Chard Town Council

The Guildhall, Fore Street, Chard. TA20 1PP
01460 239567 chard.gov.uk
Mayor: Cllr Victoria Bates
Proper Officer Kevin Dyer

Minutes of the Chard Town Council meeting held in the Guildhall, Fore Street, Chard, TA20 1PP on **Monday 16th December 2024** commencing at 7:00pm.

Present: Councillors Baker, Bates, Bulmer, Crook, Eggins, Hussey, A Kenton, J Kenton, Richter, Shortland, Watson and Williams.

Apologies: Councillors Grief-Page, Hassan and Webb

In attendance: Helen Nathanson (Locum RFO), Beverley Newman (DSO), Somerset Councillor Wale and 17 members of the public.

Chaplin's Thought for the Day'
The mayor conveyed the Chaplin's apologies – due to the time of year he was unable to attend.

Public Participation Time

Somerset Councillor Reports
Somerset Councillors; Baker, J Kenton and Wale, provided updates.

2024/142 **Apologies for Absence**
It was resolved to accept the apologies from Councillors Grief-Page, Hassan and Webb for personal reasons.

Proposed: Councillor J Watson Seconded: Councillor Eggins
Unanimous

2024/143 **Declarations of Interest**
No declarations received.

2024/144 **Council Meeting Minutes**
It was resolved to defer the Minutes of the Full Town Council meeting on the 18th November due to the requirement of some amendments.

Proposed: Councillor Bates Seconded: Councillor Baker
For: 9 Abstain 3

2024/145 **Committee Meetings**

a) HR:

Council noted the minutes of the HR meeting held 4th December
The consideration of employing an interim Town Clerk - See *Exclusion of Press and Public* below

2024/146 **Finance**

a) Council requested a pre-budget meeting to go through line by line.
Action Point: Officers to arrange a pre-budget meeting
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b)
i) Brave Bold Drama

Resolved: For council to agree the grant application

Proposed Cllr Bates Seconded Cllr Eggins
For: 10 Abstain: 2

ii) Wellington Community Counselling
Resolved: For council to agree the grant application subject to receiving the Children element of grant funding (having the adult element of grant funding already secured)
Action Point. RFO to inform Wellington Community Counselling.

Proposed Cllr Baker Seconded Cllr J Kenton
For: 11 Abstain: 1

iii)1st Chard Scout Group

Resolved to suspend Standing Orders

Proposed Cllr Baker Seconded Cllr Shortland
Unanimous

Proposal to return to Standing orders
Proposed Cllr Baker Seconded Cllr Craig Hussey

Resolved: For council to agree the grant application

Proposed Cllr Williams Seconded Cllr Baker

2024/147 **Councillor Motion**
See *Exclusion of Press and Public* below

2024/148 **Legal and ICO Casework -** See *Exclusion of Press and Public* below

2024/149 **Correspondence**

a) Council noted the link provided for the Consultation document 'Local Government Boundary Review in Somerset'

Resolved to suspend Standing Orders

Proposed Cllr Baker Seconded Cllr J Kenton
Unanimous

Further discussion and information were exchanged in particular the feasibility of the current plans.

Standing Orders were resumed

Proposed Cllr Baker Seconded Cllr Hussey
Unanimous

b) Council noted the Letter to Parishes from Somerset Councillor Revans

Exclusion of Press and Public
Councillors to resolved to exclude the press and public in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 as items 2024/145 a), 2024/147 & 2024/148 are expected to include the consideration of exempt information as defined in the respective paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

Proposed: Councillor J Kenton Seconded: Williams
For:9 Against: 3

2024/150 **Date of Next Meeting**
Council noted the date of the next Full Council meeting: **Monday January 20th 2025 19.00**

Confidential

2024/144 **a) Recommendations of the HR Committee meeting 4th December**
Council considered the recommendations of the HR Committee meeting held 4th November in respect to the employment of an interim Town Clerk

Resolved:

2024/147 **Councillor Motion: Retract The Rescinding the Rolley Report**
Proposed Cllr Eggins Seconded Cllr Bulmer

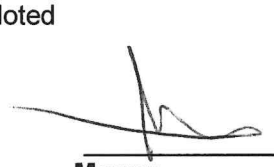
A named vote was requested by Cllr Bulmer:

For: Cllr Eggins, Cllr Bulmer
Against: Cllr Bates, Cllr A Kenton, Cllr J Kenton, Cllr Shortland, Cllr Williams
Abstain: Cllr Baker, Cllr Crook, Cllr Richter, Cllr Watson, Cllr Hussey

Not Resolved

2024/148 **Legal and ICO Casework**

Noted



Mayor:

7/5/25

Date: