



WAREHAM

Town Council

Town Hall
East Street
Wareham
Dorset
BH20 4NS

4 December 2024

To: All Members of the Council

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED TO ATTEND a meeting of the **WAREHAM TOWN COUNCIL** to be held on **TUESDAY 10 DECEMBER 2024** in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, East Street, Wareham at **7pm** 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

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 26 November 2024

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 26 November 2024

To consider any matters arising from the previous minutes of the Committee.

6. 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.

7. 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).

8. 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.

9. Wareham Town Museum - Verbal

To consider and approve the options for the Museum's next steps.

10. Date of next meeting

To note the date of the next meeting, which is scheduled for **Tuesday 28 January 2025 at 7.30 pm.**



Minutes of a meeting of the Town Council held on 26 November 2024 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, A Dallimore, I Davey, B Dean, S Dean, V Green, R Holloway, L Kirk, D Robinson, and M Tighe.

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

TC 122/24 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Hill and Cllr Wheatley.

TC 123/24 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

TC 124/24 Public participation time

There were three members of the public present, none of whom wished to speak.

TC 125/24 Confirmation of the minutes of the previous meeting

TC 112/24 Correction of "**RESOVLED**" to "**RESOLVED**".

It was **RESOLVED** the minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on 22 October 2024 be **APPROVED** subject to the above amendment and would be signed by the Mayor following the meeting.

TC 126/24 Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting

There were no matters arising.

TC 127/24 Reports by Dorset Councillors and representatives on outside bodies

Cllr Holloway noted consideration of the level crossing had been withdrawn from the Dorset Council meeting.

The report from Cllr Holloway was NOTED.

Cllr Robinson noted his and Cllr Dean's attendance at the recent DAPTC AGM whereby a number of speakers were very interesting and the two items which required voting had been responded to in accordance with the Council resolution.

TC 128/24 Payments for outstanding creditors

Members considered the list of payments for approval.

It was **RESOLVED** that payments in the sum of **£46,320.20** be approved.

TC 129/24 To receive such communications as the Town Mayor may wish to place before the Council

The Mayor noted her recent self-funded visit to Wareham, Massachusetts had been extremely enjoyable, having been warmly received by community leaders and those hosting them. The twinning declaration had been signed and the Mayor noted a number of individuals involved in the twinning from Wareham, Massachusetts, would be visiting Wareham, Dorset, in May 2025.

The Clerk noted the twinning declaration and badges which had been gifted would be framed and displayed in the Corn Exchange.

TC 130/24 Reports from committees and sub-groups

The minutes from the following meetings were NOTED:

- a) Personnel Committee – 13/08/2024
- b) Planning and Transport Committee 08/10/2024 & 22/10/2024
- c) Policy, Resources and Finance 10/09/2024

TC 131/24 Government Consultation on Proxy Voting and Hybrid Meeting

Members considered the matters laid out in the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government's consultation, noting the potential benefits of holding hybrid meetings, particularly for those with disabilities, work or caring responsibilities.

The Clerk noted any change to the current legislation would require an update of the Council's Standing Orders.

Members also considered the proposal regarding the introduction of proxy voting. Members expressed reservations noting it may lead to members utilising proxy voting before receiving guidance and details from officers, and without the benefit of participation in discussion and debate.

The Clerk noted that Councillors were being encouraged to respond to the consultation as individuals, to ensure as many views were given as possible.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk respond on behalf of the Council with a positive response to hybrid meetings, but with a negative response to proxy voting.

TC 132/24 Cheque Signing - Verbal

It was **RESOLVED** to sign the cheque for Remembrance Sunday Wreaths in accordance with section 8 of the Council's Financial Regulations.

TC 133/24 Signing and Sealing of TRO

It was **RESOLVED** to sign and seal the Traffic Regulation Order for Howard's Lane Car Park in accordance with Standing Order 23.

TC 134/24 Town Council Action List

Members NOTED the Town Council’s Action List.

TC 135/24 Report of the Museum Manager

Cllr Dean noted she had requested clarification of the visitor number data which had been confirmed as being for both October and November, rather solely November.

The Clerk informed members that Cllr Kirk had worked hard with the Administrative Officer for the Volunteers thank you event, and members noted their thanks and appreciation.

The Museum Manager’s report was NOTED.

TC 136/24 Town Clerk’s Update – Verbal

The Clerk noted that an update would be given in the confidential session.

TC 137/24 Any other items the Mayor deems urgent

There were no items the Mayor deemed urgent.

TC 138/24 Date of next meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of the Town Council was scheduled to be held at **7:30pm** (or on the rising of the Planning and Transport committee if later) on **TUESDAY 28 JANUARY 2025**.

TC 139/24 To Resolve to exclude members of the press and public

It was **RESOLVED** 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.

TC 140/24 Volunteer of the Year – Tabled Report

Members considered the recommendation from the Volunteer of the Year Award Panel.

It was **RESOLVED** that the recommendation from the Volunteer of the Year Award Panel be APPROVED.

TC 141/24 Honoured Townsperson – Tabled Report

Members considered the recommendation from the Honoured Townsperson Panel.

It was **RESOLVED** that the recommendation from the Honoured Townsperson Panel be APPROVED.

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