

DEVIZES TOWN COUNCIL
12th October 2023

Councillors:	Bridewell	Britten	Brown
	Corbett	East	Gay
	Geddes	Giraud-Saunders	Greenwood
	Hopkins	Hoult	Hunter
	Nash	Oliver	Ormerod
	Pennington	Rose	Stevens
	Tanner	Wallis	Wooldridge

Officers: Simon Fisher –Town Clerk
Jan Rendle – Committee Administrator

Members of the Public: None

262. MINUTES

The minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 12th September 2023, having previously been circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Chairman, the Town Mayor.

263. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors East, Gay, Giraud-Saunders, Pennington, and Wooldridge.

264. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of interest.

265. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

There were none.

266. QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER NO 15

None had been received.

267. MINUTES OF MEETINGS FOR INFORMATION

The committee noted the list of meetings, whose minutes have been signed and held since the last meeting of the Council.

268. PROCEDURE: SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER NO 5

It was proposed by Councillor Geddes, seconded by Councillor Ormerod and
RESOLVED

THAT For the purposes of dealing with the remaining items on
the agenda, Standing Order No 5 (Members to stand
when speaking) be suspended.

269. FOR INFORMATION – NOTICE OF CONCLUSION OF AUDIT 2022/23

Officers were requested to circulate a full copy of the document to all Councillors.

270. FOR DECISION – TOWN COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN

Following some discussion it was proposed by Councillor Corbett, seconded by
Councillor Wallis and AGREED UNANIMOUSLY

THAT The adoption of the Town Council strategic plan should
be postponed until the Corporate Governance review has
been completed and portfolio members appointed, with
an opportunity to present their plans to Council.

271. FOR DECISION – DRAFT ESTIMATES 2024/2025

Members were disappointed to note that the purchase of the road-sweeper was not
proving to be a more cost-effective option than a leasing arrangement. Concern
was expressed at the budgetary impact of the recommended staffing changes
approved by the Personnel Committee.

After lengthy discussions it was proposed by Councillor Corbett, seconded by
Councillor Bridewell and AGREED UNANIMOUSLY

THAT The Personnel Committee is asked to reconsider staffing
options to provide the capacity to meet the increased
demands on officers' time, and to report back to Council
for further consideration of a revised budget.

**272. FOR DECISION – ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE
LEVY**

It was proposed by Councillor Brown, seconded by Councillor Hoult and AGREED
UNANIMOUSLY

THAT The Council acknowledges the CIL funds received, the
amount spent and that still available for projects, as set
out in the submitted report.

273. FOR DECISION – ANNUAL REVIEW OF STANDING ORDERS

It was noted that three amendments previously requested were still outstanding, namely SO 91 and 92 should refer to Unitary Councillors; and SO 100 should read 'responsibility of the Sustainability Committee'.

Councillor Wallis proposed, Councillor Nash seconded and it was AGREED

THAT SO 121 should refer to 'relevant legislation' as EU treaties are no longer applicable; and the time limit for speaking on a motion under SO 60 and 65 should be reduced to 3 minutes each from the current 5 minutes.

274. TO PASS THE FOLLOWING SEALING RESOLUTION

It was proposed by Councillor Greenwood, seconded by Councillor Nash and AGREED UNANIMOUSLY

THAT The Common Seal of the Council be affixed to or the Town Clerk do sign on behalf of the Council where appropriate any Orders, Deeds or Documents necessary to give effect to any of the matters and recommendations contained in the reports received and adopted at this meeting or other decisions of the Council thereat.

275. QUESTION TIME

Councillor Greenwood, on behalf of Rowde Parish Council, queried the progress and organisational arrangements of the development of the Neighbourhood Plan. Members were reminded that the Neighbourhood Plan is the responsibility of a community steering group, not Devizes Town Council, and the question was not therefore appropriate for this Council.

276. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public present.

Town Mayor