

MINUTES
of the Town Development Committee
held on Monday 4th December 2023 at 7pm
at
Warminster Civic Centre, Sambourne Road,
Warminster, BA12 8LB

Membership:

Cllr Allensby (West)	*	Cllr Macfarlane (West)	*
Cllr Davis (East)	*	Cllr Robbins (East) Chairman	A
Cllr Fraser (West)	*	Matt Towl (Adviser)	*
Cllr Jones (East)	A	Len Turner (Adviser)	*
Cllr Keeble (West)	*		

Key: * Present A Apologies AB Absent

In attendance:

Officers: Tom Dommett, Town Clerk and RFO, Patsy Clover, Committee Clerk

Members of the public: Two

Members of the Press: None

TD/23/036 Apologies for absence
Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Jones and Robbins.
Members resolved that Cllr Davis would take the chair in Cllr Robbins' absence.

TD/23/037 Declarations of Interest
There were no Declarations of Interest.

TD/23/038 Minutes
TD/23/038.1 The minutes of the Town Development Committee meeting held on Monday 11th September 2023 were approved as a correct record and signed by the chairman.

TD/23/038.2 There were no matters arising from the minutes of the Town Development Committee meeting held on Monday 11th September 2023.

TD/23/039 **Chairman's Announcements**

There were no Chairman's announcements.

TD/23/040 **Questions**

There were no prior questions submitted from members.

TD/23/041 **Public Participation**

There was no public participation.

TD/23/042 **Reports from Unitary Authority Members**

There were no reports submitted from unitary councillors.

TD/23/043 **Tynings Allotments**

Members noted that meetings of the Tynings Allotment Committee had been held but that the Minutes were not yet available.

TD/23/044 **Warminster Business Network Report**

Members received and noted the report from the Warminster Business Network. Mr Towl reported that the Christmas celebrations went incredibly well and with good feedback from all. Stall holders were very positive, and some retailers reported their best ever day. There was a really nice atmosphere to the event and the Warminster Business Network was proposing four similar events in 2024.

It was agreed that officers would work with Mr Towl to develop a loyalty card scheme for Warminster (as outlined in his report) and bring proposals back to the next meeting of the committee.

The Town Clerk reminded members that a follow-up meeting would be held with those involved in the Christmas Lights Switch On Event and Markets where options for future events could be discussed.

TD/23/045 **Car Parks**

Members felt that Wiltshire Council's charging structure for their car parks throughout Wiltshire did not encourage long stay parking in Warminster, nor did it serve the best interests of residents and businesses. It ran counter to Wiltshire Council's and Government' policies to encourage dwell time (making people stay longer in the town centre, browse, stop for coffee or lunch and doing more shopping locally). It was suggested that people avoiding carparks represented potential lost income.

It was mentioned that the Iceland and Station Car Parks were cheaper than the Wiltshire Council ones and that the new McDonalds could lead to car parking charges being introduced at the Argos and Lidl car parks.

However, it was noted that Wiltshire Council would want any alternative proposals to achieve the same level of income for Wiltshire Council.

Members resolved to ask the Town Clerk to request further information about car park usage, budgets, and income levels from the car parks in Warminster.

Members agreed that, at the meeting on 23rd January, they would emphasise to the Wiltshire Council Portfolio Holder that their main concern was the desire to encourage longer dwelling time in Warminster.

TD/23/046 Area Board Highways Issues

Members had no representations for the next meeting of the Area Board.

TD/23/047 St George's Day Parade 2024

Members resolved to provide support to Warminster Scouts for the parade and events to celebrate St George's Day. An update on the plans would be provided to the next meeting.

TD/23/048 Scout Hut Working Group

Members noted the current position regarding the replacement of the Scout Hut.

TD/23/049 100 years of the Lake Pleasure Grounds Celebration

Members ratified the events proposed for the celebrations commenting that the evening would create a fantastic atmosphere, with a totally different feel to Spring in the Park.

TD/23/050 Warminster Community Resilience Plan

Members resolved to approve and adopt the Warminster Community Resilience Plan, noting that the Plan will be subject to constant review.

It was agreed that the Town Clerk would investigate alternative options should there be a failure in the mobile phone network during an emergency.

Mr Turner stated that a meeting of the flood wardens will be arranged to inform the Flood Plan element of the Resilience Plan.

TD/23/051 Wiltshire Towns' Programme

Members noted the proposals for use of the Wiltshire Towns' Programme - Activity Generation Allocation Funding 2023-2024.

TD/23/052 Operational Flood Working Group South

Members received the notes of the Operational Flood Working Group South meetings held on 23rd August 2023 and 25th October 2023.

TD/23/053 CCTV Sub-Committee

Members agreed to defer noting the minutes of the CCTV Sub-Committee meeting held on 13th June 2023 until the next meeting of the Town Development Committee on 26th February 2024.

TD/23/054 Communications

Members agreed a press release relating to the meeting of the Area Board on 23rd January 2024 recommending that the public attend as the agenda focussed on transport.

Members agreed a press release relating to the Warminster Community Resilience Plan, highlighting the need for additional flood wardens.

Members agreed a press release relating to the celebrations planned to mark the centenary of the Lake Pleasure Grounds.

Meeting closed at 7.53pm

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.

Date of next meeting: Monday 26th February 2024.

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