

**MINUTES**  
**of the Meeting of the Council**  
**held on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January at 7pm**  
**at the Civic Centre, Sambourne Road, Warminster, BA12 8LB**

**Membership:**

<b>Cllr Batchelor (Broadway)</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>Cllr Spender (Broadway)</b>	<b>AB</b>
<b>Cllr Brett (East)</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>Cllr Macfarlane, Chairman of Council and Mayor (West)</b>	<b>A</b>
<b>Cllr Davis (East)</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>Cllr Nicklin (West)</b>	<b>*</b>
<b>Cllr Doyle (East)</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>Cllr Pitcher (Broadway)</b>	<b>*</b>
<b>Cllr Fraser (West)</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>Cllr Ridout (West)</b>	<b>*</b>
<b>Cllr Fryer (Broadway)</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>Cllr Robbins, Vice Chairman of Council and Deputy Mayor (East)</b>	<b>*</b>
<b>Cllr Jeffries, (Copheap)</b>	<b>*</b>		

**Key:** \* Present    **A** Apologies    **AB** Absent

**In attendance:**

**Officers:** Tom Domett (Assistant Town Clerk), Stuart Legg, (Park and Open Spaces Manager), Judith Halls, (Office Manager).

**Wiltshire Police:** 0

**Public and Press:** 15 members of the public, 0 member of the press.

**FC/19/083    Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Batchelor and Macfarlane

**FC/19/084    Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Brett declared interest in item 14, Climate Change, as he is the Patron of Sustainable Warminster, this is nonpecuniary he would therefore remain in the room for discussions and vote.

**FC/19/085    Minutes**

**FC/19/085.1** The minutes of the council meeting held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2019; were approved as a true record and signed by the chairman.

**FC/19/085.2** None.

**FC/19/086 Chairman's Announcements**

**FC/19/086.1** Cllr Robbins advised the committee in the absence of the Mayor that Warminster Town Council had now received the leases for the 8 play areas that they were taking over from Wiltshire Council.

**FC/19/086.2** The engagements for the Mayor were noted.

**FC/19/087 Questions**

None

*Standing Orders were suspended at 7.04pm to allow for public participation*

**FC/19/088 Public Participation**

**Colin French**, a member of Sustainable Warminster spoke on agenda item 14, Climate Change and thanked the council for their speedy response to bringing forward the climate change recommendations and for taking action.

**Adrienne Solti**, a member of Sustainable Warminster spoke on agenda item 14, Climate Change saying she fully supported the report submitted by Warminster Town Council and approved of all the recommendations.

**Amelia ap Ellis**, a member of Sustainable Warminster spoke on agenda item 14, Climate Change saying that she was in favour of using wilding, which would increase the biodiversity in the town.

**Nigel Linge**, spoke on agenda item 14, Climate Change saying that he had concerns over using wilding and it would need to thought through carefully.

**George**, spoke on agenda item 14, Climate Change saying that in the park area by Melvern Place there were no flowers to attract bees and he was hoping that this was something the Town Council could do. He would also like bat boxes erected in the area to encourage the bats.

*Standing Orders were reinstated at 7.14pm*

**FC/19/089 Correspondence Circulated**

Noted

**FC/19/090 Reports from Unitary Authority Members and Police**

Cllr Ridout advised the members that Wiltshire Council had been completing their budget process and this would be available soon.

Cllr Ridout reported that Warminster Town Council request for increased membership would not be agreed in time for the next elections and so the number of town councillors would remain at 13 for 2021.

Cllr Jackson spoke about the re-opening of the Perimeter Path at Imber and wanted to encourage Warminster to promote the path and the launch event on 26th March 2020.

**FC/19/091 Proceedings of Committee**

Minutes from the following meetings **were adopted:**

**HR Committee** meeting held on 14th October 2019 and 16th December

**Planning Advisory Committee** meeting held on 11th November 2019

**Finance and Assets Committee** meeting held on 4th November 2019

**Town Development Committee** meeting held on 23rd September 2019

**Devolved Services and Assets Committee** held on 30th September 2019

**FC/19/092 Committee Places**

**Members unanimously approved for Cllr Pitcher to resign from the Town Promotion Sub-Committee and for Cllrs Fryer and Ridout to become elected members.**

**FC/19/093 Events**

**FC/19/093.1 VE Day** – Members to **approved** the proposals for the VE Day Tea and dance and Cllr Ridout was approved as the lead member.

**FC/19/093.2 Christmas Market and Christmas Lights Switch on.**

Members thought the Christmas Lights switch on 2019 was a very successful event and Cllr Robbins was approved as the lead member and he was happy to be involved with the arrangements for 2020.

**FC/19/093.3 Spring in the Park** - Members nominated Cllrs Brett and Fraser to be lead members and for them to be involved in the arrangements for the 2020 event.

**FC/19/093.4 Warminster Skatepark Competition** - Members **nominated** Cllr Macfarlane to be their lead member and for him to be involved in the arrangements for the 2020 events. He had indicated he would be happy to be nominated.

**FC/19/094 Service Devolution Community Engagement**

Members thanked all the Town Council officers involved in the preparation of the service devolution and appreciated the high quality of all the work involved.

**Cllr Nicklin proposed to continue discussions with Wiltshire Council in a forward direction, seconded Cllr Ridout, voting unanimous in favour.**

**FC/19/095 Budget 2020/21**

A meeting between Warminster Town Council and Wiltshire Council led officers and members to conclude that it would be prudent for Warminster Town Council to increase the sum allocated in the budget for the provision for services to be devolved from £300,000 to £350,000.

**Cllr Ridout proposed members approved the budget and Precept for 2020/2021. A precept request of £1,180,666. The weekly Band D equivalent will increase by £1.22 per week/£63.79 per annum. The new Band D equivalent charge will be £191.75 per annum, a 49.85% increase, seconded Cllr Robbins, voting unanimous in favour.**

FC/19/096

**Climate Change**

Cllr Nicklin proposed approval of the following recommendations for the Climate Change:-

- To set up a climate change working group to produce a climate change action plan. This would consist of three Councillors and be open to outside representatives. The working group should report back to a future meeting of the Full Council.
- Conduct a green audit of its activities.
- Take on a leadership, education and information providing role regarding climate change action.
- Continues to support the work of NPRWG in creating “A Place for the Future”.
- Work in Partnership with the Warminster Area Board and Wiltshire Council on their climate change agenda/actions.
- Strive to become a carbon neutral organisation by 2030.
- The three Councillors that were nominated to be part of the working group were Cllrs Brett, Jeffries and Nicklin.

Seconded Cllr Brett, voting unanimous in favor.

FC/19/097

**Tarmac in the Park**

Members debated the report for the tarmac in the park. They asked for officers to get another quote for a porous surface replacement on the affected area as previously used where tree roots were pushing up the tarmac.

Cllr Fryer proposed to delegate the decision to officers whether to proceed with the Valletta quote to undertake the work Area 1: £12,320 + VAT Area 2: £2,290 + VAT to be funded from the Town Park Repairs and Renewals budget [4036] or the new quote for porous, once it had been received, seconded Cllr Davis, voting in favour 6 voting against 3, abstentions 1. Motion carried.

FC/19/098

**War Memorial**

Members debated this matter and were concerned that cleaning should not damage the memorial and wish to have more information and time to consider the proposals.

Cllr Robbins proposed that members defer a decision on this matter until the next meeting, seconded Cllr Ridout, voting unanimous in favour.

FC/19/099

**Council Energy Supplier**

Cllr Nicklin proposed members approve Resolve Energy as broker to source the best value renewable energy supplier for the council. The best quote obtained to be implemented as the new supplier, seconded Cllr Doyle, voting unanimous in favour.

FC/19/100

**Grant Policy**

Cllr Jeffries proposed that members ratify the grant policy for 2020/21 as recommended by the Finance and Assets Committee. Seconded Cllr Ridout, voting unanimous in favour.

**FC/19/101 Internal Audit**

Members thanked officers for their excellent Internal Audit Report 2019-20. Members instructed officers to implement its recommendation that they should review letting agreements for long standing regular hirers to ensure the information is up to date - **NOTED**

**FC/19/102 Bank Mandate**

**Members ratified the decision of HR Committee HR/19/035, to update the bank mandate to remove former councillors and to include serving councillors and that Tom Dommett and Judith Halls be added to the mandate for the purpose of undertaking Telephone Banking.**

**FC/19/103 Communications**

Members wished for press releases to be issued on

- The budget, spokesperson Cllr Robbins
- Climate Change spokesperson Cllr Brett
- The new Grant Policy, spokesperson Cllr Robbins
- VE Day celebration spokesperson Cllr Ridout

**Meeting closed at 8.35pm**