

Minutes of the Meeting of Warminster Town Council

on

Monday 24th November 2025 at 7pm

held at the Civic Centre,

Sambourne Road, Warminster, BA12 8LB

Membership:

Cllr Allensby (West)	*	Cllr Keeble (West)	*
Cllr Barnes (East)	*	Cllr J Kirkwood (Broadway)	A
Cllr Carter (West)	*	Cllr S Kirkwood (Broadway)	*
Cllr Cooper (Broadway) Chairman of the Council and Mayor	*	Cllr Lee (Broadway)	*
Cllr Davis (East)	*	Cllr Parks (North)	*
Cllr Hawker (West)	*	Cllr Robbins (East)	*
Cllr Jones (North) Vice Chairman of the Council and Deputy Mayor	*	Cllr Tuisinu (East)	*

Key: * Present A Apologies AB Absent

In attendance:

Officers: Tom Dommett, (Town Clerk and RFO), Judith Halls (Deputy Town Clerk).

Attendees:

Unitary Councillors: One

Members of the press: Two

Members of the public: One

Police: One

FC/25/092 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr James Kirkwood.

FC/25/093 Declarations of Interest

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

- FC/25/094** **Minutes**
FC/25/094.1 The minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on Monday 29th September 2025 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
- FC/25/094.2** There were no matters arising from the minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on Monday 29th September 2025.
- FC/25/095** **Chairman's Announcements**
FC/25/095.1. FC/25/095.1. The Mayor thanked the businesses and individuals who had donated prizes to his Charity Christmas Raffle and asked if members would volunteer to join the rota to sell tickets at the Civic Centre from 10am to 3pm on Saturday 29th November. The Mayor had also received a letter from General Sir Nick Parker, KCB, CBE, DL saying how much he was impressed with the Remembrance Day Event and expressing his gratitude to the town for their invitation and hospitality.
FC/25/095.2 The Mayor's engagements were noted.
- FC/25/096** **Correspondence Circulated**
The list of correspondence circulated was noted.
- FC/25/097** **Questions**
There were no questions submitted in advance by members of the council.
- FC/25/098** **Public Participation**
There was no public participation.
- FC/25/099** **Report from the Police**
Crime in Warminster for October was down compared to October last year. There had been 19 shoplifting incidents, with lots of positive outcomes largely due to CCTV. The Police had held three action weeks, one focused on retail crime, one on knife crime and one on county lines and associated child exploitation. Three suspects had been identified as the egg throwers at Warminster Carnival and action is due to be taken soon. Outcomes will be press released. The Police will be out at the Christmas Market and Light Switch on.
- FC/25/100** **Reports from Unitary Authority Members**
Cllr Hawker reported that the topic of how much parishes should contribute towards LHFIG works will be discussed at the next area board. Currently it is 25% but a bigger contribution could see more works undertaken.
- FC/25/101** **Proceedings of Committees**
Minutes from the following meetings were adopted:
FC/25/101.1 Finance and Audit Committee meeting held on 1st September 2025.
FC/25/101.2 Highways Advisory Committee meeting held on 1st September 2025.
FC/25/101.3 HR Committee meetings held on 4th September 2025.
FC/25/101.4 Parks and Estate Committee meeting held on 7th July 2025
FC/25/101.5 Planning Advisory Committee meetings held on 15th September and 13th October 2025.
- FC/25/102** **Draft Budget 2026-2027**
Members resolved that the draft budget is adopted as the basis for the actual budget for approval in January 2026.

- FC/25/103 Internal Audit Report 2025-26 (Interim)**
Members resolved to approve the Interim Internal Audit Report 2025-26
- FC/25/104 Request for Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Money Warminster Football Club**
Members resolved to approve £15,000 of CIL money to Warminster Town Football Club to replace the deteriorating pitch side barrier. Members requested that when the work is complete the club report back to the council and invite members for a site visit.

Standing Orders were suspended at 7.31 to allow for public participation.

Mr David Reeves spoke in favour of the motion Reinstatement of the Breast Screening Unit in Warminster

Standing Orders were reinstated at 7.38pm following public participation.

- FC/25/105 Motion 1: Reinstatement of the Breast Screening Unit in Warminster**
Proposed Councilor Lee – Members voted in favour of the motion as amended:
This Council notes with concern the withdrawal of the mobile Breast Screening Unit from Warminster and the resulting reduction in local access to this vital preventive health screening service by asking local women to go to different towns in Wiltshire.
Breast screening plays a crucial role in the early detection of cancer, and the transfer of the local unit to Westbury presents a significant barrier to many residents—particularly older women and those with limited mobility or access to transport—potentially leading to delayed diagnoses and poorer health outcomes. We must also consider the financial cost of travelling and making time to attend appointments outside Warminster.
- Councillors held an online meeting with representatives of the NHS, and although no conclusion was reached, an offer was made by the NHS to review provision for future years.
- Screening is done on a three yearly cycle and it is too late to reinstate the local centre this year. Council nevertheless believes the service should return to Warminster in 2028.
- This Council wants to protect the health and wellbeing of Warminster residents by ensuring equitable access to breast screening services within the town.

Members resolved to:

- **Support the appeal and/or complaint being made by the Health and Wellbeing Forum in Warminster regarding the relocation of the Breast Screening Unit from Warminster to other Wiltshire Towns.**
- **Call on the relevant NHS Trust and Integrated Care Board (ICB) to urgently review the decision and reinstate a local breast screening service in Warminster.**
- **Support the work of the Warminster Health and Wellbeing Forum in pursuing this matter on behalf of local residents.**
- **Request that the Town Clerk write to the NHS Trust and ICB to communicate this Council's position and offer support in seeking a resolution that restores accessible breast screening provision to Warminster.**

- **Request that the Town Clerk write to the Warminster Area Board asking for their support.**

FC/25/106 Motion 2: Westbury Road Development

Proposed Councillor Parks – Members voted in favour of the motion as amended:

Council Notes:

- The council's previous opposition to plans for 205 new dwellings off Westbury Road, which would be outside the settlement policy boundary and in an area at risk of flooding.
- The continued pursuit by the developer of planning approval for 205 dwellings in Westbury Road.
- That the 2021 planning application was dismissed at appeal.
- The Inspector stated "There have been extensive discussions between the main parties regarding the provision of a Community Centre serving the proposed residents as well as potentially existing residents nearby. This has culminated in Schedule 11 of the s106 planning obligation which concerns the provision of land within the appeal site and various mechanisms through which a Community Centre could be delivered. The delivery of a Community Centre potentially serving the existing community would be a benefit of the scheme"
- That at pre-submission stage, developers are encouraged to participate in a suitable level of community engagement that clarifies matters and ultimately responds to feedback received.

Council further notes:

- That the initial consultation between the developer and the community is now many years ago.
- The provision of a community centre seems to be predicated on it being financed and built by the Town Council using Community Infrastructure Levy money from the development. (CIL)
- That the town council has its own criteria for allocating CIL money and will soon be conducting a consultation on the draft Neighbourhood Plan that is expected to increase the number of projects put forward for CIL funding.

Council believes:

- It is not appropriate for developers to assume that the town council will spend its share of CIL money.
- The town council is not convinced either of the demand for a community centre or its viability in this location

Members resolved for the council to write to the developer and Wiltshire Council:

- **Its concerns about the need for further community engagement/consultation before a further planning application is submitted.**
- **Its concerns that simply providing a site for a community centre without the funding to build it will result in no benefit to the community.**
- **The submissions made by the developers have not substantively evidenced the need for a community centre to be delivered at the site and it remains a legitimate expectation of Warminster Town Council to have discretion over where it dedicates future CIL receipts and the developer should not rely upon such CIL receipts funding a new community centre at a location it does not consider appropriate. Should a**

future application be supported by Wiltshire Council or at appeal, the provision of a community centre or facility for the benefit of existing and future residents should be subject to a developer contribution as an alternative to an on-site provision.

FC/25/107

Communications

Members agreed press releases to be issued with the following spokespeople:

Breast Screening Service – Councillor Lee.

CIL Grant to Warminster Football Club – Councillor Jones.

Confidential session pursuant to Section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies Admission to Meetings) Act 1960; the Council, by resolution, may exclude the public from a meeting (whether during the whole or part of the proceedings) whenever publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted or for other special reasons stated in the resolution and arising from the nature of that business or of the proceedings.

FC/25/108

Warminster Town Council Civic Awards 2025

A Civic Award is traditionally a surprise for the recipients; therefore, members considered the nominees under closed session. Awards will be announced at a future date.

Members resolved to set up a working group to review the Civic Awards and to bring recommendations back to a future meeting. Appointed to the Working Group were Councillors; Allensby, Barnes, Jones and Lee.

Meeting closed at 8.22pm.

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 5th January 2026.