

**Minutes of the Meeting of Warminster Town Council  
on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at 7pm  
held at the Civic Centre,  
Sambourne Road, Warminster, BA12 8LB**

**Membership:**

<b>Cllr Allensby (West)</b>	*	<b>Cllr Keeble (West)</b>	*
<b>Cllr Brett (East) Vice Chairman of the Council and Deputy Mayor</b>	*	<b>Cllr Macdonald (East)</b>	*
<b>Cllr Cooper (Broadway)</b>	A	<b>Cllr Macfarlane (West)</b>	*
<b>Cllr Davis (East)</b>	*	<b>Cllr Parks (North)</b>	*
<b>Cllr Fraser (West)</b>	*	<b>Cllr Robbins (East)</b>	A
<b>Cllr Fryer (Broadway)</b>	*	<b>Cllr Syme (Broadway)</b>	A
<b>Cllr Jeffries (North) Chairman of the Council and Mayor</b>	*		

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

**In attendance:**

**Officers:** Tom Dommett, (Town Clerk and RFO), Judith Halls (Office Manager), Stuart Legg (Parks and Estate Manager), Stuart Atherton (Committee and Administration Clerk)

**Wiltshire Councillors:** Cllr Jackson

**Police:** Sgt. Kevin Harmsworth

**Press:** Andrew Robinson

**Members of the public:** 3

**FC/22/101    Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Cooper, Robbins and Syme.

**FC/22/102    Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Fraser declared an interest on agenda item FC/22/113, as a Trustee of the Athenaeum, under Warminster Town Council's Code of Conduct issued in accordance with the Localism Act 2011.

**FC/22/103 Minutes**

**FC/22/103.1 The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 29th November 2021, were approved as a true record, and signed by the Chairman.**

FC/22/103.2 There were no matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 29th November 2021.

**FC/22/104 Chairman's Announcements**

**FC/22/104.1** The Chairman apologised for not being able to attend the Queen's Canopy tree planting due to a work commitment, but he noted from the pictures and feedback it was a success. He thanked the public and schools, the 8 councillors and the officers that were able to take part.

The Chairman announced the interview panel had agreed the appointment of Judith Halls as Deputy Town Clerk with effect from 18<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

**FC/22/104.2 Members noted The Mayoral engagements.**

**FC/22/105 Correspondence Circulated**

**The correspondence list was noted.**

**FC/22/106 Questions**

There were no questions submitted in advance by members of the Council.

**Standing Orders were suspended at 7:04pm**

**FC/22/107 Public Participation**

Mrs P. Ridout asked the question in relation to the budget setting; Have all 13 Councillors met to ask questions, done a risk assessment and looked at a cost benefit analysis?

Mr C. Spender spoke in relation to the budget papers.

**Standing Orders were reinstated at 7:09pm**

**FC/22/108 Reports from Unitary Authority Members and the Police**

Sgt. Kevin Harmsworth updated members on the success of the partnership of Warminster Town Council's CCTV and Warminster Shop Watch, that has resulted in arrests and charges for shop lifting. He also shared that shoplifting had a decrease of 44% on last year.

Sgt. Harmsworth detailed that in partnership with CCTV the police have also been able to produce summons for perpetrators anti-social behaviour.

He mentioned the recent closure of a massive cannabis growing operation in Westbury and that the local Horse Watch scheme now had 8 volunteers looking out for heritage and wildlife crime.

Cllr Jackson requested members liaise with Wiltshire Council with regards to the finance needed for improvements to the squash courts in Warminster.

Cllr Davis updated members with the proposed date of Wiltshire Council releasing details of their final budget in February.

Cllr Parks shared the date of the next Area Board meeting that will be held the week beginning 24<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

**FC/22/109 Proceedings of Committee**

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

**FC/22/109.1 Finance and Audit Committee** meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

**FC/22/109.2 Planning Advisory Committee** meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2021.

**FC/22/109.3 HR Committee** meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2021

**FC/22/110 Precept and Budget 2022 – 2023**

**Cllr Macdonald moved that the council should not increase the precept but instead take £43,693 from the reserves to balance the budget this year, and to then look at the increasing the precept next year. Seconded Cllr Allensby.**

**Voting in favour 2. Against 6. Abstained 2. Motion defeated.**

**Cllr Jeffries proposed the recommended budget for 2022 - 2023 with a precept of £1,319,292. This represents an increase to the precept of £43,693 (an increase of 3.42%). The tax base has increased by 1.1 % so this will mean an increase per Band D Equivalent charge of 2.73% (equal to £5.65 per annum or 11 pence per week), seconded Cllr Brett.**

**Voting in favour 8. Against 2. Motion carried.**

**FC/22/111 Interim Internal Audit**

**Members noted the Internal Audit Report 2021-2022 interim update.**

**FC/22/112 Civic Centre Heating System**

**Members agreed not to pursue changing the heating system in the Civic Centre at the current time.**

**Members voted in favour to replace the current two boilers with additional environmental controls, with funding to come from the general reserves.**

**FC/22/113 Athenaeum Centre for the Community Commemorative Plaque**

**Cllr MacFarlane proposed that members agree to fund the purchase and installation of a commemorative plaque for the Athenaeum from general reserves, seconded Cllr Fryer**

**Voting in favour Nil. Votes against 7. Abstentions 3 Motion defeated.**

**FC/22/114 CCTV Upgrade**

**Members agreed that the Community Hub building was the preferred location for the CCTV control room and agreed to instruct Instrom Security Consultants to work with officers to draw up a tender document to proceed to tender, at a cost of £3,600 to be taken from general reserves.**

**FC/22/115 Communications**

**Members agreed a press release relating to the Budget/Precept.**

**Members agreed Cllr Brett as spokesman on this issue.**

**Meeting closed 8:27pm**

Minutes from this meeting will be available to all members of the public either from our website [www.warminster.uk.com](http://www.warminster.uk.com) or by contacting us at Warminster Civic Centre.

Next Full Council meeting to be held on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2022



Signed..... Date.....