

Dorset Council Grant for Market Area Enhancement

Working Group Meeting

Working Group Chairman: Cllr Colin Stevens

Thursday 19th March 2026 at 11:00am

in the Council Chamber

NOTES

In Attendance

Cllr Colin Stevens (Chairman)
Cllr Steve Hitchings
Cllr Sheila Chapman
Cllr Gail Del Pinto
Nicci Brown
Roger Carter
Town Clerk
Market Manager

Cllr Hugo Miéville (Vice Chairman)
Cllr Rosemary Holmes
Cllr Terry Clarkson
Cllr Y Miéville
Mickey Westwood
Operations Manager
Committee Clerk

1. Apologies

Cllr Alan Cross

Cllr Maggie Putt

2. To consider an update on proposals from the Chairman and Vice Chairman of Council

Chris Peck from Dorset Council sent a list of queries to the Chairman. Cllr Stevens and Cllr H Miéville answered these questions in a report and circulated it to attendees at the meeting for them to read and discuss.

It was suggested that we go to consultation again. The general consensus was that there is no need for another consultation as the decision has already been made to have a trial period, and a further one would just delay the trial further.

The idea of having the plans displayed in the shambles could be a good way of informing the public of the plans.

Attendees were informed that Dorset Council may require a more detailed plan to show how the area will be run logistically day to day to justify them giving up the parking spaces.

Attendees discussed the idea of employing a professional consultant who has experience in creating this type of space, this matter was not decided.

3. Recommendations to full council meeting on 30th March 2026

Attendees agreed that the Chairman and Vice Chairman would make amendments regarding insurance and using the area as a social space for events to the report, the Town Clerk will then send it to Chris Peck at Dorset Council.

The meeting finished at 12:15pm.