

MINUTES
of the Meeting of the Council
held on Monday 16th March at 7pm
at the Civic Centre, Sambourne Road, Warminster, BA12 8LB

Membership:

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

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

In attendance:

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

Wiltshire Police: Sergeant Harmsworth

Public and Press: 1 members of the public, 1 member of the press.

FC/19/104 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Batchelor, Brett and Doyle.

That the Council accepted the request to extend Councillor Paul Batchelors period of office beyond the six-month period of non-attendance provided for within section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds of coronavirus travel restrictions this is to be extended for a further six months, to expire on 16th September 2020.

FC/19/105 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were received under Warminster Town Council's Code of Conduct issued in accordance with the Localism Act 2011.

- FC/19/106** **Minutes**
FC/19/106.1 The minutes of the council meeting held on Monday 20th January 2020; were approved as a true record and signed by the chairman.
FC/19/106.2 None.
- FC/19/107** **Chairman's Announcements**
FC/19/107.1 Cllr Paul Macfarlane advised the committee that he had received a letter of resignation from the Town Crier, Mr. Phil Seddon. Members wished for their grateful thanks to be sent to Phil for his many years of exemplary service on behalf of the town council and the whole community of Warminster.
- The Mayor advised that he was declining events outside Warminster and was happy for other members to take these up to represent the town.
- FC/19/107.2** The engagements for the Mayor were noted.
- FC/19/108** **Questions**
None
- Standing Orders were suspended at 7.08 pm to allow for public participation*
- FC/19/109** **Public Participation**
Mr Len Turner paid tribute to the Town Crier. He also spoke about agenda item 10 and expressed support for the idea of the Community Hub being asset transferred to Warminster Town Council and the positive benefits such a move could bring.
- Mr Andrew Robinson said WCR was ready to help and support the community in anyway it could during the coronavirus crisis.
- Standing Orders were reinstated at 7.12 pm*
- FC/19/110** **Correspondence Circulated**
Noted
- FC/19/111** **Reports from Unitary Authority Members and Police**
Cllr Ridout reported that the Planning Advisory Committee Members had agreed to support the Princecroft Nursery application.
- Sergeant Kevin Harmsworth gave an update on Police activity in Warminster and answered questions from councillors. Further information and updates can be found on the <http://www.wiltshire.police.uk/article/5435/Warminster-Area-CPT>.

FC/19/112 Proceedings of Committee

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

HR Committee meeting held on 13th January 2020

Planning Advisory Committee meeting held on 9th December 2019 and 27th January 2020

Finance and Assets Committee meeting held on 6th January 2020

Town Development Committee meeting held on 2nd December 2019

Devolved Services and Assets Committee held on 25th November 2019

FC/19/113 Community Hub

The prospect of a Community Asset Transfer of the Community Hub building from Wiltshire Council to Warminster Town Council has been raised as part of the discussion about regeneration and service devolution.

Cllr Nicklin proposed the council pursued the option of a community asset transfer and investigate the likely costs and other practicalities, seconded Cllr Ridout, voting unanimous in favour.

FC/19/114 Sweeper

Cllr Spender proposed acceptance of the tender from Scarab Sweepers and that officers start the process of recruiting a driver in preparation for beginning sweeping the streets 'in house', seconded Cllr Fraser, voting in favour 9, against 1, abstention Nil. Motion carried.

FC/19/115 Depot

Cllr Davis proposed that Council approves the acquisition of the depot and makes a formal bid for Unit 3, Woodcock Road Industrial Estate of £20,000, for a 5-year lease with a break clause after 3 years subject to a condition survey at point of lease and subject to lease as found, Seconded Cllr Jeffries, voting unanimous in favour.

FC/19/116 War Memorial

Cllr Fraser proposed that members approve Minerva to undertake the cleaning of the War Memorial and surround at a maximum cost of £4,400 + VAT to be funded from general reserves, seconded Cllr Jeffries voting unanimous in favour.

FC/19/117 Calendar of Meetings: Municipal Year May 2020 – May 2021 inclusive

Cllr Nicklin proposed members adopt the calendar of meetings for the May 2020 May 2021 municipal year and that work continue on preparing the terms of reference and standing orders to complement them, seconded Cllr Robbins, voting unanimous in favour.

FC/19/118 Mayor and Deputy Mayor Elect 2020/2021

Cllr Ridout proposed Cllr Robins as Mayor elect, for the year 2020/21, seconded Cllr Spender, voting unanimous in favour.

Cllr Nicklin proposed Cllr Jeffries as Deputy Mayor elect, for the year 2020/21, seconded Cllr Macfarlane, voting unanimous in favour.

FC/19/119 **18T weight restriction – A36 at Cleveland Bridge, Bath**
Cllr Davis proposed the council support Wiltshire Council's opposition to the 18T weight restriction imposed on the A36 at Cleveland Bridge, Bath, by Bath and North East Somerset Council due to the impact it was having on the Wiltshire Road network, seconded Cllr Jeffries, voting unanimous if favour.

FC/19/120 **Christmas Lights**
Cllr Robbins proposed Members ratified the decision of the Finance and Assets Committee 2nd March 2020 that Wheelers be approved as the contractor for the Christmas Lights at a cost of £16,500 a year, seconded Cllr Nicklin voting unanimous in favour.

FC/19/121 **Communications**
Members requested media releases on the sweeper and about WCR acting as a point of communication during the coronavirus crisis.

Meeting closed at 8.25pm