

# Chard Town Council

THE GUILDHALL, FORE STREET, CHARD, SOMERSET TA20 1PP  
01460 239567 [chardtowncouncil@chard.gov.uk](mailto:chardtowncouncil@chard.gov.uk) [www.chard.gov.uk](http://www.chard.gov.uk)

Mayor: Cllr Victoria Bates

Proper Officer: Neil Bloomfield



## ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held in the Auditorium at the Guildhall, Chard on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2024 commencing at 19:00

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Cllr Victoria Bates, Mayor of Chard, chaired the meeting.

**PRESENT:** 39 people were in attendance.

Cllr Bates welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### 1. MINUTES

The minutes of the of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2023 were read out and agreed by those present at the meeting.

### 2. MAYOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

The Meeting received the Annual Report presented by Cllr Garry Shortland as the outgoing Mayor.

### 3. POLICE REPORT

The Meeting received apologies from Inspector Allan Hollick who was unable to attend the meeting.

### 4. CULTURALLY CHARD FILM

Cllr Bates introduced this 3.5-minute film, showcasing the successes of Culturally Chard over the 3-year Historic England funded project.

### 5. PRESENTATION FROM CHARD AREA RESILIENCE GROUP (CARG)

The meeting received updates and a presentation from David Bell.

### 6. GRANT RECIPIENT UPDATES

The meeting received updates and thanks from the following grant recipients:

- Chard Area Youth Committee
- Chard Carnival.
- Chard Town Team
- Chard Museum
- Blackdown Acapella
- Chard Area Resilience Group (CARG)
- Somerset Youth Theatre
- Chard Watch

### 7. PRESENTATION OF FUNDS RAISED FOR CHARITY BY THE MAYOR

Cllr Victoria Bates presented cheques to the following charities following a variety of fund-raising events during Cllr Garry Shortland's year as Mayor:

- The Watch Project
- Chard Area Youth Committee / Chard Young People's Centre
- Ferne Animal Sanctuary – not present
- Holiday breakfast bags

**8. PRESENTATION OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARDS**

Outstanding Service Awards were presented to the following people of Chard for their outstanding services to the community:

- Tessa Goodridge-Reynolds – Chard Community Hub
- Charlotte Rogers – Chard Girl Guides

**9. PRESENTATION OF COMMUNITY PLAN**

The meeting received a presentation from David Bell and information of the next steps to be taken, including running through of the proposed action plan.

**10. PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

There were 3 questions from the public:

- Louise Allen – “Will those present in the meeting agree a vote of no confidence in Cllr Jason Baker?”
- Cath Morrison – “Will this Mayor be able to improve this council?”
- Adam Loveridge – Flowers presented to Serena Wootton in recognition of the work she has carried out within the community.

The Mayor thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at **20:45** and light refreshments were served.

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**MAYOR:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**DATE:**