



Arts and Culture Advisory Committee

Minutes of the Arts & Culture Advisory Committee (SSAC) held at **9am** on **Monday 2nd February 2026** in the Meeting Room, Shaftesbury Town Hall

Members Present: Fran Hill (Chair), Cllr Elaine Barratt (Vice-Chair), Rachel Diment, Cllr Virginia Edwyn-Jones, Julia Markus and Janet Swiss

Absent: Charlie Hamilton-Saul, Amber Harrison, Deborah Jones, Tim Royle, Cllr Conor Smith, Mark Thistlewood and Peter Wildman, Karen Wimhurst

Officers Present: Billy Maddock (Interim Town Clerk)

In Attendance: Public (3), Press (0)

[Link to agenda](#)

Minutes

Public Participation

- Janet Swiss spoke about the idea of a sculpture of two pairs of horsemen on the Royal Chase roundabout.
She also spoke about the idea of special bells that ring twice a day on slope near museum, it would be lovely to have sound art in Shaftesbury, recreating art in Melbourne, Australia.

The meeting commenced at 9.04am.

AC10 Apologies

Apologies were received from Amber Harrison, Mark Thistlewood, Peter Wildman and Karen Wimhurst.

Proposed by Fran Hill		
Seconded by Cllr Edwyn-Jones		
In Favour	6	Fran Hill, Cllr Elaine Barratt, Rachel Diment, Cllr Virginia Edwyn-Jones, Julia Markus and Janet Swiss
Against	0	
Abstentions	0	
MOTION CARRIED		

Post Meeting Note: Deborah Jones gave apologies to the chair; however this was not noted.

AC11 To receive any Declarations of Interest

Officer report 0226AC2 was received. It was NOTED that members should declare any interests if they arise.

AC12 To approve the minutes of the last meetings on 3rd November 2025 and 1st December 2025

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the last meetings on 3rd November 2025 and 1st December 2025. They were duly signed.

Proposed by Cllr Barratt		
Seconded by Cllr Edwyn-Jones		
In Favour	6	Fran Hill, Cllr Elaine Barratt, Rachel Diment, Cllr Virginia Edwyn-Jones, Julia Markus and Janet Swiss
Against	0	
Abstentions	0	
MOTION CARRIED		

AC13 To receive further information on the proposed Shaftesbury Waters Spring feature

Officer report 0226AC4 was received and it was **RESOLVED** to seek support in principle from Shaftesbury Town Council for this project so the group Shaftesbury Waters can develop this further.

Proposed by Cllr Barratt		
Seconded by Cllr Edwyn-Jones		
In Favour	6	Fran Hill, Cllr Elaine Barratt, Rachel Diment, Cllr Virginia Edwyn-Jones, Julia Markus and Janet Swiss
Against	0	
Abstentions	0	
MOTION CARRIED		

Action: Full Council

AC14 To discuss how to move forward with the installation of brown tourist signs

Officer report 0226AC5 was received and noted.

It was noted that there are no signs on the A303 towards Shaftesbury (the only sign for Shaftesbury is by the turn off), as well as inconsistent signage to each entrance to Shaftesbury.

It was **RESOLVED** to investigate the installation of brown signs further by seeking support in principle and funding support of £350 from Shaftesbury Town Council taking funds from EMR Navigational Signage.

Proposed by Cllr Edwyn-Jones		
Seconded by Fran Hill		
In Favour	5	Fran Hill, Cllr Elaine Barratt, Rachel Diment, Cllr Virginia Edwyn-Jones and Julia Markus
Against	0	
Abstentions	1	Janet Swiss

MOTION CARRIED

At the next Arts Collective meeting it will be discussed which member will take this forward.

The Clerk to send a Doodle Poll to the committee to find a more suitable time to meet in May 2026 for the next formal meeting.

Action: Full Council

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 9.43am.

These minutes were adopted on 28th April 2026 under minute reference AC15 as a true record of the decisions taken and are duly signed below by the chair of that meeting.