Chard Town Council

The Guildhall, Fore Street, Chard, Somerset TA20 1PP
01460 239567 www.chard.gov.uk
Mayor: Cllr Victoria Bates
Chief Executive & Town Clerk: David Bell

MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting of the **Amenities and Events Committee** held on **Tuesday 11th November 2025 at 7pm** in the Guildhall, Fore Street, Chard TA20 1PP.

Present: Councillors; Baker (Chair), Bates, Bulmer, Eggins, Hussey, A Kenton, J Kenton O'Brien, Richter and Shortland

In Attendance: Chief Executive & Town Clerk (CE&TC) David Bell and Operations Manager Kevin Dyer

Public Participation Time

Section 1 – Standing Items

2025/47 **Apologies for Absence**
Apologies were received from Cllrs: Hassan & Williams.
Personal
Apologies were unanimously accepted.

2025/48 **Declarations of Interest**
There were no declarations of interest made

2025/49 **Committee Meeting Minutes**
Consideration of minutes was deferred as some councillors stated they hadn't been able to look at them in advance of the meeting.

Section 2 – Items To Note

2025/50 **Chief Executive & Town Clerk Updates**.

a) Budget Planning – Chief Executive & Town Clerk explained that only agreed projects would be taken forward into the budget

b) Staffing Updates – Sickness and vacancies were taken into account by the HR Committee

c) Guildhall Operational Hours – Christmas Opening Hours – Staff leave, statutory days and cover have been taken into account

2025/51 **Operations Updates**
An update on current actions was provided by the Operations Manager & noted by the committee

2025/52 **Events Update**
Committee noted the Events report

2025/53 **To Resolve 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".

Proposed: Cllr Bulmer Seconded: Cllr Bates

Resolved To Exclude Members Of The Press And Public

Section 3 – Confidential Items For Decision

Chief Executive and Town Clerk asked Cllr Baker to leave the room

Councillor Baker stated he had spoken to the monitoring officer who had confirmed he did not have to leave the council chamber for the agenda point referring to the hiring and costs of the Guildhall.

2025/54 **Guildhall Hire Charges**

Proposed: Cllr Baker Seconded: Cllr Bates
For: 6 Abstain: 1 Against: 1

Resolved: To a) set up a Task & Finish group to review the Guildhall hire charges, b) consider the policy for the hire of the Guildhall.

2025/55 **Date of next meeting**
The next meeting of the A&E Committee will be on **Tuesday 9th December 2025** in The Guildhall, Fore Street, Chard TA20 1PP commencing at 7pm.

The Chair thanked all for attending the meeting. The meeting closed at 21.10.

Signed: Date: 7/7/26