

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.