SHERBORNE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a MEETING of SHERBORNE TOWN COUNCIL held on Monday 21 September 2026 at 6.00 pm in the Council Chamber at the Manor House, Newland, Sherborne.

Present: S Jeganathan (Mayor), J Andrews, S Greene, J Griffen, P Jacobs, C Kippax, T Martin, G Patterson and R Legg.

In attendance: Mr S Shield (Town Clerk), Mrs K McMeiken (Civic & HR Officer), Matt Worton-War (Responsible Finance Officer).

Youth Advisors: Phillipa, Lizzie and Rhianna.

51. PUBLIC SESSION

51.1 Representation from Statutory Bodies

None Present.

The Mayor advised that a written report had been received from the Police and would be circulated to Members for their information. The key points from the report were relayed to the meeting. The Corelli estage remains a priority site presently.

51.2 Representation from Community and Local Organisations

Representatives from Future Sherborne attended the meeting and provided a comprehensive update on recent developments and upcoming events. It was requested that a dedicated meeting be scheduled with the Mayor and Town Clerk to allow for a more detailed briefing.

A representative from the Community Kitchen attended the meeting to provide an overview of their reasons for submitting a grant application.

Members of Sherborne Tennis Club attended the meeting to present the latest outline proposals for for a potential new Padel Tennis Courts for the Terrace Playing Fields. It was suggested that a meeting be arranged to include representation from the Council, the Tennis Club and the private investor behind the latest plans.

The Chairman of the Grove Patient Participation Group (PPG) highlighted some key points from his written report that had previously been circulated to Members.

51.3 Representations from Members of the Public

A member of the public attended the meeting to advise he was in discussion with Dorset Council about a potential feasibility study of a one way traffic system relating to Westbury and Horsecastles.

A member of the public expressed concerns about cars and lorries currently using Hound Street expressing residents safety concerns and relaying there had been some damage to property. The resident has been liasing with retailers and the Police about these ongoing issues.

52. REPORT FROM DORSET COUNCIL – COUNCILLOR ANDREWS

Cllr Andrews has recently resigned from his cabinet position on Dorset Council.

Any blocked drains should be reported to Dorset Council ahead of the winter period with a view to preventing higher levels of flooding locally.

Changes in planning legislation means that developments of one to nine properties will no longer go to a planning committee and would be determined by Planning Officers.

The Dorset Local Plan is now out for further consultation the new design consultation and the council will have a further opportunity to make representation in addition to their original submission.

53. REPORT FROM DORSET COUNCIL – COUNCILLOR CRABB

A report was received from Cllr Crabb and read out by the Town Clerk.

I'm sorry that I cannot be with you all today.

I have been working with Cllr Warburton and the Chair of the Residents Association for the Corelli estate. There are a small number of individuals causing issues with noise and general unacceptable behaviour in the community. We continue to liase with Dorset Police and the Dorset Council Anti Social Behaviour Team regarding these ongoing problems. We have requested an Anti Social Behaviour Case Review meeting to review these matters.

Several buildings currently have scaffolding erected. Notably, water is leaking from the former Batemans opticians premises. I have reported this to Dorset Council to prevent any potential issues. Dorset Council licenses all scaffolding, and their Highways department is responsible for oversight.

The Dorset Local Plan is now at the "scoping stage". It focuses on identifying the issues that the local plan should address. It is not about views on potential sites at this stage. It is more about aspects that should be considered. This is available online from thise week and will run for 5 weeks.

54. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs M Crossman, R Crabb and J Warburton.

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Jeganathan and SECONDED by Cllr Andrews and AGREED unanimously that:

The Apologies for Absence were duly recorded.

55. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATION REQUESTS

Councillors were reminded of their obligations to declare their interests in the following items and to indicate the action they will be taking when the item is considered in accordance with the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) Model Code of Conduct, prepared to comply with the requirements of Section 27 of the Localism Act 2011.

56. MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 20 JULY 2026.

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Andrews and SECONDED by Cllr Martin and AGREED unanimously that:

Sherborne Town Council approves and adopts the Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 20 July 2026 (Agenda Item 6).

57. FINANCE AND RESOURCES

57.1 STC Payment Schedule and Bank Balances

The papers were noted (Agenda Item 7.1), and it was PROPOSED by Cllr Jacobs and SECONDED by Cllr Legg and AGREED unanimously that**:**

For July 2026, Credit Card Payments of £387,62 BACS Payments of £93,953.80 and Direct Debits amounting to £4,527.39 are approved.

57.2 The Digby Hall and Library Payment Schedule and Bank Balances

The paper was noted (Agenda Item 7.2) and it was PROPOSED by Cllr Jacobs and SECONDED by Cllr Kippax and AGREED unanimously that:

The Bank Balances/Reconciliations for The Digby Hall and Library for July 2026 are approved.

57.3 Internal Audit (2025/2026) visit 3 of 3

The papers were noted as (Agenda Item 7.3), and it was PROPOSED by Cllr Jacobs and SECONDED by Cllr Andrews and AGREED unanimously that:

Sherborne Town Council supports the recommendations within the Internal Audit Report (2025/2026), visit 3 of 3.

57.4 Financial Regulations

The papers were noted as (Agenda Item 7.4), and it was PROPOSED by Cllr Jacobs and SECONDED by Cllr Martin and AGREED unanimously that:

Sherborne Town Council approves the Model Financial Regulations in line with the National Association of Local Councils (NALC).

57.5 Sherborne Area Youth and Community Centre (SAYCC).

The papers were noted as (Agenda Item 7.5), and it was PROPOSED by Cllr Andrews and SECONDED by Cllr Kippax and AGREED unanimously that:

Sherborne Town Council received the latest report and approves the second tranche of funding amounting to £10,000 for the current financial year in relation to the Service Level Agreement.

57.6 Speed Surveys

A discussion was held about local speeding traffic following recent reports made to the town council. The council considered requests for speed surveys at several locations, including the A30, Abbey Road, Acreman Street, Bristol Road, and Long Street. It was agreed that the Town Clerk would liaise with Dorset Council to identify suitable sites for these surveys. It was was noted that Dorset Council uses a priority criteria matrix to rank 20 mph schemes, which considers factors such as collision history, pedestrian and cyclist volumes, proximity to schools, shops, and community facilities, existing traffic speeds, and the road environment and layout.

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Jeganathan and SECONDED by Cllr Andrews and AGREED unanimously that:

The Town Clerk would liaise with Dorset Council to determine suitable sites to deploy speed survey equipment.

57.7 Grant Funding Applications

Sherborne Community Kitchen - To consider an application from Sherborne Community Kitchen amounting to £1000 to improve publicity, raise awareness and upgrade various equipment.

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Andrews and SECONDED by Cllr Martin and AGREED Unanimously that:

Sherborne Town Council unanmousily approves the Grant Funding of £1,000.

58. TOWN MAYOR, TOWN CLERK WORKING GROUPS AND PORTFOLIOS

The Mayor advised the Dorset High Sheriff has been walking throughout Dorset raising awareness and funding for those impacted by County Lines. Helena Conibear DL will be walking to Sherborne, where the Mayor will be joining her on this part of the walk. The walking delegation will be spending time at the Community Kitchen, The Rendezvous and will attend the official opening of the Ninja Warrior Course at the Blackberry Lane Skate and Adventure Park.

Cllr Griffen highlighted the recent success of Sherborne being named Dorset Town of Culture 2027. The council has met with the Arts Development Company and Dorset Council to discuss the governance structure for the year. £30,000 has been ring-fenced by STC and matched by Dorset Council, bringing the initial project fund to £60,000. Additional external funding opportunities will be explored once the programme of events has been finalised. STC plans to recruit part-time roles for project coordination, marketing, and filming to support the programme. Dorset Town of Culture 2027 will become a standing item on the council agenda. An inaugural Culture Leadership Group meeting is scheduled for this week and will focus on supporting the programme.

Cllr Legg stated that it was envisaged that the new community transport rural and town pilots will likely commence on Tuesday, 3rd November 2026. It is hoped that publicity for both routes will be finalised shortly and duly published to promote the new bus services.

59. FORTHCOMING MEETINGS VENUES AND COUNCILLOR SURGERIES.

Meeting venues are currently being explored for the forthcoming council meetings in October and November. It is hoped that both St Paul's Church and the West End Community Hall would be available to accommodate these meetings, which might need to take place on a different day of the week. Councillor surgeries will also be explored at agreed dates and times with Members.

60. PLANNING

a) P/TRC/2026/04737

50 Newland Sherborne DT9 3JHT1 Laburnum - Remove to ground level T2 Prunus - Reduce back to fence line and reduce in height by up to 50% (as per annotated photo submitted)

Sherborne Town Council notes this application.

b) P/LBC/2026/02158

66 Cheap Street Sherborne DT9 3BJ – **Comments already received in June; this is now extended. Clarification distributed.**
Change of use from dwellinghouse to storage and carry out external alterations to include a new staircase.

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Legg and SECONDED by Cllr Jacobs and AGREED Unanimously that:

Sherborne Town Council has already made comments on this application, and there is no objection the the additianl element.

c) P/FUL/2026/01394

64 & 66 Cheap Street Sherborne DT9 3BJ - **Comments already received in June; this is now extended. Clarification distributed.**
Formation of an opening on the ground floor between no. 64 & 66 Cheap Street. Change of use of part of the first floor from C3 to Class E in connection with No. 64.

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Legg and SECONDED by Cllr Jacobs and AGREED Unanimously that:

Sherborne Town Council has already made comments on this application, and there is no objection the the additianl element.

d) P/FUL/2026/04653

Northgate House North Road Sherborne DT9 3JW
Erect triple garage.

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Jacobs and SECONDED by Cllr Legg and AGREED unanimously that:

Sherborne Town Council supports this application.

e) P/CPLLP/2026/04966

8 The Old Green, The Green, Sherborne DT9 3JY

Certificate of lawfulness to replace 4no. rotten & unrepairable wooden windows, with like-for-like wooden windows
It was PROPOSED by Cllr Griffen and SECONDED by Cllr Legg and AGREED unanimously that:

Sherborne Town Council supports this application.

61. <u>EXEMPT BUSINESS</u>

There was no exempt business.

The meeting closed at 8.10 pm.

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Town Mayor