CHARD TOWN COUNCIL

The Guildhall, Fore Street, Chard, Somerset TA20 1PP
01460 239567 www.chard.gov.uk
Mayor: Garry Shortland

CHARD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Chard Town Council meeting held in the Guildhall Fore Street, Chard TA20 1PP on Thursday 4th April 2024 commencing at 18:00pm.

PRESENT: Cllr Shortland (Mayor) Cllr Baker, Cllr Bates, Cllr Bulmer, Cllr Eggins, Cllr Grief-Page, Cllr Hussey, Cllr A Kenton, Cllr J Kenton, Cllr Richter and Cllr Watson

OFFICERS & OTHERS PRESENT: Beverley Newman DSO

Public Participation Time
There was 3 members of public present. One question was asked;

'Why has there been another Extraordinary meeting called relating to the engagement of a Proper Officer, why couldn't they have bene done at the same time?'
The mayor replied the answer to this question would become apparent during the meeting.

2024/42 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Proposed: Cllr Richter Seconded: Cllr Grief-Page
Unanimous

RESOLVED: To receive and accept the following apologies.

- Cllr Crook (personal),
- Cllr Williams (Personal)

2024/43 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
The following declarations of interest were made:

- Cllr Baker agenda item, 2024/47 – Chair of the Carnival committee and member of the Town Team
- Cllr J Kenton item 2024/47 – member of the Town Team
- Cllr Shortland Chair of the Town team

2024/44 EXCLUSION OF MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

Proposed: Cllr Watson Seconded: Cllr Hussey
Unanimous

RESOLVED: TO EXCLUDE MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC
As certain items are expected to include the consideration of exempt information Full Council is, therefore, recommended to resolve "That, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded during the discussion of the matters referred to in the items listed below, on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information, as defined in the respective paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, and the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information".

18.05 Cllr Bates arrived

2024/45 ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR
The Mayor invited nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor.

The following nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor were received:

First nomination: Cllr Watson
Proposed: Cllr Eggins Seconded: Cllr Bulmer

Cllr Watson accepted the proposal.

Second nomination: Cllr Bates
Proposed: Cllr Baker Seconded: Cllr J Kenton

Cllr Bates accepted the proposal.

5 councillors voted for Cllr Watson, **6** Cllrs voted for Cllr Bates.
Cllr Bates accepted the office of Deputy Mayor.

2024/46 ENGAGEMENT OF CONSULTANT FOR THE ROLE OF PROPER OFFICER
The offer by a consultant of providing a part time Proper Officer was withdrawn after the publication of the March 18th Extraordinary Full Council meeting draft minutes.

2024/47 PARTY IN THE PARK

Proposed: Cllr Bates Seconded: Cllr Watson
Unanimous

RESOLVED: To agree the use of Joycelyn Park for the Community 'Party in the Park' event on 28th July 2024

2024/48 DATE OF NEXT MEETING
The next scheduled Full Chard Town Council meeting will be held on Monday 20th March 2024 in The Guildhall, Fore Street, Chard TA20 1PP commencing at 7pm.

In view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted relating to a) sensitive personal information the press and public were excluded during consideration of the following items (Item 2024/44 above refers):

2024/49 CONFIDENTIAL – STAFFING MATTERS

Proposed: Cllr Baker Seconded: Cllr J Kenton
Unanimous

RESOLVED: To agree to the prosed increases of hours as outlined in the Staffing report, subject to this fitting with the requirement of a Proper Officer

There being no other business the Mayor thanked all those present for attending and closed the meeting at 18.15 pm.

22/7/24

MAYOR: **DATE:**