DRAFT
Subject to confirmation

BLANDFORD FORUM TOWN COUNCIL

A Meeting of the Full Council

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MINUTES

Held on:	Monday, 26 October 2026 at 7:00 pm in the Corn Exchange
Summoned members present	All Councillors; Y Mièville (Vice Chairman), S Hitchings, H Mièville, L Hitchings, N Lacey-Clarke, B Quayle, R Holmes, S Chapman, T Clarkson, M Putt, G Del-Pinto, S Morgan, M Spruce
Absent:	C Stevens
Officers Present:	Town Clerk, Operations Manager
In attendance:	Press (0), Members of the public (1).

TC6.1 Public Session

a. Members of the public were invited to make representations to the Council on any matters relating to the work of the Council or to raise any issues of concern, there were no matters raised.

TC6.2 Apologies

a. Officer report TC6.1 was received and it was **RESOLVED** to

accept apologies for absence from Cllr Stevens due to a conflicting personal engagement.

TC6.3 Declarations of Interest

a. Officer report TC6.3 was received, all councillors were reminded of their duty to declare any interests in the business to be transacted and it was **NOTED** that a dispensation was granted to all councillors for the item relating to Wyatts Homes as the body holding the option agreement.

TC6.4 Minutes

a. Officer report TC6.4 was received and it was **RESOLVED** *(8 in favour, 1 against, 2 abstentions)*

that the minutes of Monday, 28 September 2026 be approved for signing as a true record of the decisions taken.

TC6.5 Officer Report to the Committee

a. Officer report TC6.5 was received and **NOTED.**

b. Dorset Councillor Lacey-Clarke reported concerns about flooding and drain maintenance, with responses from Dorset Council still awaited. The councillor also raised concerns about the proposed Wessex Combined Authority and suggested seeking residents' views on an elected mayor and an additional tier of local government.

c. It was **REQUESTED** that officers provided more detail about the 20mph update mentioned in the officer report.

ACTION: COMMITTEE CLERK

Initial:

TC6.6 Grant Application

a. Officer report TC6.6 was received and it was **RESOLVED** **(***10 in favour, 0 against, 1 abstention)*

b. that the Council approves a grant of £650 to Blandford Allotment Society to offset the cost of one year's rent. *(Financial provision - £650)*

ACTION: RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER

TC6.7 Town of Culture

19:24 Cllr Morgan arrives

a. Officer report TC6.7 was received and it was **RESOLVED** *(unanimously)* **to**

create a working group to coordinate all cultural events which happen throughout the year in the town, and that the group looks at a Town of Culture application if it is run. The Town Clerk to discuss with the working group and bring to the first possible Full Council or Planning meeting or call an extraordinary council meeting if required. Working group membership to consist of all councillors and any relevant external partners appropriate to the brief.

ACTION: MAYOR'S ASSISTANT

TC6.8 Barnes

a. Officer report TC6.8 was received and it was **RESOLVED** **(***unanimously)* that

all Barnes income and expenditure is accounted for directly through the charity from the start of the next financial year; that the Town Council provide an annual grant in support of the charity; and that officers continue to administer the charity's finances.

ACTION: RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER

TC6.9 Blandford in Stitches Tapestry

a. Officer report TC6.9 was received and it was **NOTED** that due to additional information received from the Blandford Museum, at their request this item be withdrawn from the agenda until further notice.

TC6.10 B+ Voting Member

a. Officer report TC6.10 was received and it was **RESOLVED** **(***unanimously)* that

Councillor Sheila Chapman is appointed as Blandford Forum Town Council's second voting member on B+

ACTION: COMMITTEE CLERK

TC6.11 Wyatt Homes Phase 2

a. Officer report TC6.11 was received and it was **RESOLVED** **(***unanimously)* to

agree the plans as provided in the report and provide a response to Wyatt Homes.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

Initial:

TC6.12 Market Enhancement

a. The Town Clerk provided a verbal update from the working group meeting, informing the Council that Dorset Council were working on a new design to meet the requirements of the working group.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 8:12 pm

These minutes will be considered for approval at the next meeting of the Full Council and, if approved, will be signed and dated by the Chair of that meeting.

Initial:

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Signed: _____ Date: _____