



**Members Present:** Councillors M Russell (Mayor), C Turner (Deputy Mayor), D Budd, D Cleaton, K Critchley, B Dean, B Ezzard, H Goodinge, Z Gover, K Green, V Green, M Humphries, L Kirk, S Kemp

**Officers present:** N Gray, Town Clerk & RFO; G Pettifer, Deputy Clerk (min taker)

**399. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr M Cotton due to illness.

**400. Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**401. Public participation time**

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

**402. Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting held on 27 September 2022**

Members discussed the following amendments to the minutes:

305. to include mention of the report from Cllr R Holloway.

307. to include the word 'also' to reflect that the building would also be used as offices

309. to amend the wording to provide clarity.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2022 were approved, subject to the above amendments, and would be signed by the Mayor following the meeting.

**403. Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting held on 27 September 2022**

Members discussed and noted the matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting as follows:

304. Cllr Critchley noted the report was delayed due to illness and would be presented to the next meeting.

307. The Clerk confirmed the meeting between all parties in respect of the Gateway Hub had been arranged for Monday 21 November 2022.

311. The Calendar of Meetings for 2023 would be distributed again and electronic calendar invites sent in due course.

315. The Customer/Visitor Service Hub meeting needed to be arranged along with information in respect of the required equipment in order that the budget be set for 2023/24.

#### **404. Reports by the Dorset Council Ward Councillors and representatives on outside bodies**

Cllr Ezzard presented her report noting a 20 miles per hour policy had been adopted by Dorset Council and a Speed Watch Team was currently being recruited as she was aware of some speeding issues which were to be referred to the new group.

Cllr Mrs Green reported that the CAB would be commissioning a bus to visit rural areas, which was hoped to be launched in April.

Cllr Mr Green reported he had attended a DAPTC meeting where the “Working Together” document had been discussed. The Clerk confirmed this had also been discussed at the recent Clerk’s conference, with consultation ongoing.

#### **405. Payment of outstanding creditors**

Members raised concern regarding the cost of the 3 pairs of boots from Mountain Warehouse and it was confirmed there were 3 members of male staff, was queried. Cllrs expressed concern about cost of boots and the number of boots purchased in recent times.

Members considered the list of payments, and it was **RESOLVED** that payments in the sum of £51,816 be approved.

#### **406. To receive such communications as the Town Mayor may wish to place before the Council**

There were no communications from the Mayor.

#### **407. Reports of Committees and Sub-Groups:**

The minutes of the following Committees were **NOTED**:

- a) Amenities Committee – 19 October 2022 (draft)
- b) Museum Committee – 29 September 2022 (draft)
- c) Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group – 13 October 2022 (draft)
- d) Personnel Committee – 26 September (approved) and 5 October 2022 (approved)
- e) Planning and Transport Committee – 5 October (approved) and 26 October 2022 (draft)
- f) Policy, Resources and Finance Committee – 11 October 2022 (draft)

Cllr Budd welcomed the new Deputy Clerk to the Council and proposed the Town Council should write to Dorset Planning supporting the letter from the Neighbourhood Planning Steering Group in respect of the Lidl Supermarket planning application.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk write a letter to Dorset Planning to strongly endorse the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group's letter in respect of the planning application submitted by Lidl Supermarkets.

#### **408. Policies recommended for Approval**

A robust discussion took place in respect of the policies being submitted to Council, with Cllr Critchley confirming as Chair of the Policy resources and Finance Committee that he had agreed with the Clerk that they need not be presented to the Committee prior to Council as there was no financial implication and the Personnel Committee had already approved them. Cllr Budd confirmed the Personnel Committee had made minor amendments, such as changing "10 days" to "10 working days", but there had been no major changes. The policies had been received from Southwest Councils and adapted for Wareham Town Council, so did comply with ACAS and HR legislation.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Absence Management Policy and the Capability Policy were approved.

#### **409. Remembrance Sunday**

Members noted the report setting out the arrangements for the Remembrance Sunday parade which the Clerk said were very live, and further updates could be expected.

Cllr Goodinge and Cllr Mr Green both noted they would be unable to parade and submitted apologies.

#### **410. Christmas Reception**

Members noted the arrangements for the Christmas Reception which was to be held on Thursday 15 December 2022.

Cllr Ezzard submitted her apologies as she would be attending a Dorset Council meeting that evening.

The Mayor asked if the Volunteer of the Year award winners and companions would be invited and the Clerk advised she would confirm outside of the meeting.

#### **411. National Civility and Respect Pledge**

The Clerk provided some background for members as to the purpose of the pledge noting it provided improving standards for both Councillors and Staff, unlike the Code of Conduct which only covered Councillors.

It was **RESOLVED** that Wareham Town Council signs the national Civility and Respect Pledge.

#### **412. To select a Task and Finish Group for the Volunteer of the Year Award**

Members volunteered for the Task and Finish Group which would consider the applications for the 2022 Volunteer of the Year Award. Five members volunteered,

and it was **RESOLVED** Cllrs Russell, Goodinge, Kemp, Critchley and Kirk make up the group.

Cllr Russell asked if a meeting had been arranged and the Clerk said she would confirm arrangements following the meeting.

**413. Any other items the Mayor deems urgent**

There were no items deemed urgent.

**414. Date of next meeting**

To note the date of the next meeting, which is scheduled for **Tuesday 13 December 2022** at **7.00 pm**.

DRAFT