



# CHARD TOWN COUNCIL

The Guildhall, Fore Street, Chard, Somerset TA20 1PP

01460 239567 [www.chard.gov.uk](http://www.chard.gov.uk)

Mayor: Cllr Garry Shortland Town Clerk: Gareth Hughes

**All Council & Committee Meetings are open to the Public and Press**

## AMENITIES & EVENTS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Amenities & Events Committee meeting held on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024 commencing at 19:00 hours in the Auditorium, The Guildhall, Fore Street, Chard TA20 1PP.

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**PRESENT:** Cllr Brown (left 19:55), Cllr Hussey, Cllr Bates, Cllr Bulmer (arrived 19:15), Cllr Watson, Cllr Baker, Cllr Williams

**ALSO PRESENT:** Town Clerk: Gareth Hughes, Operations Manager: Kevin Dyer, Events Officer: Tim Bickman

### Public Participation Time

No members of the public were present.

### 2024/01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from: Cllr Richter, (Personal), Cllr Crook (Personal), Cllr J. Kenton (Personal), Cllr A. Kenton (Personal)

### 2024/02 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Baker – Town Clerks report item 2 – Chair of Carnival committee

Cllr Williams – Town Clerks report item 2 – member of the Carnival committee

Cllr Brown – Town Clerks report item 1 – member of Tatworth and Forton Council

### 2024/03 TO RESOLVE TO EXCLUDE MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

There were no confidential items for consideration

### 2024/04 COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes from the Amenities and Events meeting on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023 be accepted as an accurate account of the meeting. The minutes were signed by the Chair.

Proposed: Cllr Williams  
For:4

Seconded: Cllr Bates  
Abstained: 3

## 2024/05      **MANAGER REPORTS**

- a) **Town Clerk** - Committee agreed to note the contents of the Town Clerk's report.

The following recommendations were **RESOLVED**:

- **Item 2** to complete work with CDS on the Chapel as outlined in the Town Clerks report and to therefore recommend to Full Council the release of these funds from the Chapel EMR for this work.

Proposed: Cllr Baker  
Unanimous

Seconded: Cllr Bates

- **Item 3** to have a 5-year shared usage licence for the Watts Store with break clauses as indicated in the Town Clerks report.

Proposed: Cllr Bates  
Unanimous

Seconded: Cllr Bulmer

- **Item 4** to abolish the burial charges for under 16s and for Officers to conduct a review of other local council charges.

Proposed: Cllr Baker  
Unanimous

Seconded: Cllr Bates

- b) **Operations** – Committee agreed to note the contents of the Operations Managers report.

The following recommendations were **RESOLVED**:

- **Item 2.1** to give Officers delegated authority to reduce the number of flowerbeds in the town and to increase the cost of hanging baskets from £20 to £40, but to also consider possible sponsorship options.

Proposed: Cllr Baker  
Unanimous

Seconded: Cllr Bulmer

- **Item 3.1&3.2** to recommend to Full Council that delegated authority be given to the Town Clerk and Operations Manager to the release of £45,000 from The Cemetery EMR to be able to complete works and relevant investigations once full ownership had been completed.

Proposed: Cllr Baker  
Unanimous

Seconded: Cllr Williams

- **Item 4** to pass the allotment holders tenancy agreement to Full Council after consulting with the Allotment Committee.

Proposed: Cllr Bates  
Unanimous

Seconded: Cllr Baker

c) **Events** – Committee agreed to note the contents of the report.

The following recommendations were **RESOLVED**:

- **Item 7.0** to agree to change the fees to one specific rate and to increase the Guildhall charges as per the Events Officer's report and to establish a T&F group who will consider a 5-year plan for the use of the Guildhall. The agreed new charges will be as follows:

Resource	Rate p/hour
Auditorium Inc. cafe	£27.50
Auditorium with stage and café	£37.50
Kitchen	£8 (maximum of £32 p/booking) – <b>No change to previous</b>
Café	£13
Bondfield Room	£10
Town Hall	£15
Mayor's Parlour	£12

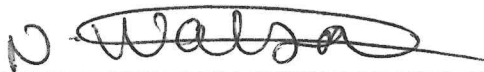
Proposed: Cllr Baker  
Unanimous

Seconded: Cllr Watson

**2023/06 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Committee noted that the next meeting of the Amenities & Events Committee would be held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2024 in the Guildhall, Fore Street, Chard TA20 1PP commencing at 19.00.

There being no other business the Chair thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 20:55



CHAIR / VICE CHAIR:

DATE:

