).

- 56.1 Coronation Expenditure – The Blandford Yuletide Festival Committee has now confirmed its expenditure and presented an invoice for £765.68, which has since been paid. The only outstanding amount to be paid is for the portaloos, which is expected to be charged to the Town Council for under £200, keeping it within budget. The budget for the Town Council's contribution to the events was £2,500. The total expenditure for the Town Council items was £3,940.99, but with the income from the bears/bags (£601) and two grants (£2,560), we were left with an unspent balance of £1,720.01.
- 56.2 To consider the current vacancy for the position of Town Councillor – The Dorset Council did not receive enough requests for an election to take place to fill the vacancy on the Town Council. Therefore, the Town Council must move forward to fill the vacancy by co-option as soon as practicable. The Town Clerk has published a notice online and on the notice boards as per Section 28 of the Town Council's Standing Orders.
- 56.3 IT / Emails – The Town Council's IT contractor has asked Councillors to configure MFA using Microsoft Authenticator app by 7<sup>th</sup> July 2023. They have offered available times when they can support Councillors going through the process, but efforts will be made to address the issues after the meeting.

**57. CIVIC REPORT**

The paper was distributed to Councillors (see Appendix B).

The Chairman summarised how much he is enjoying the role of Mayor/Chairman and commented on how pleasant the Chickerell civic day was, despite approaches by some members of the public who were angry about the barge planned for Portland and vocalised this to the group of Mayors in attendance.

**58. RECOMMENDATIONS AND RECEIPT OF MINUTES**

58.2 Recreation & Amenities Committee Meeting

58.2.1 Recommendations

There were no recommendations.

58.2.2 The Minutes were RECEIVED.

**59. TO CONSIDER AMENDING THE CALENDAR OF MEETINGS FOR MAY 2024**

The paper was noted (see Appendix C).

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Lacey-Clarke, SECONDED by Cllr Lindsay and AGREED (9 in favour, 1 abstention) that

**The Town Council amends the council diary for May 2024 as per Appendix C.**

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

**60. TO CONSIDER THE ARCHIVE OF THE MAYORAL SCROLL**

The paper was noted (see Appendix D).

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Lacey-Clarke, SECONDED by Cllr Lindsay, and AGREED unanimously that

**Subject to the Blandford Town Museum being in a position to archive the Mayoral Scroll in a safe environment and agreeing to it being displayed at the Mayor Making ceremony each May, the Town Council agrees to archive the Mayoral Scroll at the Town Museum.**

**The first 150 years of the Mayoral Scroll is to be separated, creating two scrolls and both will be taken to the Town Museum.**

**When it is brought over for the Mayor Making ceremony, at the start of each council term, the Mayoral Scroll shall be inspected.**

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

The Town Clerk suggested a visit to the Dorset History Centre and asked Councillors if they would be interested in this. There was general consensus so the Town Clerk will attempt to arrange a session with an archivist, staff and Councillors.

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

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

61.1 Neighbourhood Plan Working Group – Blandford +

Cllr Carter updated Councillors on the modification review and consultation feedback. A Blandford+ meeting is scheduled for Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

61.2 BFTC Commemoration Group

A meeting is scheduled this month for planning the exhibition next year.

61.3 Climate Change & Biodiversity

No updates since the last meeting.

61.4 Dorset Council Grant to support the Market Area Enhancement Project

Nothing to add to the discussion held at the beginning of the meeting.

**62. REPORTS FROM COMMUNITY AND LOCAL ORGANISATIONS**

Cllrs White and Stevens fed back to Councillors about the North Dorset Area meeting of the DAPTC, which was held in Gillingham – face-to-face – for the first time in approximately three years.

Cllr Carter reported that a Foundation Governors meeting was held and all the money that the group receives for pupils will remain for that purpose even if the school becomes an academy.

The meeting closed at 8:14pm.

**SIGNED .....**

**DATED .....**