



Town Hall
East Street
Wareham
Dorset
BH20 4NS

19 February 2025

To: All Members of the Council

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED TO ATTEND a meeting of the **WAREHAM TOWN COUNCIL** to be held on **Tuesday 25 February 2025** in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, East Street, Wareham at **7.30pm** (or on the rising of the Planning and Transport Committee if later) for the purpose of transacting the business set out in the agenda below.

All members of the public are welcome to attend.

Nicola Gray
Town Clerk

Please contact the Town Hall Office (01929 553006) if you need further information on this agenda.

Members of Wareham Town Council

Councillor M Cotton (Mayor)
Councillor Z Gover (Deputy Mayor)
Councillor D Budd
Councillor D Cleaton
Councillor K Critchley
Councillor A Dallimore
Councillor I Davey
Councillor B Dean
Councillor S Dean

Councillor V Green
Councillor M Hill
Councillor R Holloway
Councillor L Kirk
Councillor D Robinson
Councillor M Tighe
Councillor S Wheatley

25 February 2025 at 7.30pm

1. Apologies for absence

To receive, and consider for acceptance, apologies for absence. (LGA1972 s85)

2. Declarations of interest

To declare any interests relating to the business of the meeting and receive any dispensation requests from the Clerk. (Localism Act 2011 s29-34)

3. Public participation time

An opportunity for members of the public to raise issues of concern or interest, ask a question or make a statement or present a petition or be part of a deputation. Public participation time will be conducted in accordance with the Council's 'Policy for Public Participation Time' which is limited to 15 minutes, with no individual speaker exceeding a maximum of three minutes each. (LGA1972 s100)

4. Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting held on 28 January 2025

To confirm, as a correct record, the minutes of the previous meeting of the Committee (LGA1972 sch12).

5. Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting held on 28 January 2025

To consider any matters arising from the previous minutes.

6. Reports by the Dorset Council Ward Councillors and representatives on outside bodies

To receive the written report of the Dorset Ward Councillors and any further written reports from Town Council representatives on outside bodies.

7. Payment of outstanding creditors – TO FOLLOW

To receive the list of outstanding creditors and balances due for payment including reports of any outstanding payments made, note any queries and approve payments. (LGA1972 s150).

Queries on payments should be notified to the Clerk in advance of the meeting as the financial systems of the Council will not be available for interrogation at the meeting.

8. To receive such communications as the Town Mayor may wish to place before the Council

9. Reports of Committees and Sub-Groups

To note the approved minutes of the following committees:

- a) Amenities Committee – 8/10/2024
- b) Planning and Transport Committee – 14/01/2025 and 28/01/2025

10. Howard's Lane Public Toilets Tender – TO FOLLOW

To consider the recommendation from the Amenities Committee in respect of awarding the contract.

11. Town Council Action List

To note the actions and progress from previous Town Council and Committee Meetings.

12. Report of Museum Manager

To note report of Museum Manager.

13. Town Clerk's Update - VERBAL

To note update from Town Clerk.

14. Any other items the Mayor deems urgent

For report, information or for the agenda at the next meeting. Councils cannot lawfully decide items of business which are not specified in the summons/agenda (LGA1972 sch 12, paras 10(2)(b) and Longfield Parish Council v Wright (1918) 88 LJ Ch 119).

15. Confidential Session

At the conclusion of this part of the Agenda, the Chairman will move the following resolution:

That under Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the meeting as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the nature of the business to be transacted.

16. Museum Development Update

To receive an update on the Museum Development and approve next steps.

17. Date of next meeting

To note the date of the next meeting, which is scheduled for **Tuesday 25 March 2025 on the rising of Planning & Transport (no earlier than 7.30 pm).**



Minutes of a meeting of the Town Council held on Tuesday 28 January 2025 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, East Street, Wareham at 7.30pm.

Members Present: Councillors M Cotton (Mayor), Z Gover (Deputy Mayor), D Budd, D Cleaton, K Critchley, I Davey, B Dean, S Dean, V Green, M Hill, R Holloway, L Kirk, D Robinson, M Tighe and S Wheatley.

Officers present: S Dickins, Deputy Clerk, K Babbs, Admin Officer

TC 152/25 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Dallimore.

TC 153/25 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

TC 154/25 Public participation time

There was one member of the public present who did not wish to speak.

TC 155/25 Confirmation of the minutes of the previous meeting

It was **RESOLVED** the minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on 10 December 2025 be **APPROVED** and would be signed by the Mayor following the meeting.

TC 156/25 Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting

There were no matters arising.

TC 157/25 Reports by Dorset Councillors and representatives on outside bodies

The report from Dorset Council Cllr Ezzard was NOTED.

Cllr Green noted she had attended a meeting regarding the Purbeck Shuttle 200 Bus. They wished to have their thanks noted for the £500 grant received from Wareham Town Council, and to advise that they were in the process of applying for grants in the region of £28,000.

Cllr Holloway reported that there would be a demonstration at the Railway Crossing on Saturday 1 February 2025. Vikki Slade, MP Mid Dorset and North Poole would be attending.

TC 158/25 Payments for outstanding creditors

Members considered the list of payments for approval.

It was **RESOLVED** that payments in the sum of £75,130.87 be approved.

TC 159/25 To receive such communications as the Town Mayor may wish to place before the Council

There were no communications placed before Council.

TC 160/25

Reports from committees and sub-groups

The minutes from the following meetings were NOTED:

- a) Personnel Committee – 12/11/2024
- b) Planning and Transport Committee – 12/11/2024 and 26/11/2024
- c) Policy, Resources and Finance – 12/11/2024

TC 161/25

Annual Risk Assessment

It was **RESOLVED** that the recommendation to approve the Town Council's Annual Risk Assessment from the Policy Resources and Finance Committee be APPROVED.

TC 162/25

Traffic Regulation Order SLA signing and sealing

Members considered the report in respect of the Service Level Agreement for parking enforcement for Howards Lane Car Park.

Cllr Budd asked whether clause 4.1 brought any additional financial risks and liabilities should Wareham Town Council terminate the Service Level Agreement. The Deputy Clerk noted Dorset Council enforcement officers were already operating within Wareham at Dorset Council's car parks and the risks identified and mitigated in the clause were negligible to the Council.

It was noted that paragraph 3.1 would be amended with the agreement of Dorset Council to replace "County Council" with "the Council" prior to the signing and sealing of the SLA.

It was **RESOLVED** to sign and seal the Service Level Agreement in accordance with the Council's Standing Orders, for car parking enforcement in Howards Lane Car park.

TC 163/25

Town Council Action List

Cllr Robinson asked for an update in respect of the Youth Council Proposal. The Deputy Town Clerk noted that contact had been made with the Deputy Head of Purbeck school prior to the end of 2024, and work was ongoing.

Members noted the update regarding the Sitting Out Licence in respect of The Italian Kitchen.

Members noted the work being undertaken in respect of the Civic Procedures and the Mayor's Handbook was ongoing.

TC 164/25

Report of the Museum Manager

The report of the Museum Manager was NOTED.

TC 165/25

Town Clerk's Update

The Town Clerk's Update was NOTED.

TC 166/25

Budget and Precept setting 2025/26 Financial Year

Members considered the recommendation from the Policy Resources and Finance Committee.

It was **RESOLVED** to APPROVE the 2025/26 budget of £686,330.

It was **RESOLVED** to APPROVE an increase to the precept of 6.97% to £562,880.

Members noted the increase equated to £16.13 per annum on a Band D property or 31p per week, or 4p per day, which would take a Band D property from £231.41 to £247.54.

Cllr Gover thanked the Town Clerk for her hard work on the Budget and Precept setting.

TC 167/25 Any other items the Mayor deems urgent

The Mayor requested the Council's thanks be given to Dr Paul Willis, who would be leaving the Council at the end of February, for his hard work and contribution to the Museum during his tenure.

TC 168/25 Date of next meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of the Town Council was scheduled to be held on Tuesday 25 February 2025 at 7.30pm or on the rising of the Planning and Transport Committee.

Mayor..... Date.....



Minutes of a meeting of the Amenities Committee held on Tuesday 8 October 2024 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, East Street, Wareham at 7.30pm.

Committee Members present: Councillors V Green (Chairman), S Wheatley (Vice Chairman), L Kirk, I Davey, M Cotton, M Hill, D Robinson, K Critchley

Officers present: Sam Dickins, Deputy Town Clerk, K Babbs, Admin Officer

A 026/24 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr M Hill

A 027/24 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

A 028/24 Public participation time

There were no members of the public present.

A 029/24 Confirmation of the minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Amenities Committee held on 13 August 2024 were **APPROVED** and signed by the Chairman.

A 030/24 Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting

Cllr Critchley queried the expected arrival of the self-watering planters, and the Deputy Clerk noted that they were due for delivery the following week.

The Deputy Clerk noted that the Noticeboards in the Town Hall had been installed.

A 031/24 Tree at Hauses Field

Members considered the report regarding the proposed location of the fruit tree at Hauses Field.

It was **RESOLVED** that the proposed location and the type of fruit tree to be planted at Hauses Field was **APPROVED**.

A 032/24 Fence at Hauses Field

Members considered the request from the Northmoor Wildlife Haven Group to erect a small bamboo fence as detailed in the report.

It was **RESOLVED** that the request from the Northmoor Wildlife Haven Group to erect a small bamboo fence was **APPROVED**.

A 033/24 Bench outside The Red Lion Building

Members considered the request from the owner of the Red Lion in respect of the benches sited outside the building.

Cllr Green noted that correspondence had been received from the Town Trust stating their opposition to the benches being moved with a copy of the title plan dated 12 February 2024 included.

The Deputy Clerk noted it had been understood from the Red Lion building owner that the benches were located on premises belonging to him. The owner was seeking to move the benches due to anti-social gatherings at the benches and subsequent litter build up.

Members noted the benches' frequent use and concerns about the proposed new location.

Cllr Critchley suggested that the owner of the Red Lion Building provide proof of ownership to the Council prior to further consideration.

It was **RESOLVED** that ownership of the land on which the benches were sited be ascertained with proof provided to the Council and returned to the next meeting for consideration.

A 034/24 Banner at Recreation Ground (MUGA)

Members considered the request from the Jurassic Coast Raptors Basketball Club to hang a banner including details of the club to attract new members.

It was **RESOLVED** that permission be given to the Jurassic Coast Raptors Basketball Club to hang a banner the size which was agreed at 2' x 6' on the long side of the basketball court fence between the two entrances.

A 035/24 Notice Board at Wareham Railway Station

Members considered the report for the replacement of the Notice Board at Wareham Railway Station.

It was **RESOLVED** that a replacement notice board be purchased with **£1000** coming from 'Town Features and Furniture' budget cost code and **£154.54** coming from 'General Maintenance' cost code.

A 036/24 Sycamore Gap – The Launch of 'Trees of Hope'

Members considered whether to apply for the sapling and the proposed locations should the application be successful.

The Deputy Town Clerk noted that these locations would be contingent to permission from Landowners.

It was **RESOLVED** that location four be the agreed location and the Council apply to The National Trust for a sycamore sapling.

A 037/24 Howard's Lane Toilets Draft Specification

Members considered the draft Main Tender Document raising questions about which organisation would be responsible for ascertaining planning and road closure permissions. The Deputy Clerk noted it would be the responsibility of the successful contractor working with the Council.

Members considered the inclusion of cash payment options in the pay-to-use entry mechanism. The Deputy Clerk noted the costs associated with cash handling and the infrequent amount of cash transactions was an operational reason to exclude cash payments.

Cllr Robinson queried the rectification of defects timescales and retention amounts. The Deputy Clerk noted these would be included in the contract with the successful contractor rather than the main tender document.

Cllr Critchley asked whether there had been any engagement with the Conservation Officer at Dorset Council to ensure whether the project would comply with conservation legislation. The Deputy Clerk noted this would be done as part of the process.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Main Tender Document be approved and authority to progress with the planned works contingent to assurances being attained that there are no conservation restrictions prohibiting the demolition.

A 038/24 2025/2026 Draft Budget

Members considered the amenities draft budget and items to be included for the 2025/26 financial year.

Cllr Green noted her disappointment that the Christmas Market would not go ahead. Cllr Cotton and Cllr Critchley noted they understood that this was not currently feasible due to staff capacity.

Members queried the £500 increase in the budget for the Pavilion. The Deputy Clerk noted the increase was needed to maintain it to a reasonable standard.

It was **RESOLVED** that the committee approved the draft as a budget as a recommendation for the 2025/26 financial year.

A 039/24 Any other items the Chairman deems urgent

Cllr Geen noted the email update from Cllr Hill regarding Wareham Men's Shed not likely to be going ahead on Council owned property.

Cllr Green noted a request from Wareham Wednesdays to use the Recreation Ground would be going to Full Council for consideration as the request arrived too late for consideration at the current meeting.

A 040/24 Date of next meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of the Amenities Committee was scheduled to be held on 11 February 2025 7.30pm.

Chairman..... Date.....



Minutes of a meeting of the Planning and Transport Committee held on Tuesday 14 January 2025 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, East Street, Wareham at 7.00pm.

Committee Members Present: Councillors B Dean (Chair), D Robinson (Vice Chair), Cllr D Cleaton, A Dallimore, S Dean, M Hill.

Officers present: N Gray, Town Clerk & RFO, S Dickins, Deputy Town Clerk

P&T 125/25 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr D Budd and Cllr M Tighe.

P&T 126/25 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

P&T 127/25 Public participation time

There were no members of the public present.

P&T 128/25 Confirmation of the minutes of the previous meeting

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 26 November 2024 were approved and would be signed by the Chair following the meeting.

P&T 129/25 Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting

Cllr S Dean enquired whether a response from Dorset Council had been received regarding Wareham Town Council's response to planning application P/VOL/2024/06448 under P&T 120/24. It had been identified that the documentation lacked a plan or sufficient details for the committee properly consider the application. The Clerk noted that a response to this comment had not yet been forthcoming, but the matter would be chased up.

P&T 130/25 Planning Applications

The following planning applications were received from Dorset Council, in its capacity as the local Planning Authority, for Wareham Town Council to consider:

Application Number: **P/LBC/2024/06685**
Location: **3 The Quay Wareham BH20 4LP**
Proposal: **Internal alterations, repair, maintenance & refurbishment to private single occupancy dwelling**

Decision: **NO OBJECTION**

Application Number: **P/LBC/2024/07181**
Location: **52 West Street Wareham BH20 4JZ**
Proposal: **To insert roof light in rear elevation roof slope**

Decision: **NO OBJECTION**

Application Number: P/TRT/2024/06404
Location: The Priory Hotel Church Green Wareham
BH20 4ND
Proposal: T1 Cypress – Fell and replant
Decision: NOTED

P&T 131/25 Planning Decisions

The planning decisions report was noted.

P&T 132/25 Any other items the Chairman deems urgent

The Chair noted a consultation had been received regarding the Western Gateway STB – Strategic Investigation Plan which would be running until 2 February 2025. The consultation pertains to transport infrastructure investment through the Dorset, Wiltshire and Gloucestershire areas. The Clerk confirmed the matter would be brought as an agenda item for consideration and response at the next meeting.

P&T 133/25 Date of next meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of the Planning and Transport Committee was scheduled for Tuesday 28 January 2025 at 19:00.

Chairman..... Date.....



Minutes of a meeting of the Planning and Transport Committee held on Tuesday 28 January 2025 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, East Street, Wareham at 7.00pm.

Committee Members Present: Councillors B Dean (Chair), D Robinson (Vice Chair), D Budd, Cllr D Cleaton, S Dean, M Hill, M Tighe.

Officers present: S Dickins, Deputy Town Clerk, K Babbs, Admin Officer

P&T 134/25 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr A Dallimore.

P&T 135/25 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

P&T 136/25 Public participation time

There was one member of the public present who spoke about gaining support from the Wareham Town Council regarding speeding issues in Sandford Lane.

P&T 137/25 Confirmation of the minutes of the previous meeting

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 14 January 2025 were approved and would be signed by the Chair following the meeting.

P&T 138/25 Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting

There were no matters arising.

P&T 139/25 Planning Applications

The following planning applications were received from Dorset Council, in its capacity as the local Planning Authority, for Wareham Town Council to consider:

Application Number: **P/VOL/2024/06448**
Location: **5 St Johns Hill Wareham BH20 4NA**
Proposal: **Proposed internal and external alterations (with variation of condition 2 of PA P/LBC/2024/03780 to replace modern front door and adjust proposed roof windows)**

Decision: **NO OBJECTION**

Application Number: **P/FUL/2025/00236**
Location: **20 South Street Wareham BH20 4LT**
Proposal: **Change of Use of part ground, 1st and 2nd floor from Commercial (Class E) to Residential 3-bed flat (Class C3). Removal rear wall of existing store to rear of building for use as domestic vehicle parking**

Decision: NO OBJECTION - Members requested to have it noted that they have no objection to the plans as presented, however would not be supportive of, and have strong reservations against the property subsequently having the living quarters sold off separately

Application Number: P/LBC/2025/00235
Location: 20 South Street Wareham BH20 4LT
Proposal: Change of Use of part ground, 1st and 2nd floor from Class E (commercial) to Residential 3 bed flat (Class C3). Listed Building Consent for works to accommodate residential use (insertion of stairs at front ground and 1st floor, removal of stairs at rear ground and 1st floor, insertion of partition wall ground floor, insertion of partition walls to create new kitchen within existing kitchen 1st floor rear, insertion of new partition walls landing 1st floor. Removal rear wall of exiting store to rear of building for use as domestic vehicle parking

Decision: NO OBJECTION - Members requested to have it noted that they have no objection to the plans as presented, however would not be supportive of, and have strong reservations against the property subsequently having the living quarters sold off separately

Application Number: P/LBC/2024/06936
Location: 12 East Street Wareham BH20 4NP
Proposal: Painting of all external woodwork and guttering

Decision: NO OBJECTION

P&T 140/25 Planning Decisions

The planning decisions report was noted.

P&T 141/25 Western Gateway Draft Strategic Investment Plan 2025 – 2035

Members considered the Western Gateway Draft Strategic Investment Plan 2025 – 2035. It was **RESOLVED** that the response be delegated to the Chair of the Planning & Transport Committee with officers input and submission.

P&T 142/25 Any other items the Chairman deems urgent

There were no items deemed urgent.

P&T 143/25 Date of next meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of the Planning and Transport Committee was scheduled for **Tuesday 11 February 2025 at 19:00.**

Chairman..... Date.....



Wareham Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Notes of the meeting held 7.00pm, on the 12th September 2024 in the Town Hall, East Street, Wareham

	Item	Outcome of discussion	Action/ Responsible member
	Present	Cllr K Critchley, Cllr A Dallimore, Cllr R Dean, Cllr S Dean, D Evans, H Evans, Cllr B Ezzard, N Fagan, Cllr Z Gover, Cllr V Green, Cllr D Robinson, Cllr M Tighe, C Turner, Cllr S Wheatley	
1	Apologies	G Bolton, J Bradshaw, Cllr M Cotton Cllr D Cleaton, H Goodinge, Cllr M Hill, L Kenyon, M Olsen, M Wiggins	
2	Election of Chair and Vice-Chair	Cllr Keith Critchley was elected as Chair and David Evans as Vice-Chair	
3	Introduction to Neighbourhood Planning and the Wareham Neighbourhood Plan	David Evans gave a powerpoint presentation which explained the national context in which there are now over 3000 neighbourhood plan areas designated in the UK under the Localism Act 2011 and over 1500 plans made (adopted). The process of preparing a Neighbourhood Plan for Wareham started in 2015 and involved 2 periods of public consultation. Wareham is clearly a highly constrained settlement which is surrounded by areas of flood risk, AONB, Green Belt, SSSI and SAC's. Residents did not favour development west or north of Wareham as being proposed by Purbeck Council in 2016 but instead proposed development of brownfield sites at Westminster Road and Johns Road. A target of 300 dwellings was agreed.	

		<p>The former Middle School was also available for development and a scheme including the provision of a health hub, relocation of the Bonnets Lane care home and social housing was proposed. This would have released land at Streche Road including the Hospital, Doctor's Surgery and Ambulance Station site for housing. However the health hub was not pursued by Dorset Healthcare and the Hospital has remained in use after COVID. Planning permission was granted for the Gas Works and Automaintenance sites in North Street.</p> <p>Maintaining a vibrant town centre is also a priority and protecting the town from out-of-town retail. Protecting open spaces from development including the former Middle School playing Fields, recreation Ground, Hauses Field etc is also a priority in the Plan. It was noted that a strategic transfer of land from Dorset Council to Wareham Town Council has been requested in respect of the former Middle School Playing Fields.</p> <p>Policies for maintaining pedestrian and cycle routes also include a policy for the maintenance of a ground level crossing over the railway. It was noted that after the flyover had been completed the vehicular rights of way were extinguished by Dorset County Council and, by mistake the pedestrian rights were also extinguished. This resulted in a lease being taken out over the crossing to maintain step free access across the railway. Dorset Council challenged inclusion of this policy in the Wareham Neighbourhood Plan but the Examiner agreed that it should be included.</p> <p>The Plan received overwhelming support (90.52%) by local people at referendum in September 2021, following which it was made (adopted). It now forms part of the statutory Development Plan for Dorset and is protected for a period of 5 years until November 2026. It was noted that Purbeck Local Plan has also now been adopted.</p>	
4	Consultation on proposed revised National Planning Policy	<p>David Evans gave a powerpoint presentation on the proposed changes to the National Planning Policy Framework, explaining that the main proposed changes affecting this area include changes to housing targets, the Green Belt and the introduction of a new category of Grey Belt. The consultation period will end on 24th September at 11.45pm.</p>	Hilary Evans to draft response to the Government consultation

	<p>Framework (NPPF)</p>	<p>Proposed overall housing target for the UK – he reported that the Government is aiming to deliver 1.5m homes over 5 years. However he noted that this may not be achievable when considering that such a high figure has not been achieved by any Government since the 1960's when there was large public sector investment in the building of Council houses and new towns. Without comparable public investment it is unlikely that this scale of development would be possible and in any event the construction industry does not currently have the capacity to deliver such high numbers.</p> <p>Mandatory housing targets - A new methodology for calculating Local Planning Authorities targets is proposed which would result in substantial reductions in numbers required in London and substantial increases for the rural areas including Dorset, where there are more constraints on development. With regard to the Dorset area, the proposed new methodology would result in an 81% increase in housing numbers compared with the current methodology and 120% increase compared with the current Local Plan figures. Dorset is a highly constrained area including large areas of nationally/internationally important designations including AONB, SAC and SSSI</p> <p>Requirement for a 5 year land supply – it is proposed that the obligation to always have a 5 year land supply will be reintroduced. The introduction of the new targets 1 month after the publication of the revised NPPF will mean that LPAs like Dorset with out-of-date Local Plans will immediately face speculative planning applications such that the LPAs will be constantly diverted from the urgent task of getting Local Plans in place quickly. The result will be a planning by appeal led system rather than a plan-led approach.</p> <p>Changes to Green Belt Policy – Additional exceptions to Green Belt protection are proposed including the introduction of Grey Belt for <i>Previously Developed Land</i> and for <i>“any parcels of land and/or areas of Green Belt land that make a limited contribution to the five Green Belt purposes”</i>. The second category of Grey Belt is likely to lead to a deluge of speculative planning applications which local authorities and the Inspectorate would have difficulty dealing with. In addition commercial development has been included as well as housing development in the new exceptions which is likely to lead to speculative out-of-</p>	<p>and Town Clerk to submit</p>
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		<p>town retail developments. With town centres already struggling to regain their viability following COVID this would not be desirable.</p> <p>Recommendation: A response to the consultation be sent which asks the Government to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reconsider the overall housing target and reduce it to a level that is achievable by the construction industry • Reconsider the proposed new methodology for calculating housing figures to ensure that more homes are required in London and other UK cities and less in the more environmentally constrained rural areas • Remove the requirement for a 5 year land supply • Retain the 5 year protection for Local Plans • Phase in the housing targets over a 3-5 year period to allow for a planned approach to allocating sites for housing • Drop the second part of the definition of Grey Belt • Exclude commercial development from any new exceptions to the Green Belt 	
5	Street lighting Wareham Conservation Area	<p>It was noted that following the meeting with Dorset Council's Street Lighting engineer that Roderick Mainstone had suggested we might like to consider the lighting installed in Wimborne town centre as a possible way forward for wareham.</p> <p>David Evans showed photographs of the centre of Wimborne. It was noted that there were a range of different light fittings with differing lighting colours and that the Square itself was felt to be too bright. The light fitting which had been highlighted by Dorset Council for us to consider appeared to be an acceptable possibility for the replacement of the current bulkhead lights. However the brightness and colour of the lighting was not favoured. It was noted that some of the Windsor style lanterns in Wimborne had the softer yellow coloured lighting at the bottom end of the Kelvin scale similar to those in Wareham whereas some had the harsh bright white lighting which is not favoured.</p>	Hilary Evans to draft letter and Town Clerk to send to Matthew Piles, Roderick Mainstone and Alison Turnock

It was agreed that Wareham needed to have a scheme with the same coloured lighting throughout and a consistency of fittings to include the retention of the Windsor style lanterns, the lanterns on South Bridge and a suitable replacement for the bulkhead lighting. Lighting suitable for the Cross will also need to be agreed. The design highlighted in the email from Roderick Mainstone appears to be acceptable. However it was pointed out that most of the shops have flats above them in Wareham main streets and that consideration needs to be given to the light spillage into bedrooms. Consultation of local residents is needed and the installation of a sample light would be favoured so that residents can see what it would be like during the day and at night. Cllr Ezzard pointed out that the street lighting policy is being reviewed within Conservation Areas and that Alison Turnock was the Conservation Officer and that should also be involved.

Recommendation:

A letter be sent to Dorset Council:

- **welcoming the review of street lighting policy for Conservation Areas in Dorset**
- **explaining that consistent lighting is needed throughout the Conservation Area of the same colour and intensity currently installed in Wareham.**
- **Asking for confirmation that the existing Windsor lanterns and light fittings on South Bridge will be retained**
- **Explaining that the bulkhead light fitting installed in Wimborne shown in the email from Roderick Mainstone would appear to be acceptable in principle for the replacement of bulkhead lighting in Wareham Conservation Area but that this would be subject to consideration of suitable mellow yellow lighting colour/intensity, consideration of light spillage into bedrooms and consultation with local residents.**
- **Seeking consultation with residents including by installing a light fitting that they can see in Wareham**
- **Requesting a further meeting with a small number of representatives of the Council/Steering Group to consider the above points and involving Dorset Council's Conservation Officer as well as lighting engineer.**

6	Railway level crossing	<p>It was noted that whilst Dorset Council and the former MP had consistently requested a feasibility report into the automation of the crossing, the report, commissioned by Network Rail had instead been a Risk Assessment into the options for the crossing. The conclusion of the report was that a ramped bridge and lifts, two options which have been previously fully investigated and rejected, would be favoured.</p> <p>Cllr Ezzard reported that Network Rail had recently stated that the priority for Network Rail was to provide new stations including at Bournemouth University and that the Dorset Connectivity Strategic Study highlights key railway crossings to close at Poole and Wareham. They have stated that automation of the Wareham crossing would overload the Basingstoke signalling system.</p> <p>It was agreed that this will need to be again raised urgently with MP's and Ministers to seek a change of policy by Network Rail and find a permanent solution to the retention of the ground level crossing.</p> <p>Recommendation: That a letter be sent to the Chief Executive of Network Rail explaining the urgency of finding a permanent solution to maintain Wareham's railway crossing. This to be copied to local MPs and the Minister for Transport who will need to be involved in raising this issue and seeking a policy change by Network Rail.</p>	Hilary Evans to draft letters and Town Clerk to send to Network Rail, local MPs and to Minister for Transport with copies to Dorset Council
7	Any urgent items	There are none.	
6	Date of next meeting	Meetings are held every second Thursday of the month at 7pm when required.	ALL

ACTION LIST						
DATE OF MEETING	COMMITTEE	SUBJECT	MINUTE NUMBER	ACTION	PROGRESS & DATE COMPLETED	PROJECT OWNER/ RESPONSIBLE
11.02.25	Amenities	Howard's Lane Toilet Tender Evaluation and Scoring	A 055/25	Tenders were carefully evaluated and scored by Amenities committee and the successful contractor be recommended to Full Council for approval	To approve recommendation from Amenities committee at Full Council 25/02/2025	Deputy Town Clerk
11.02.25	P&T	Speeding issue, Sandford Lane	P&T 136/25	Officers to engage with Community Speedwatch Team	Offices have investigated and have signposted the resident to the Community Speedwatch Group	Deputy Town Clerk
08.10.24	Amenities	Bench Outside The Red Lion Building	A 033/24	It was RESOLVED that council engage with the owner of The Red Lion Building to ascertain ownership prior to further council consideration.	11/02/2025 UPDATE - Amenities presented with evidence and agreed removal. 20/11/2024 discussions between Dorset Council and the owner of Red Lion taking place. Outcome of discussions will be reported to Amenities Committee on 11/2/2025	Deputy Town Clerk
13.08.24	Amenities	Paving slab damage, Hauses Field	A 023/24	Information regarding reported paving slab damage to be reported back to amenities following meeting of Cllr. S Dean, a Grounds Team representative and representatives from Wildlife Haven at Hauses Field.	UPDATE: Paving slab not damaged, matter pertains to gaps around stone where weeds grow. Liaising with group to find mutually pleasing solution. Information awaited - ongoing	Cllr S Dean, Grounds Team Representative, Wildlife Haven representatives, Deputy Town Clerk
23.07.24	Full Council	Creation of Civic Procedure for Civic Events including Mayor making.	TC 052/24	Civic Procedure for all civic events including the Mayor making to be created.	On PR&F agenda 11/03/2025	Town Clerk, Deputy Town Clerk

24/10/23	PR&F	Public Engagement	PRF 054/23	Town Clerk to draft a Community Engagement Strategy and Policy for consideration at a future meeting.	UPDATE: 1st draft initially scheduled for 26th Nov, postponed to PR&F 08/07/25. Strategy currently being drafted for consideration by the newly elected Council. Being prepared for September PR&F Meeting.	Town Clerk / Deputy Clerk
11/07/23	Full Council	Youth Council Proposal	TC 042/23	Council supported Cllr Cotton in investigating the possibility of a Youth Council in Wareham and bring back any proposals for approval.	UPDATE: School sent materials for student recruitment at the end of 2024. School to be recontacted with draft presentation for students before end of January. Initial operational meeting between Council Officers and school staff lead. Application form for interested students and recruitment presentation being drafted. Time to present to students in an assembly being organised. Contact made with Purbeck School to deliver this work following meeting with Cllrs Cotton and Tighe to define the scope of the project. Awaiting response. Clerk attended a youth engagement event and will now be working with the Deputy Clerk, Cllr Cotton & Cllr Tighe to develop the first stages of youth engagement. Ongoing - The Clerk is attending a Youth Summit to gain further information on 18/07/2024	Deputy Clerk/ Cllrs Cotton & Tighe


24/01/23	Full Council	Conniger Lane Car Park	553	<p>Enter into a lease with Wareham Joint Burial Committee for Conniger Lane car park. The finer detail of the workings of the use and income would be discussed at a later date.</p>	<p>UPDATE: Burial Clerk and WTC Clerk met with Dorset Council where full financial information was privately shared. This will be shared with PR&F as a confidential item at the 11 March 2025 meeting.</p> <p>Burial Committee have submitted FOI on Card Payments at Conniger Lane from Dorset Council and awaiting response. No progress since last meeting. Information has come to light that the Car Park machine would be removed by Dorset Council, meaning the Town Council would need to purchase a new machine at a cost of circa £4,500.</p>	Town Clerk
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REPORT

Meeting Date: 25 February 2025

Agenda Item: 12

Subject:	Report of the Museum Manager
Prepared by:	Paul Willis, Museum Manager
Purpose of Report:	To provide an update on issues arising and confirmation of Museum Manager's actions.
Background:	<p>Wareham Town Museum provides historical and cultural opportunities for residents and visitors of Wareham. These services are provided through the running of the museum's exhibitions during the museum's open season as well as a range of community outreach activities, such as museum events, talks and workshops.</p> <p>The Report of the Museum Manager is a standing report to Council to inform members of the work undertaken by the Museum manager and volunteers and ongoing development work of the museum as a service.</p>
Key Points:	<p>Museum Opening</p> <p>We are busy preparing for the Museum's opening on Saturday 5 April 2025.</p> <p>At the time of writing this report, the volunteer rota for managing the front desk is nearly complete, with only two slots vacant. Thank you to all the volunteers who have returned for this year. It's wonderful to have people who passionate about their town's history and have a willingness to share this with visitors.</p> <p>Kimmeridge Woman Display</p>  <p>As part of our opening for 2025, we are also getting a new display at Wareham Museum ready. This fascinating display, in partnership with Bournemouth University, will detail the fascinating and often undiscovered history of archaeological finds in the Purbeck. The Museum will host a special display of human remains excavated at Kimmeridge, dating from around 1st century AD. The remains were analysed by Amber Manning, a Bioarchaeology Master's student at BU, and Dr. Martin Smith, Associate Professor of Biological Anthropology. It is likely that the Kimmeridge woman lived during a</p>

period of great social change, either prior to the Roman invasion or when Britain was absorbed into the Empire. A digital reconstruction of her appearance will also be on display, with information on the “reconstructing” process and the archaeological excavations and discoveries at Kimmeridge.

Dr. Martin Smith said, “We are so happy to display and share some of our findings at Wareham Museum. Recent research projects by Bournemouth University have uncovered a variety of striking and important finds that are helping us to build an ever more detailed and engaging picture of life during this period. And it’s so important to share this information with as many people as possible.”

In addition to the display, there will also be several family friendly workshops and lectures held during the Festival of Archaeology, 26 July - 9 August 2025.

Thanks to Keith, Tom and Warren, our Grounds Team who have helped get the area ready for the display.



Museum Shop

We are also organising new items for the shop before our opening on 5 April. This includes purchasing new items, based on the museum collection, such as postcards, bookmarks, books, toys, and tote bags.

Focusing on the museum’s collection will help to generate new income, increase the sustainability of the museum, and provide (even in a small way) greater access to the collection. Service.

In addition, by exploring the museum collections and Wareham’s history for retail inspiration and product development, it will contribute to the town’s unique destination offer. Also, these inexpensive products, will meet customer expectations by offering tangible ‘take home’ mementoes of their visit.

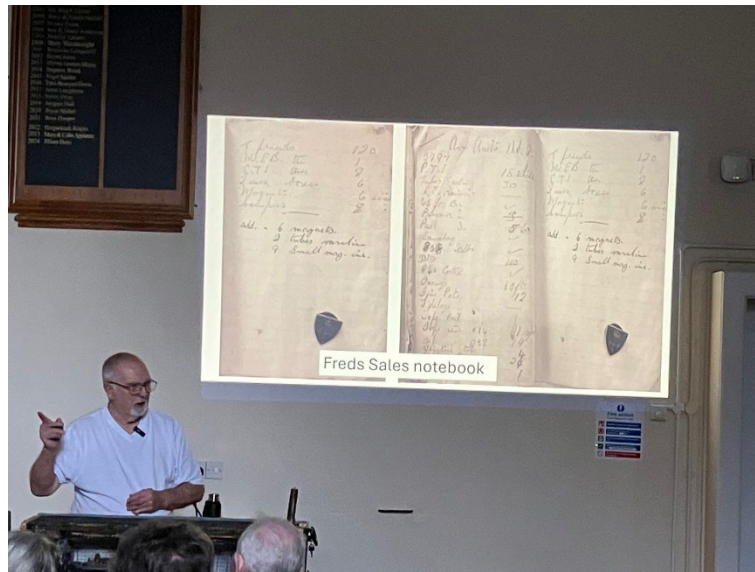
A big thanks to Katy, our Administration Officer, who kindly orders and arranges payment for many of the shop items purchased.



Museum Winter Lecture Series

Our Winter Lecture Series has been well received by visitors. Over 210 people have attended the first three talks, with an average of about 70 people per session.

As this report is being prepared, we are preparing for our next talk, *Real Dorset* with celebrated author, Jon Woolcott. It promising to be a fascinating talk delving into the surprising histories of Dorset.



Our previous talk, *The Creechbarrow Seven*, on 5 February, presented by John Wareham was our most popular, with well over 100 people in attendance.

A big thank you to John who took us on a tour of the life and times of the Creechbarrow Seven. John's passion and engaging talk was full of anecdotes of this important history of World War 2.

And again, a huge thanks to our volunteers—Cherry, Laura, Lillie, Lucia, Martin, Richard, and Sarah— who helped make the event so successful.

Thanks also to Keith, Tom and Warren, our Grounds Team, who always set up the chairs and all the equipment necessary for the talk. The Museum is so fortunate to have such supportive group of volunteers and colleagues who are always willing to roll-up their sleeves to make our events so pleasant for our visitors. We greatly appreciate their dedication and generosity in helping make the lectures run so smoothly.

Past Lectures:

- Wednesday 22 January, 2pm Trick or Treat? Fakes and Forgeries in the Art Market – Richard Kay. *Attendance: 31.*
- Wednesday 29 January, 2pm, The Natural Beauty of Dorset— Colin Varndell. *Attendance: 66.*

Upcoming lectures:

- Wednesday 12 March, 2pm Iron Age people of Dorset- Dr Martin Smith, Associate Professor of Biological Anthropology, Bournemouth University
- Wednesday 19 March, 2pm The Literary Landscapes of Dorset, Dr Kevan Manwaring, Arts University Bournemouth

Our Identity - Past, Present and Future—Oral History Project Update

We have been compiling the necessary forms and documents for recent successful bid for the *Community and Culture Project Fund Round 8, Oral History Project-- Our Identity - Past, Present and Future*, funded by Dorset Council.



The form and documents include:

The Interviewer's Handbook including forms and interview process

The Interviewee's Handbook, information about the project, the interview process, how we will use their interview, and consent forms.

The project will capture and acknowledge the life histories of Wareham residents, young and old, connecting their past, present, and future into the story of our town.

We plan to advertise for volunteers (both interviewers and interviewees) around mid-March. Shortly afterwards, we will officially launch the project where interested people will be invited to attend and learn more about the project and how they can get involved.

We hope that both older and younger people will get involved, as both interviewers and interviewees, so we capture Wareham in a moment in time.

Commemorative Events to mark the 90th anniversary of TE Lawrence's death

At the heart of the museum, there are documents, photos and artefacts that relate to Lawrence of Arabia, TE Lawrence. Interest in his life and times continues to intrigue and captivate people today.

This year marks the 90th anniversary of his death in Wool Military Hospital on Bovington Camp following a motorcycle accident near his home at Clouds Hill.

To honour the 90th anniversary of his death, the Museum will host commemorative activities to mark the occasion (16 May – 17 May 2025).



	<p>The current programme includes:</p> <p>"Who Killed Lawrence of Arabia" Friday 16 May at 6:30pm with Q&A with Director</p> <p>An awarding feature-length documentary, <i>Who Killed Lawrence of Arabia?</i> provides an in-depth investigation into the motorcycle crash which ended the life of T E Lawrence, aka Lawrence of Arabia, in 1935. Written and directed by Mark J T Griffin, the film uncovers compelling evidence he claims proves Lawrence's crash was no accident but an assassination.</p> <p>On Saturday 17 May 2025, the Museum will host a children's art workshop, some short films, and mini symposium of lectures all related to the life and legacy of TE Lawrence.</p> <p>Saturday 17 May at 10:00am-12:00pm</p> <p>A family friendly art workshop related to the enduring legacy of TE Lawrence.</p> <p>Saturday 17 May at 12:30pm</p> <p><i>Screening of IWM film of Lawrence in the Middle East and Pathe film of Lawrence's Funeral.</i></p> <p>Saturday 17 May at 1:00pm</p> <p><i>Archaeology, T.E. Lawrence and the Arab Revolt in Jordan, 1916-1918</i> with Emeritus Professor Nicholas Saunders, Bristol University.</p> <p>Saturday 17 May at 2:30pm</p> <p><i>On the Trail of Lawrence in the Old Levant</i> with Philip Neale, Vice Chairman, T E Lawrence Society.</p> <p>Saturday 17 May at 4:00pm</p> <p><i>Filming T. E. Lawrence</i> with Professor James Chapman, Leicester University</p> <p>Saturday 17 May at 6:30pm</p> <p><i>Lawrence's Legacy</i> with Dr Andrew Norman.</p>
Implications:	<p>The museum is a significant public service to the town and the reporting of its activities for Council allows members to contribute more fully to shaping its future development.</p> <p>The strategic documents drafted by the Museum Manager are key enablers to future developments for the museum.</p> <p>Elements of the Museum's services are supported by the successful application of grants and their reporting is brought for information and report.</p>
Recommendation:	To note the report of the Museum Manager for information.