

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting on Tuesday 17th February 2026 at 7pm
Held in the Council Chamber, Shaftesbury Town Hall

Members Summoned and Present: Cllrs Edwyn-Jones (Chair), Williams (Vice-Chair), Barratt, Daultrey, Dibben, Elmendorff, Heritage, Loader, Philpott, Salkeld (arrived at 7.04pm) Smith and Yeo (arrived at 7.02pm)

Absent: Cllrs Brown, Hollingshead and Wild

Officers Present: Billy Maddock (Interim Town Clerk) and Sarah Johnson (Office Administrator)

In attendance: Press (1), Members of the public (5), online (3), Dorset Cllr Jeanes

[Link to agenda](#)

Public Participation

Members of the public were invited to make representations to the Council on any matters relating to the work of the Council or to raise any issues of concern. The following matters were raised:

- Member of SuSAC spoke about agenda item 7. Recommended cutting of verges and roundabouts to be carried out twice a year and in accordance with the wildflower policy (cutting and collecting clippings). Would also recommend leaving 1m or 2m margin around roundabouts as close-cropped looks managed and improves road safety. Twice a year cutting in Spring and late Summer gives the best opportunities for wildflower margins which will entice people to the town and encourage biodiversity. More frequent cutting presents less opportunities for wildlife and would not accord with Dorset Council’s policy or those adopted by other councils.
- Julie Wood spoke about the proposed Enmore Green water spring feature, full report included in the agenda, as part of the Arts & Culture Advisory Committee agenda item. Shaftesbury Waters group would like to make a feature of one of the springs at the foot of the steps below Castle Green, which SuSAC and Shaftesbury Abbey Trustees are in support of. Funding proposals include crowdfunding in order to reach out to people of the town to get involved. She encouraged councillors to approve outline proposals so this can be developed further.
- Chair of SuSAC spoke about their support for Shaftesbury Waters project and underlined the previous comments about cutting regimes to verges and roundabouts. He urged councillors to vote for cutting and collecting to all areas. He also commented on agenda item 9 and the Town Council’s involvement with DAPTC and SoRE.

The meeting commenced at 7.13pm.

FC120 Apologies

Officer report 0226FC1 was received and it was **RESOLVED** to accept apologies from Cllrs Brown and Hollingshead.

Proposed by Cllr Loader		
Seconded by Cllr Elmendorff		
In Favour	11	Cllrs Edwyn-Jones, Williams, Barratt, Daultrey, Dibben, Elmendorff, Heritage, Loader, Philpott, Salkeld and Smith
Abstentions	0	

Against	1	Cllr Yeo
MOTION CARRIED		

FC121 Declarations of Interest

Officer report 0226FC2 was received. It was **NOTED** that Councillors should declare any interests if they arise.

Cllr Edwyn-Jones declared an interest in agenda item 9 as an unpaid director of the DAPTC.

FC122 Minutes

Officer report 0226FC3 was received and it was **RESOLVED** to adopt the minutes from Full Council meeting held on 27th January 2026.

Proposed by Cllr Williams		
Seconded by Cllr Barratt		
In Favour	8	Cllrs Edwyn-Jones, Williams, Barratt, Daultrey, Heritage, Loader, Salkeld and Smith
Abstentions	3	Cllrs Elmendorff, Philpott and Yeo
Against	1	Cllr Dibben
MOTION CARRIED		

FC123 To receive a report for information to Full Council

Officer report 0226FC4 was received and **NOTED**.

Civic Report – included as a link within the agenda.

Dorset Council Reports – included as a link within the agenda.

Other Reports – None

Local Organisation Reports - Shaftesbury Fringe informal meeting minutes from 9th January 2026 included as a link within the agenda.

Cllr Philpott spoke about the Carnival committee who will be celebrating the 150th year of Shaftesbury carnival next year, making it the longest running carnival after Bridgewater. It was noted that the committee have given around £8,000 to local charities. They now have a new youth committee and are looking to register as a charity.

Cllr Loader stated that she will be attending the next Town Twinning meeting.

FC124 To receive and note minutes of and/or to determine recommendations by committees

Officer report 0226FC5 was received and the A&C and P&H minutes were received and **NOTED**.

FC124a Arts & Culture Advisory Committee

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

It was **RESOLVED** to support in principle the Shaftesbury Waters Spring feature project so this can be developed further by the Shaftesbury Waters group.

Proposed by Cllr Yeo		
Seconded by Cllr Salkeld		

In Favour	12	Cllrs Edwyn-Jones, Williams, Barratt, Daultrey, Dibben, Elmendorff, Heritage, Loader, Philpott, Salkeld, Smith and Yeo
Abstentions	0	
Against	0	
MOTION CARRIED		

Action: Interim Town Clerk

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

It was **RESOLVED** to support in principle the installation of brown signs and funding of £350 taking funds from EMR Navigational Signage (Expenditure Authority: General Power of Competence, Localism Act 2011, S1-8).

Proposed by Cllr Yeo		
Seconded by Cllr Dibben		
In Favour	12	Cllrs Edwyn-Jones, Williams, Barratt, Daultrey, Dibben, Elmendorff, Heritage, Loader, Philpott, Salkeld, Smith and Yeo
Abstentions	0	
Against	0	
MOTION CARRIED		

Action: Interim Town Clerk

FC125 To approve payments and receive financial reports

Officer report 0226FC6 was received and the [list of payments](#), income and expenditure records and general reserve balances were **NOTED**.

As per Financial Regulations section 2.6, Cllr Elmendorff approved the Bank Reconciliation for the month of January.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the invoice to Vale Tree Surgeons of £6,270.00 incl. VAT (Expenditure Authority: General Power of Competence, Localism Act 2011, S1-8).

Proposed by Cllr Dibben		
Seconded by Cllr Smith		
In Favour	12	Cllrs Edwyn-Jones, Williams, Barratt, Daultrey, Dibben, Elmendorff, Heritage, Loader, Philpott, Salkeld, Smith and Yeo
Abstentions	0	
Against	0	
MOTION CARRIED		

Action: Interim Town Clerk

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the invoice to Giraffe Engineering of £7,464.00 incl. VAT (Expenditure Authority: General Power of Competence, Localism Act 2011, S1-8).

Proposed by Cllr Williams		
Seconded by Cllr Salkeld		

In Favour	11	Cllrs Edwyn-Jones, Williams, Barratt, Daultrey, Dibben, Elmendorff, Heritage, Loader, Philpott, Salkeld and Smith
Abstentions	0	
Against	1	Cllr Yeo
MOTION CARRIED		

Action: Interim Town Clerk

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the invoice to Dorset Council for the management of Castle Hill for the period 2025-26 of £10,052.10 (Expenditure Authority: General Power of Competence, Localism Act 2011, S1-8).

Proposed by Cllr Edwyn-Jones		
Seconded by Cllr Elmendorff		
In Favour	12	Cllrs Edwyn-Jones, Williams, Barratt, Daultrey, Dibben, Elmendorff, Heritage, Loader, Philpott, Salkeld, Smith and Yeo
Abstentions	0	
Against	0	
MOTION CARRIED		

Action: Interim Town Clerk

Balance Sheet

10 February 2026 (2025 - 2026)

Shaftesbury Town Council
BALANCE SHEET
31/03/2026

<i>(Last) Year Ended</i> 31 Mar 2025		<i>(Current) Year Ended</i> 31 Mar 2026
£		£
	CURRENT ASSETS	
	Stocks and stores	
	Work in progress	
23,229.92	Debtors (Net of provision for doubtful debts)	
6,640.89	Prepayments	
24,773.98	VAT Recoverable	30,910.76
	Temporary lendings (investments)	
317,645.73	Cash in hand	418,480.68
372,290.52	TOTAL ASSETS	449,391.44
	CURRENT LIABILITIES	
45,625.86	Creditors	
326,664.66	NET ASSETS	449,391.44
	Represented by:	
103,750.49	General fund Balance	246,379.27
	Reserves:	
222,914.17	Capital	203,012.17
	Earmarked	
	Adjustments	
326,664.66		449,391.44

The above statement represents fairly the financial position of the council as at 31 Mar 2026

FC126 To receive and consider an update on the management of Castle Hill and the verge cutting in Shaftesbury

Officer report 0226FC7 was received and noted.

It was **RESOLVED** to reverse resolution FC160 from Full Council 15 April 2025 in light of new information.

Proposed by Cllr Dibben		
Seconded by Cllr Salkeld		
In Favour	11	Cllrs Edwyn-Jones, Williams, Barratt, Daultrey, Dibben, Elmendorff, Loader, Philpott, Salkeld, Smith and Yeo
Abstentions	0	
Against	1	Cllr Heritage
MOTION CARRIED		

Action: Interim Town Clerk

It was **RESOLVED** for Dorset Council to manage Castle Hill as per the amended management plan for the duration of 2026-2030, at a cost of £12,974.40 for financial year 2026/27 to increase annually with CPI rate taking funds from budget line Castle Hill Management (Expenditure Authority: General Power of Competence, Localism Act 2011, S1-8).

Proposed by Cllr Yeo		
Seconded by Cllr Williams		
In Favour	11	Cllrs Edwyn-Jones, Williams, Barratt, Daultrey, Dibben, Elmendorff, Loader, Philpott, Salkeld, Smith and Yeo
Abstentions	0	
Against	1	Cllr Heritage
MOTION CARRIED		

Action: Interim Town Clerk

It was **RESOLVED** for the STC grounds contractor to take on the cutting of the longer grass area on Ivy Cross and Royal Chase roundabouts including verges on B3081 and A350, using cut and collect, at a total cost of £1,580 for financial year 2026/27 to increase annually with CPI rate taking funds from budget line Sub Contract Labour (Expenditure Authority: General Power of Competence, Localism Act 2011, S1-8).

Proposed by Cllr Dibben		
Seconded by Cllr Yeo		
In Favour	12	Cllrs Edwyn-Jones, Williams, Barratt, Daultrey, Dibben, Elmendorff, Heritage, Loader, Philpott, Salkeld, Smith and Yeo
Abstentions	0	
Against	0	
MOTION CARRIED		

Action: Interim Town Clerk

It was **RESOLVED** to continue with the SLA for the verge cutting and to receive £10,918.16 for the financial year 2026/2027, this to increase annually with CPI rate from Dorset Council. Additionally, officers are to liaise with STC grounds contractor and Sustainable Shaftesbury to investigate stages for wildflower planting on verges and to move to a twice a year cutting regime.

Proposed by Cllr Dibben		
Seconded by Cllr Edwyn-Jones		
In Favour	12	Cllrs Edwyn-Jones, Williams, Barratt, Daultrey, Dibben, Elmendorff, Heritage, Loader, Philpott, Salkeld, Smith and Yeo
Abstentions	0	
Against	0	
MOTION CARRIED		

Action: Interim Town Clerk

FC127 To consider an interim solution for Operational Play Park Inspections

Officer report 0226FC8 was received and noted.

It was **RESOLVED** to appoint Company B (Ava Recreation) for Operational Play Park Inspections on a bi-monthly basis (excluding January) at a cost of £440 per inspection taking funds of £2,200.00 pa from the Play Park Inspections budget line, until such time as the Town Clerk proposes a new strategy for caretaking and inspections (Expenditure Authority: General Power of Competence, Localism Act 2011, S1-8).

Proposed by Cllr Dibben		
Seconded by Cllr Yeo		
In Favour	12	Cllrs Edwyn-Jones, Williams, Barratt, Daultrey, Dibben, Elmendorff, Heritage, Loader, Philpott, Salkeld, Smith and Yeo
Abstentions	0	
Against	0	
MOTION CARRIED		

Action: Interim Town Clerk

Cllr Heritage left the meeting at 8.02pm and returned at 8.03pm

Cllr Philpott left the meeting at 8.03pm and returned at 8.04pm

FC128 To consider the Statement of Reasonable Expectations (SoRE)

Officer report 0226FC9 was received and noted.

It was **RESOLVED** to delegate to the Interim Town Clerk to collate the verbal feedback provided at the meeting and for this to be forwarded to DAPTC.

Proposed by Cllr Edwyn-Jones		
Seconded by Cllr Elmendorff		
In Favour	11	Cllrs Edwyn-Jones, Williams, Barratt, Daultrey, Elmendorff, Heritage, Loader, Philpott, Salkeld, Smith and Yeo
Abstentions	0	

Against	1	Cllr Dibben
MOTION CARRIED		

Action: Interim Town Clerk

FC129 Clerk’s Report including correspondence and progress report on Full Council business

FC129a Officer report 0226FC10.1 was received and **NOTED**.

Football Club Sinking Fund Statement

At the Full Council meeting on 27th January, it was agreed that the Interim Town Clerk would confirm if the amount paid into the Sinking Fund is correct and sufficient as per the agreement. Following conversations with the club, it has been confirmed that SFC will not have the required £52,000 in the account by 31st March 2026. As of beginning of February, the balance was £42,951.70, and the forecasted closing balance for 31st March is £45,751.70. A meeting with the Football Club is due to be scheduled to discuss a way forward and an update will be provided to Full Council.

Football Club accounts for the financial year 2024/2025

The final accounts for 2024/25 have been provided by the Football Club.

[Shaftesbury Football Club 3G Limited](#)

[Shaftesbury Football Club 1888 Ltd](#)

Shaftesbury Football Club Sports Bar - awaited

Castle Hill Pond Works

At the Full Council meeting on 27th January, it was agreed that the Interim Town Clerk would organise a site meeting to discuss outstanding issues raised by Cllr Dibben. This meeting was held on Monday 9th February and was attended by the contractor, Dorset Council Rangers, Cllr Edwyn-Jones (as Mayor), Cllrs Dibben and Williams, and Dorset Highways. A way forward was discussed, which includes finding existing pipe work underneath the road. DC Rangers will provide proposals and quotes with the works being carried out later in the year. Further information to follow once available.

Tree and Shrub Management St James Park and Castle Hill Mound

The grounds contractor has confirmed that the main work has been completed, however a few self-seeded Sycamore saplings below the Rose Garden still need to be removed. The tree clearance works on Castle Hill Mound are complete.

Barton Hill Storage Hut notice

Following resolution at Full Council meeting on 27th January to approve the 90 days’ notice to the two community groups to vacate Barton Hill store, a [letter](#) has been sent to Shaftesbury in Bloom and Fringe.

Cllr Yeo requested a meeting be arranged at Barton Hill store for councillors wishing to view this.

Mampitts Hub VAT implications

At the Full Council meeting on 27th January, it was resolved to opt for the option to tax on the Mampitts Hub project site before construction, and an Opting to tax land and buildings: Notification of an option to tax (VAT1614A) has been submitted to HMRC.

Police presence in Dorset

Following a resolution at the Full Council meeting on 27th January, officers requested attendance from the local PCO at a future council meeting to receive an update on policing and to be introduced to the new officer. Unfortunately, neither were available for February and March Full Council meetings. Officers will follow up to firm up attendance at a future meeting.

Follow up letter to Police

At the January 2026 Full Council meeting it was resolved to write a joint follow up letter to Dorset Police, engaging with Gillingham and Stalbridge Town Councils. However, in light of the information that Dorset Police have increased staffing by one Police Constable each for Shaftesbury, Gillingham and Sturminster Newton this letter has not been produced. Instead, Cllr Hollingshead has written to the PCC for confirmation of this. A response is awaited.

Delay to DAPTC 2025 AGM - new date: 14 March 2026

The intention was to bring to the AGM the progress made in developing an agreement with Dorset Council over future working relations. Unfortunately, that was not possible for the previously advertised AGM date of 30 January. The new date of Saturday 14 March will hopefully allow all involved to conclude this piece of work.

The AGM will follow the same format as previous years by being online. Any councillors of member councils may attend the AGM but only one nominated delegate per council can vote on the business conducted.

FC129b Officer report 0226FC10.2 was received, and Councillors **NOTED** the updates and the expenditure authorised under the Clerk's Scheme of Delegation (Expenditure Authority: General Power of Competence, Localism Act 2011, S1-8).

1. Purchase of replacement laptop - £725
2. Remedial work to toilet and boiler in the Town Hall - £228.80 (boiler remedial works and alarm) + £60/hr (toilet investigation works)
3. Wincombe Recreation play park suspension bridge - £1,140
4. High Street closure application for Thursday market - £330

FC129c Officer report 0226FC10.3 was received and **NOTED**.

1. Coppice Street car park Non-Domestic Rates Bill

Members **NOTED** the charge of £6,620.20 being taken out of budget line Rates & Services/Local Services (Expenditure Authority: General Power of Competence, Localism Act 2011, S1-8) with an overspend on this line of £3,228 and that this will impact on the net profit for Coppice Street Income for 2025/26.

2. Calendar of meetings 2026/2027

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the calendar of meetings for 2026/27.

Proposed by Cllr Elmendorff		
Seconded by Cllr Yeo		
In Favour	12	Cllrs Edwyn-Jones, Williams, Barratt, Daultrey, Dibben, Elmendorff, Heritage, Loader, Philpott, Salkeld, Smith and Yeo
Abstentions	0	
Against	0	

MOTION CARRIED

Action: Interim Town Clerk

3. Terms of Reference Working Group

It was **RESOLVED** to select Cllrs Elmendorff, Heritage and Williams to form a Working Group to review the Terms of Reference for all town council advisory committees.

Proposed by Cllr Edwyn-Jones		
Seconded by Cllr Philpott		
In Favour	12	Cllrs Edwyn-Jones, Williams, Barratt, Daultrey, Dibben, Elmendorff, Heritage, Loader, Philpott, Salkeld, Smith and Yeo
Abstentions	0	
Against	0	
MOTION CARRIED		

Action: Interim Town Clerk

4. Appointment of further councillors to advisory committees

It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Elmendorff would join the Shaftesbury Swimming Advisory Committee and Cllr Edwyn-Jones would join the Sustainable Shaftesbury Advisory Committee.

Proposed by Cllr Loader		
Seconded by Cllr Yeo		
In Favour	12	Cllrs Edwyn-Jones, Williams, Barratt, Daultrey, Dibben, Elmendorff, Heritage, Loader, Philpott, Salkeld, Smith and Yeo
Abstentions	0	
Against	0	
MOTION CARRIED		

Action: Interim Town Clerk

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 8.53pm.

These minutes were adopted on *enter date*. under minute reference *enter ref.* as a true record of the decisions taken and are duly signed below by the chair of that meeting.