



# SHAFTESBURY TOWN COUNCIL

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Interim Town Clerk: Ms Billy Maddock

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To: Members of the Sustainable Shaftesbury Advisory Committee (SuSAC)  
Sue Clifford, Mike Cummings, Cllr Lester Dibben, Bernard Ede, Cllr Virginia Edwyn-Jones, Amber Harrison, Jen Hirsch, Angela King, Gideon King, Jenny Morisetti (Vice-Chair), John Nelson, Cllr Annie Philpott, Christina Strickland, Richard Thomas (Chairman) and Lucy Young

## A G E N D A

You are summoned to a meeting for the transaction of the business shown on the agenda below. To be held at **5.30pm on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2026** in the **Council Chamber, Shaftesbury Town Hall**.

Ms Billy Maddock  
Interim Town Clerk, 19<sup>th</sup> May 2026

**Public Participation and Introduction of and to STC members:** Members of the public will be invited to present their questions, statements or petitions. The period of time designated for public participation shall not exceed twenty minutes. A member of the public shall not speak for more than three minutes.

1. [To elect a Chairman and Vice-Chairman for 2026/27](#)
2. [Apologies – To receive and consider for acceptance](#)
3. [To receive any Declarations of Interest](#)
4. [To approve the minutes of the last meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2026](#)
5. [To review Shaftesbury Town Council's decisions from March to May and SuSAC's recommendations of 24<sup>th</sup> February 2026](#)
6. [To consider funding proposals for 2026/27](#)
7. [To receive updates from Working Groups](#)
8. [To consider the 'Climate Responder of the Year 2026' award](#)
9. [To discuss Community Engagement with 'The People's Emergency Briefing' film](#)
10. [To note Local Community Emergency Response Plans \(CERPs\)](#)

## **Agenda Item No. 1**

### **To elect a Chairman and Vice-Chairman for 2026/27**

To elect the Chair for the Advisory Committee for the council year 2026-2027.

To elect the Vice-Chair for the Advisory Committee for the council year 2026-2027.

If no nominations are received, it was recommended at the 28<sup>th</sup> April 2026 informal meeting to 'rotate' Chairs or Vice-Chairs.

#### **Recommendation**

That the committee elects its Chair and Vice-Chair. The appointments will be ratified by STC at the next Full Council meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2026.

## **Agenda Item No.2**

### **Apologies – To receive and consider for acceptance**

The Council (including committees) should approve (or not) the reason for apologies given by absent councillors. If a council member has not attended a meeting of the council (or its committees) or has not tendered apologies which have been accepted by the council (or committee), for six consecutive months, they are disqualified.

Apologies received from Cllr Annie Philpott and Lucy Young.

## **Agenda Item No. 3**

### **To receive any Declarations of Interest**

Members and Officers are reminded of their obligations to declare interests in accordance with the Code of Conduct – adopted in May 2025. The Interim Clerk will report any dispensation requests received.

## **Agenda Item No. 4**

### **To approve the minutes of the last meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

When the meeting is approving the draft minutes of a previous meeting as an accurate record, the only issue for the meeting is whether the minutes accurately record the proceedings of the meeting and the resolutions made at them. It is irrelevant if the chairman or other councillors were not present at the meeting to which the draft minutes relate.

If it is necessary for the draft minutes of the previous meeting to be corrected because of inaccuracies, then the amendments to the draft minutes must be approved by resolution (Tharmarajah, 2013, p. 154).

#### **Recommendation**

To confirm the accuracy of the Minutes of the Sustainable Shaftesbury Advisory Committee meeting held on [24<sup>th</sup> February 2026](#).

**To review Shaftesbury Town Council's decisions from March to May and SuSAC's recommendations of 24<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

**Information**

At the Full Council meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2026, recommendations from SuSAC's formal meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2026 were considered.

**SuS49 Funding Proposals**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve expenditure of £1,993.00 taking funds from EMR Sustainable Shaftesbury.

**SuS50 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.

The town council office is currently redesigning the Vision Statement and Masterplan 2024-2031 with the agreed revisions.

Other Shaftesbury Town Council decisions are:

1. Update on Terms of Reference for 2026/27 including acceptance of third STC member (Cllr Annie Philpott).

**Recommendation**

That the committee notes Shaftesbury Town Council's decisions, including to SuSAC's recommendations of 24<sup>th</sup> February 2026, and approves the update on Terms of Reference for 2026/27 including acceptance of third STC member Cllr Annie Philpott.

**To consider Funding proposals for 2026/27**

**Background**

At the informal meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2026, it was proposed to seek approval from Shaftesbury Town Council for funding of projects listed below to be taken from SuSAC's 2026-2027 budget.

- (1) Up to £500 towards Shaftesbury Home Grown pond project.
- (2) Refund Dorset Climate Action Network £120 for joint stand and tickets for Gillingham & Shaftesbury Show in August (£60 for pitch, £60 for 4no. extra tickets for volunteers)
- (3) Pay Dorset Environmental Records Centre £300 (£250 + VAT) for Green Wheel mapping options.

**Recommendation**

That the committee recommends to Full Council for the amount of £920 to be taken from Sustainable Shaftesbury's 2026-2027 budget for funding of the above items.

**To receive updates from Working Groups**

The following updates have been received from the various working groups.

**Biodiversity:**

Nature Connection North Dorset project – Appointment of Sophie Headdon as Dorset Wildlife Trust Project Manager with effect from 4<sup>th</sup> June 2026, and agreement to invitation to meet SuSAC on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2026 with Nicki Brunt of DWT to discuss plan roll-out. Suggestion that Craig Daters (Cranborne Chase National Landscape) and John Calder (The Great Big Dorset Hedge) attend future meetings.

The Green Wheel Project – East Shaftesbury ‘slice’ including Persimmon eastern area development and discussion on management of open spaces.

Open spaces management plans – Castle Hill area management plan agreed with Dorset Rangers, agree representatives for meeting with DC Rangers and STC representatives on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2026 and comment on work on c50m area behind Victorian terrace (nos. 43-61 Bimport). Update on any other management plans including St. James.

**Circular Economy** – No report

**Clean Air and Dark Skies** – No report

**Food** – New ‘Eat Well’ leaflet with local food and drink sources published in May with interactive online map (see SuSAC page on STC website and Planet Shaftesbury website).

**Energy & Retrofitting** – Free showing of ‘Power Station’ film at the Town Hall on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026 at 7.30pm attended by Howard Johns and Simon Griffiths of People Owned Power. It is hoped this will lead to groups coming together interested in forming local street-based ‘mutual energy’ groups. Booking advised via [events.humanitix.com/power-station-film-shaftesbury](https://events.humanitix.com/power-station-film-shaftesbury). Dorset Council has said it will ‘probably’ run another round of its Solar Together programme later in the year, possibly with Fizz Energy who offer free panels (subject to confirmation).

**Health & Wellbeing** – No report

**Local Transport & Footpaths** – No report

**Planning:**

Blackmore Down development – Negotiations continue between Barratt Redrow and Dorset Council over biodiversity remedial works on the open spaces at the Blackmore Down development demanded by a very strong residents group supported by STC, SuSAC and CCNL.

Persimmon Homes development – Cllr Dibben has requested a discussion on his demand that STC requires DC, as the successor local Planning Authority to North Dorset District Council, takes similar action to ensure the full implementation of the planning conditions and reserved matters for the Persimmon Homes/East Shaftesbury development (APP/N1215/1191202 & APP/N1215/1191206 (SW/THM/5220/47:1 & SW/THM/5220/47:2) as defined in the Planning Inspector’s report of February 2007 including payment of the £1.5m commuted sum for the maintenance and management of all public open spaces and recreational areas, including the SUDS, following agreed remedial works.

**Waste & recycling** – No report

**Water (rivers, streams and ponds)** – No report

**Worksheds (community worksheds)** – No report

**Recommendation**

That the updates from working groups are received and noted.

**To consider the 'Climate Responder of the Year 2026' award**

**Background**

At SuSAC's informal meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2026, it was proposed that the Town Council enters Shaftesbury in NALC's 'Climate Responder of the Year 2026' award, part of NALC's 'Star Councils' award scheme.

**Further Information**

The timetable is not yet known but it is understood that nominations open later this year with the closing date in November. Awards will be made in February 2027.

The 2025 winner was Corsham Town Council in Wiltshire - <https://www.corsham.gov.uk/news/climate-response-of-the-year-award/>.

**Recommendation**

That committee members agree to put forward a formal proposal to Shaftesbury Town Council, to enter Shaftesbury in the 'Climate Responder of the Year 2026' award, for consideration at the next Full Council meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2026.

**To discuss Community Engagement with ‘The People’s Emergency Briefing’ film**

**Background**

Following on from the showing of ‘The People’s Emergency Briefing’ film at the Town Hall on 27th April 2026 and Dorset Council’s announcement that it is showing the film to all councillors and staff at County Hall on 3rd June 2026, SuSAC recommends the film is shown to all STC councillors and staff at the earliest opportunity.

Planet Shaftesbury is also looking for maximum public support for the national organisers’ request that national broadcast media show programmes based on the National Emergency Briefing event in London in November by lobbying the local MP and government.

**Recommendation**

That members

- (1) recommend to Shaftesbury Town Council that ‘The People’s Emergency Briefing’ film is shown to all councillors and staff at the earliest opportunity
- (2) support Planet Shaftesbury’s proposal to encourage maximum public support for the national organisers’ request that national broadcast media show programmes based on the National Emergency Briefing event in London in November by lobbying the local MP and government.

**To note Local Community Emergency Response Plans (CERPs)**

**Background**

With 2027 forecast to be an extreme weather year of droughts and floods, Dorset Council has commissioned the Dorset Association of Parish & Town Councils (DAPTC) to carry out a twelve-month project focussing on the development and testing of Community Emergency Response Plans (CERPs) within town and parish councils in Dorset.

**Further Information**

CERPs are local written strategies developed by town and parish councils to help local communities cope with major crises. They do not replace statutory emergency services or Dorset Council but are aimed at mobilising local resources, volunteers and knowledge to support vulnerable residents until official help arrives.

**Recommendation**

That members note the information on Local Community Emergency Response Plans (CERPs).