

Dorchester Town Council

Meeting of the Dorchester Town Council held in the Council Chamber

28 July 2025

Present: The Mayor (Councillor A. Canning) and Councillors R. Biggs, S. Biles, P. Farmer, L. Fry, W. Gibbons, J. Hewitt, F. Hogwood, S. Jones, F. Kent-Ledger, D. Leaper, V. Lloyd-Jones, R. Potter, K. Reid, M. Rennie, R. Ricardo and D. Taylor.

Apologies: Councillors J. Germodo, G. Jones and R. Major.

15. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were reported to the meeting.

16. Minutes

The minutes of the meetings of the Council held on 19 and 20 May 2025, were confirmed and signed by the Mayor as a correct record.

17. Police Matters

Sergeant Ian Schofield updated the Council on the crime statistics and initiatives for Dorchester over the past two months. He also responded to Members detailed questions.

18. Presentations, Communications and Motions

There were no presentations or communications.

No motions had been submitted.

19. Planning and Environment Committee – 2 June 2025

It was proposed and seconded that the minutes of the meeting be adopted.

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting of the Planning and Environment Committee held on 2 June 2025 be adopted.

20. Planning and Environment Committee – 7 July 2025

It was proposed and seconded that the minutes of the meeting be adopted.

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting of the Planning and Environment Committee held on 7 July 2025 be adopted.

21. **Management Committee – 14 July 2025**

It was proposed and seconded that the minutes of the meeting be adopted.

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting of the Management Committee held on 14 July 2025 be adopted.

22. **Policy Committee – 21 July 2025**

It was proposed and seconded that the minutes of the meeting be adopted.

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting of the Policy Committee held on 21 July 2025 be adopted.

23. **Update from the Dorset Council**

Dorset Councillors updated the Council on the following matters:-

- Members were reminded that the Dorset Council Local Nature Recovery Strategy consultation was due to end on 30 July 2025 and that there was a Thorncombe Woods public satisfaction survey presently being undertaken.
- Trading Standards had produced a 'Buy with confidence' list of traders.
- The Council was updated on the SWAP report which had resulted in a number of officers having their contracts terminated due to not following the Council's financial regulations.
- It was noted that Premier Inn had now received planning permission for its new build hotel on the old M&S site in South Street.
- The new Dorset Council Chief Executive, Catherine Howe, was due to take up post on 4 August 2025.

Council rose at 7.36pm.

Mayor