

## TOWN (PARISH) OF BRIDPORT

### ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ANNUAL TOWN (PARISH) MEETING for the TOWN OF BRIDPORT will be held at THE TOWN HALL, BRIDPORT, on TUESDAY 28<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2026 AT 6.30pm.

ALL LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTORS on the current REGISTER of ELECTORS for the PARISH OF BRIDPORT are entitled to speak and vote at this meeting.

7 April 2026



COUNCILLOR ANNE RICKARD  
TOWN MAYOR AND CHAIRMAN  
BRIDPORT TOWN COUNCIL

***From 6pm until 6.30pm there will be tea, coffee and biscuits and the opportunity to view displays by community groups supported by the Town Council.***

### AGENDA

1. Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting 2025.

To receive and approve the minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on 18 March 2025 (attached).

2. Apologies.

To receive any apologies for absence.

3. Bridport Town Council 2025/2026

Presentations from the Cllr Anne Rickard, Town Mayor; Ian Bark, former Leader of the Council; and the Town Clerk.

4. To receive presentations from organisations supported by the Town Council.

5. Any comments or questions raised by Bridport parish electors concerning town matters. *(Please submit questions in advance to [enquiries@bridport-tc.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@bridport-tc.gov.uk) by 4pm on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2026. Questions received on the evening may not be given a full response)*

6. Announcements

## TOWN (PARISH) OF BRIDPORT

Minutes of the **ANNUAL TOWN (PARISH) MEETING** of the Town of Bridport, held at Bridport Town Hall on Tuesday 18 March 2025 at 7.00pm.

PRESENT: Bridport Town Councillors, members of the public, and Will Austin, Town Clerk.

### 1. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Annual Town Meeting held on 19 March 2024 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### 2. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Dave Bolwell, Bridget Bolwell & David Worthington, Georgette Wormleighton (Equintervention).

### 3. **BRIDPORT TOWN COUNCIL 2023/24**

- (a) The Town Mayor gave a review of her Mayoral Year and the engagements she had undertaken as First Citizen of Bridport during the municipal year 2024/25.
- (b) The Leader of the Council gave his review of the municipal year 2024/25.
- (c) The Town Clerk, Will Austin played a video summary of the activities of the Town Council during the municipal year 2024/25.

### 4. **ORGANISATIONS SUPPORTED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL**

For the larger bodies supported by the Town Council, Bridport Arts Centre, Rovarn Wickremasinghe (Bridport & District Citizens Advice), Alan Weston (Youth and Community Centre), Michelle Caesar and Chris Huxley (Bridport Museum Trust), Jamie Harwood (Precision Football Arena), Robert Ridge (2020 Skate and Ride) gave reports on the activities of their organisations over the past year.

Representatives of organisations in receipt of grants from the Town Council's community grants scheme then addressed the meeting. These were:

- Judith Pearce of Age UK, North, South and West Dorset
- Steve Todd of Allington Hill, Cooper's Wood and Field Community Group, and Bridport Community Orchard
- Gill Massey of Bridport Millennium Green Trust

- Joanna Jacobson, Tanya Bruce-Lockhart and Nick Child of Bridport Literary Festival
- John West of Bridport Literary & Scientific Institute
- Nikki Northover of Bridport Youth Dance and Bridport Boys Dance
- Ruth Cohen of B Sharp
- Debbie Phillips-White of Home Start Wessex
- Emma Burt of St Catherine's Pre School
- Richard Walsh of Stepping out cancer rehabilitation
- Nick Goldsmith of The Bank of Dreams and Nightmares
- Sue Pollock of West Bay Community Forum

The Town Mayor, on behalf of the Town Council, thanked all the speakers for their presentations and for all their work on behalf of the Town.

**5. MATTERS CONCERNING TOWN AFFAIRS**

No matters were raised.

**6. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OTHER BUSINESS**

The Town Mayor thanked those present for their attendance and declared the meeting closed.