

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting on Tuesday 17th March 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, Hollingshead, Loader, Philpott, Smith and Yeo

Absent: Cllrs Brown, Elmendorff, Heritage and Salkeld

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

In attendance: Press (0), Members of the public (5), online (2), Dorset Cllr Beer, Cllr Salkeld (online)

[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 the update to be put into the Action Plan regarding an offroad cycleway between Shaftesbury and Motcombe which he strongly advocates as the road to Gillingham is hazardous.
- A second member of SuSAC spoke about agenda item 5 (SuS49 -funding proposals) and explained that he was attending the meeting on behalf of the chair to offer encouragement to support the recommendations and to answer any questions.
- Cllr Beer apologised for his and Cllr Jeanes’ late report.
 He spoke about the proposed bus stop in Allen Road and stressed that this had been requested by residents of Allen Road not Dorset Council and would be disappointed if STC did not support it. Cllr Edwyn-Jones responded that STC were concerned that residents were not consulted and where the stop would be in relation to residents’ windows, etc.
 Cllr Beer further commented on the naming of the development by Lidl and his concerns that there are people in the town who he felt should be consulted.
 Cllr Hollingshead was aware that names have been suggested on social media but confirmed that none had thus far been suggested by STC.

The meeting commenced at 7.07pm.

FC140 Apologies

Officer report 0326FC1 was received.

DC Cllr Jeanes sent his apologies.

It was **RESOLVED** to accept apologies from Cllrs Elmendorff, Heritage and Salkeld.

Proposed by Cllr Barratt		
Seconded by Cllr Hollingshead		
In Favour	10	Cllrs Edwyn-Jones, Williams, Barratt, Daultrey, Dibben, Hollingshead, Loader, Philpott, Smith and Yeo
Abstentions	0	
Against	0	
MOTION CARRIED		

FC141 Declarations of Interest

Officer report 0326FC2 was received. It was **NOTED** that Councillors should declare any interests if they arise.

FC142 Minutes

Officer report 0326FC3 was received and it was **RESOLVED** to adopt the minutes from the Full Council meeting held on 17th February 2026.

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

It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the minutes from the Extraordinary Full Council meeting held on 10th March 2026.

Proposed by Cllr Hollingshead		
Seconded by Cllr Williams		
In Favour	7	Cllrs Edwyn-Jones, Williams, Barratt, Daultrey, Dibben, Hollingshead and Loader
Abstentions	2	Cllrs Philpott and Smith
Against	1	Cllr Yeo
MOTION CARRIED		

Cllr Yeo stated that the planning application for Mampitts Hub referred to in the minutes was not “his” planning application; the Architects that worked with the residents submitted it.

FC143 To receive a report for information to Full Council

Officer report 0326FC4 was received and **NOTED**.

Civic Report – Cllr Edwyn-Jones gave a verbal update on the Mayoral Diary report. She attended two events and apologised that she had not had time to write up her report.

Dorset Council Reports – Dorset Cllrs Beer and Jeanes provided a [report](#) in advance of the meeting.

Other Reports – None

Local Organisation Reports – None

FC144 To receive and note minutes of and/or to determine recommendations by committees

Officer report 0326FC5 was received and the SuSAC and P&H minutes were received and **NOTED**.

FC144a Sustainable Shaftesbury Advisory Committee

SuS49 To discuss Funding Proposals

It was **RESOLVED** to approve expenditure of £1,993.00 taking funds from EMR Sustainable Shaftesbury (Expenditure Authority: General Power of Competence, Localism Act 2011, S1-8).

The public showing of the ‘Power Station’ film had not been possible at Shaftesbury School as arranged. It will now be shown at the Football Club in April at a reduced cost of £300.00.

Proposed by Cllr Dibben		
Seconded by Cllr Yeo		
In Favour	10	Cllrs Edwyn-Jones, Williams, Barratt, Daultrey, Dibben, Hollingshead, Loader, Philpott, Smith and Yeo
Abstentions	0	
Against	0	
MOTION CARRIED		

Action: Interim Town Clerk

Su550 To review the Strategy and Action Plan

It was **RESOLVED** to approve recommended amendments from working groups to the Sustainable Shaftesbury Vision Statement and Masterplan 2024-2031 and appendices.

Proposed by Cllr Edwyn-Jones		
Seconded by Cllr Hollingshead		
In Favour	10	Cllrs Edwyn-Jones, Williams, Barratt, Daultrey, Dibben, Hollingshead, Loader, Philpott, Smith and Yeo
Abstentions	0	
Against	0	
MOTION CARRIED		

Action: Interim Town Clerk

FC145 To approve payments and receive financial reports

Officer report 0326FC6 was received and the [list of payments](#), income and expenditure records and general reserve balances were received and **NOTED**.

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

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the payment of £6,365.31 to Dorset Council for Election Costs for December 2025 East Ward (Expenditure Authority: General Power of Competence, Localism Act 2011, S1-8).

Proposed by Cllr Loader		
Seconded by Cllr Dibben		
In Favour	9	Cllrs Edwyn-Jones, Barratt, Daultrey, Dibben, Hollingshead, Loader, Philpott, Smith and Yeo
Abstentions	1	Cllr Williams
Against	0	
MOTION CARRIED		

Action: Interim Town Clerk

Balance Sheet

Shaftesbury Town Council
BALANCE SHEET
31/03/2026

(Last) Year Ended 31 Mar 2025		(Current) Year Ended 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	23,723.15
	Temporary lendings (investments)	
317,645.73	Cash in hand	389,183.75
372,290.52	TOTAL ASSETS	412,906.90
	CURRENT LIABILITIES	
45,625.86	Creditors	
<u>326,664.66</u>	NET ASSETS	<u>412,906.90</u>
	Represented by:	
103,750.49	General fund Balance	175,781.93
	Reserves:	
	Capital	
222,914.17	Earmarked	237,124.97
	Adjustments	
<u>326,664.66</u>		<u>412,906.90</u>

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

FC146 To consider an update and revised cost of an electric vehicle

Officer report 0326FC7 was received and noted.

It was **RESOLVED** to pursue the Kia Cargo PV5 option as resolved on in December 2025 with a deposit of £3,500 and the revised finance monthly charge of £251 taken from budget line Motor Expenses, noting the overspent on this budget line (Expenditure Authority: General Power of Competence, Localism Act 2011, S1-8). These expenses will be offset by the sale of the current vehicle.

Proposed by Cllr Hollingshead		
Seconded by Cllr Yeo		
In Favour	10	Cllrs Edwyn-Jones, Williams, Barratt, Daultrey, Dibben, Hollingshead, Loader, Philpott, Smith and Yeo
Abstentions	0	
Against	0	
MOTION CARRIED		

Action: Interim Town Clerk

FC147 To consider a report on the surface of Barton Hill car park

Officer report 0326FC8 was received and **NOTED**.

It was **RESOLVED** to enquire with the company who installed the surface if they still have a specification for the work carried out and to request a quote to survey the car park and to undertake the remedial works.

Proposed by Cllr Yeo		
Seconded by Cllr Hollingshead		
In Favour	10	Cllrs Edwyn-Jones, Williams, Barratt, Daultrey, Dibben, Hollingshead, Loader, Philpott, Smith and Yeo
Abstentions	0	
Against	0	
MOTION CARRIED		

Action: Interim Town Clerk

FC148 To consider a request for works to Sycamore Trees in St James Park

Officer report 0326FC9 was received and noted.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the removal of the Sycamore trees on Gold Hill wall/St James Park noting that the resident will organise and pay for the works carried out. In addition, the resident will be advised that any relevant applications will need to be submitted to Dorset Council and other bodies (if applicable) for permission, and that they should liaise with the ecologist and contractor before any works commence.

Proposed by Cllr Yeo		
Seconded by Cllr Loader		
In Favour	10	Cllrs Edwyn-Jones, Williams, Barratt, Daultrey, Dibben, Hollingshead, Loader, Philpott, Smith and Yeo
Abstentions	0	
Against	0	
MOTION CARRIED		

Action: Interim Town Clerk

Post-meeting Note: Depending on the Tree Officer’s advice, and due to the location, the trees will be ‘coppiced’; the roots will not be removed.

FC149 To consider income information from Coppice Street car park

Officer report 0326FC10 was received.

Members considered the report and it was **RESOLVED** to advertise grant application forms as per the usual process.

Proposed by Cllr Yeo		
Seconded by Cllr Smith		
In Favour	10	Cllrs Edwyn-Jones, Williams, Barratt, Daultrey, Dibben, Hollingshead, Loader, Philpott, Smith and Yeo
Abstentions	0	
Against	0	
MOTION CARRIED		

Action: Interim Town Clerk

FC150 To discuss and consider Councillor Code of Conduct breaches

The chair of council read out the following statement which members received and **NOTED**.

As many people will know, a town or parish council cannot censure a councillor for breaches of the Code of Conduct – this can only be done by their higher local government authority. In our case, the monitoring office at Dorset Council.

It seemed timely to have this as an agenda item as various councillors have expressed concern over recent conduct at Full Council and committee meetings and by having an agenda item, we can record a statement on correct procedure as a public record through the Council's minuting process.

When the Localism Act came in in 2011, it abolished the Standards Board that previously had oversight of councillor behaviour, in favour of a national code of conduct. As councillors, we sign our agreement to abide by the code of conduct as set out by the Government through the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) when we take office, together with conducting ourselves according to the Nolan Principles, The 7 principles of public life:

Selflessness, Integrity, Objectivity, Accountability, Openness, Honesty and Leadership

This is the synopsis of the Code of Conduct taken from NALC's website

"Local Government Association Model Councillor Code of Conduct 2020 and guidance for parish and town councils

One of the critical issues already identified is that the Code of Conduct produced by the Local Government Association (LGA) has not been widely adopted. The Civility and Respect Project has endorsed the LGA Model Councillor Code of Conduct 2020, and the guidance notes aim to help with understanding and consistency of approach towards the code.

The code is a template for parish and town councils to adopt as a whole or with amendments to consider local circumstances (through a Council's Standing Orders). The code and guidance have been designed to protect our democratic role, encourage good conduct, and safeguard the public's trust and confidence in the role of councillors in local government.

While it sets out the minimum standards of behaviour expected, together with the guidance, it is designed to encourage councillors to model the high standards expected, to be mutually respectful even if they have personal or political differences, to provide a personal check and balance, and to set out the type of conduct that could lead to complaints being made of behaviour falling below the standards expected of councillors and in breach of the code. It is also to protect councillors, the public, local authority officers and the reputation of the local government.

The Civility and Respect Project has revised the LGA Model Councillor Code of Conduct 2020 guidance to reflect the needs of parish and town councils. We, the LGA, and the Society of Local Council Clerks have approved the revised guidance.

The LGA produced a revised Code of Conduct in December 2020, supported by guidance in July 2021. The supporting guidance was a beneficial document but not tailored to the nuances of parish and town councils. With the LGA's support, the Civility and Respect Project has revised the guidance to reflect the needs and situations relevant to parish and town councils.

The guidance covers the following:

- *The general principles of councillor conduct*
- *Application of the model councillors' code of conduct*

- General obligations under the code include respect, bullying, harassment, discrimination, impartiality, and misuse of position.
- Protecting the reputation of the council, including declarations of interest and bias and pre-determination.”

If members of the public or fellow councillors are concerned about the behaviour of a councillor, they can submit a Code of Conduct complaint to the Monitoring Officer via Dorset Council’s website. However, we would urge anyone thinking of taking such action to ensure that they are familiar with the Code of Conduct and can clearly demonstrate which rule they feel has been infringed ([link to CoC](#)).

FC151 Clerk’s Report including correspondence and progress report on Full Council business

FC151a Officer report 0326FC12.1 was received and **NOTED**.

Dinah’s Hollow Stakeholder Update – [February 2026](#)

Proposed Tree and Shrub Management - The grounds contractor has attended to the work at Castle Hill mound and therefore all work required of him in this area is complete. Work in St. James Park and on Jubilee Steps and Pine/Park Walk is still to be completed but has been postponed avoiding causing stress to trees during Spring and disturbance to nesting birds.

DAPTC 2025 AGM and Statement of Reasonable Expectations (SoRE) – An [email from DAPTC](#) of 10th March 2026 confirms that the 2025 AGM has been rescheduled to **Saturday 30th May 2026 at 10am**. As previously noted, the AGM will follow the same format as other years by being online. The [Statement of Reasonable Expectations](#) (SoRE) approved by Dorset Council’s cabinet for adoption accompanied this email together with a [Briefing Note for Chairs and Clerks](#). This allows just under 11 weeks for town and parish councils to review the document. As requested at the Full Council meeting on the 17th February, officers collated the [verbal feedback](#) provided by councillors on the draft Statement and this was sent to the DAPTC.

Dorset Police Update – Following the decision that a joint follow up letter to Dorset Police (with Gillingham and Stalbridge Town Councils) would not be sent and instead Cllr Hollingshead would write to the Police & Crime Commissioner asking for confirmation that Dorset Police have increased staffing by one Police Constable each for Shaftesbury, Gillingham and Sturminster Newton, [correspondence](#) was received at the end of February from David Sidwick (PCC) confirming that Shaftesbury has received an increase in establishment of one Police Constable, as has Gillingham and Sturminster Newton.

Funding Requests for Shaftesbury Lido – As discussed at the Full Council meeting on 27th January, a letter requesting support for the Lido in 2026 was sent to local parishes and William Williams Trust. Donhead St Mary Parish Council have given a donation of £250 towards the Lido and thanks have been extended to them.

FC151b Officer report 0326FC12.2 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. Repairs to play equipment – Approx £533 plus cost of any extra easy fixes at the time
2. Replacement of lights in Guildhall - £3,240 (approved under the Scheme of Delegation in consultation with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor)
3. Damage caused by car at Wincombe - £375

4. Grounds repairs to Wincombe Recreation Ground and Ash Close play area - £1,565
5. Grounds repairs to Castle Hill and Queen Mother Garden - £1,685
6. CCTV camera at Elite Garages - £685
7. Office Administrator increase in hours

It was **RESOLVED** to approve replacement of existing fluorescent lights in the suspended ceiling of the Guildhall with new LED fittings in the sum of £3,240.00 taking funds from budget line Town Hall Repairs & Maintenance (Expenditure Authority: General Power of Competence, Localism Act 2011, S1-8).

Proposed by Cllr Yeo		
Seconded by Cllr Loader		
In Favour	10	Cllrs Edwyn-Jones, Williams, Barratt, Daultrey, Dibben, Hollingshead, Loader, Philpott, Smith and Yeo
Abstentions	0	
Against	0	
MOTION CARRIED		

Action: Interim Town Clerk

FC151c Officer report 0326FC12.3 was received and **NOTED**.

1. Street Naming

Members considered the request from Housing 21 and **RESOLVED** that “Drovers Lodge” is put forward to developers for the retirement flats next to Lidl on Christy’s Lane.

Proposed by Cllr Edwyn-Jones		
Seconded by Cllr Barratt		
In Favour	9	Cllrs Edwyn-Jones, Williams, Barratt, Daultrey, Dibben, Hollingshead, Loader, Philpott and Yeo
Abstentions	1	Cllr Smith
Against	0	
MOTION CARRIED		

Action: Interim Town Clerk

2. Barton Hill Store working group

It was **RESOLVED** to set up a Working Group to include Cllrs Dibben, Williams and Yeo to develop a proposal for the replacement of Barton Hill store.

Proposed by Cllr Edwyn-Jones		
Seconded by Cllr Hollingshead		
In Favour	10	Cllrs Edwyn-Jones, Williams, Barratt, Daultrey, Dibben, Hollingshead, Loader, Philpott, Smith and Yeo
Abstentions	0	
Against	0	
MOTION CARRIED		

Action: Interim Town Clerk

3. DAPTC – AGM Motion Gillingham Town Council

It was **RESOLVED** to approve for Cllr Edwyn-Jones on behalf of Shaftesbury Town Council to second Cllr Barry von Clemens' motion on behalf of Gillingham Town Council at the DAPTC AGM on 30th May 2026.

Proposed by Cllr Williams		
Seconded by Cllr Dibben		
In Favour	9	Cllrs Edwyn-Jones, Williams, Barratt, Daultrey, Dibben, Hollingshead, Loader, Philpott and Smith
Abstentions	0	
Against	1	Cllr Yeo
MOTION CARRIED		

Action: Interim Town Clerk

4. Town Hall stairlift

It was **RESOLVED** to approve replacement of the stairlift in the Town Hall in the sum of £7,376 taking funds from budget line Town Hall Repairs & Maintenance (Expenditure Authority: General Power of Competence, Localism Act 2011, S1-8).

Proposed by Cllr Yeo		
Seconded by Cllr Loader		
In Favour	10	Cllrs Edwyn-Jones, Williams, Barratt, Daultrey, Dibben, Hollingshead, Loader, Philpott, Smith and Yeo
Abstentions	0	
Against	0	
MOTION CARRIED		

Action: Interim Town Clerk

5. Town of Culture 2028

Members considered the report and it was **RESOLVED** to support the Arts & Culture Advisory Committee in exploring this proposal further.

Proposed by Cllr Yeo		
Seconded by Cllr Smith		
In Favour	10	Cllrs Edwyn-Jones, Williams, Barratt, Daultrey, Dibben, Hollingshead, Loader, Philpott, Smith and Yeo
Abstentions	0	
Against	0	
MOTION CARRIED		

Action: Interim Town Clerk

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 8.11pm.

These minutes were adopted on 14th April 2026 under minute reference FC154 as a true record of the decisions taken and are duly signed below by the chair of that meeting.