

**Minutes of the Meeting of Warminster Town Council
on
Monday 24th July 2023 at 7pm
held at the Civic Centre,
Sambourne Road, Warminster, BA12 8LB**

Membership:

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

Key: * Present A Apologies AB Absent

In attendance:

Officers: Tom Dommett, (Town Clerk and RFO), Judith Halls (Deputy Town Clerk),
Stuart Atherton (Committee and Administration Clerk)

Police: 1

Press: 0

Members of the public: 0

Also in attendance, Fiona Hamer – Senior Associate Solicitor, Farnfields Solicitors

FC/23/048 Apologies for Absence

Apologies of absence was received and accepted from Cllr Fryer.

FC/23/049 Declarations of Interest

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

FC/23/050 Minutes

FC/23/050.1 The minutes of the meetings held on Monday 12th June 2023, were approved as a true record, and signed by the Chairman.

FC/23/050.2 The Town Clerk informed members that Wiltshire Council have returned the sealed the documents relating to Section 106 side agreement minute number FC/23/043 from the minutes of the meetings held on Monday 12th June 2023.

FC/23/051 Chairman's Announcements

FC/23/051.1 There were no announcements.

FC/23/051.2 The Mayor's engagements were noted.

FC/23/052 Correspondence Circulated

The correspondence list was noted.

FC/23/053 Questions

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

FC/23/054 Public Participation

There was no public present at the meeting.

FC/23/055 Reports from Unitary Authority Members and the Police

Cllr Parks informed members of the Wiltshire Council's Full Council meeting.

There was lengthy discussion regarding the Local Plan; it is now ready for local consultation.

Inspector Kevin Harmsworth detailed:

- The CCTV, local Shop Watch and the local policing team, on the 17th July, demonstrated expert liaison. This meant that a 'professional criminal shoplifter' was caught, convicted, and received a 16-week custodial sentence.
- Investigation into the damage in the Central Carpark identified the two perpetrators. This is being investigated accordingly.
PC Farley engaged the youth offending team to work with the two individuals responsible for the portaloos, in the Lake Pleasure Grounds. They received 90 days contact with the youth offending team covering the summer holiday period and beyond. Failure to engage will result in a caution which will form part of a criminal record.
- Local exception data for the local area – the vast majority of crimes remain low. There have been two burglaries over recent weeks. Both perpetrators were caught and are being dealt with accordingly. The two burglaries are not linked as far as can be ascertained.
- The road safety team since the 1st of June have recorded 53 vehicles not observing safe driving. 83% have been given a speed awareness course and 17% issued with a fine and given penalty points.
- The Rural Team have advised residents to keep their harvesting equipment safe and secure.
- An update on 'hare coursing' showed a decreasing trend, nationally. New legislation of it becoming part of organised crime has had an impact on this.

- A recent 'Face Book Live' event, with over 900 viewers, was well received. More live events are planned. Questions can be submitted in advance on asked at the time of the live event.
- Since Inspector Harmsworth's appointment in January 2023, he had focussed on his team's investigation standards and interactions with victims of crime. Statistics show an increase in interaction and standards.

FC/23/056 Reports from Farnfields regarding the Dewey Trust

Members received a updated report from Fiona Harmer on position of the Dewey Trust, Trustee.

Members resolved to:

- give the broker authority to proceed with the recommended scheme of reorganisation of the portfolio given the risk that HMRC might seek to challenge the categorisation of the trust as a bare trust in the future.**
- authorise the broker to make disposals that produce gains in excess of the trustee capital gains tax exemption in the future, bearing in mind the fact that the trustees will have virtually no capital gains tax exemption from next year.**
- approve the move to a discretionary fund management whereby the broker has authority to make disposals as they think fit throughout the year.**

FC/23/057 Proceedings of Committee

Minutes from the following meetings were adopted:

FC/23/057.1 Parks and Estate Committee meeting held on 30th May 2023;

FC/23/057.2 Town Development Committee meeting held on 24th April 2023;

FC/23/057.3 Finance and Audit Committee meeting held on 9th May 2023

FC/23/057.4 Planning Advisory Committee meeting held on 15th May & 19th June 2023

FC/23/057.5 HR Committee meeting held on 6th February 2023

FC/23/058 Membership of the HR Committee

Members resolved that Standing Orders be amended so that the membership of the HR Committee would consist of: The Mayor, previous years Mayor and 4 other members.

Members Resolved to appoint 4 to the committee in addition to Cllr Keeble (Mayor) and Cllr Robbins (Past Mayor): Cllrs Parks, Cooper, Jeffries and Fraser.

FC/23/059 Annual Risk Assessments and Summary for 2023 – 2024

Members received the annual risk report and resolved to adopt the action plan. This was signed by the Mayor and the Town Clerk.

FC/23/060 **Wiltshire Local Plan Consultation**
Members resolved to ask the Town Clerk to respond to the consultation highlighting the parts of the draft Local Plan relating to Warminster that our now out of date in light of the emerging Neighbourhood Plan and Town Centre Master Plan. Members are asked to send any further comments to the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group to inform the Steering Groups response to the draft Local Plan

FC/23/061 **Copheap Repairs**
Members resolved to delegate authority to the Town Clerk and The Trustees of the Dewey Trust, to agree any individual works up to £25,000 and up to a total maximum total of £50,000.

FC/23/062 **Communications**
Members agreed a press release in relation to the Local Plan Consultation, with Cllr Keeble the spokesperson.

Members also agreed a press release relating to the repair work to the Copheap memorial, with Cllr Parks as spokesperson.

Meeting closed 8:39pm

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

Next Full Council meeting to be held on 25th September 2023