

2nd September 2024

Dear Councillor

You are hereby summoned to attend the meeting of **Watchet Town Council** to be held in the Watchet Visitor Centre, Harbour Road, Watchet on **Monday 9th September 2024 at 7.00pm** for the purpose of transacting the following business.

Members of the public are invited to address the Town Council for 15 minutes commencing at approximately 6.45pm. Please see the Public Participation notice.

Yours faithfully



Jo Grellier
Clerk to the Council

A G E N D A

- 24/39 To receive Apologies for Absence (LGA 1972, section 85 (1) –
- 24/40 To receive any **Declaration of Interests** under Watchet Town Council's Code of Conduct (adopted on 9 July 2012) issued in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 and the Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012 Si No: 1464 –
- 24/41 **Town Council Minutes** - To confirm and sign the Minutes of the Council meeting held on the 8th July 2024 (LGA 1972, Sch 12 Para 41 (1) (*circulated prior to the meeting via **Appendix 1***))
- 24/42 **Reports:**
- Chairs report - verbal
 - Clerks report – (*See **Appendix 2***) – *updates & recommendations*
- 24/43 **Reports from the Principal Authority Members:**
Somerset Council, County Cllr Davies/County Cllr Woods and to receive questions from the floor.
- 24/44 **Reports from Representatives of Outside Organisations, Verbal**
- (i) Reports from Representatives of Outside organisations
- 24/45 **Verbal reports from sub-committees, working groups, and other outside organisations where Watchet Town Council does not have representation:** (Notification to the Clerk prior to the meeting)
- 24/46 **Reports from Working Groups and appointed representatives:** - Any relevant paperwork will be issued prior to the meeting:
- a. **Watchet Library** – *Update and recommendations*
 - b. **Wheeled Park** – *Update and recommendations*
 - c. **Climate Change**- *Update and recommendations on de-carbonisation action plan*
 - d. **Watchet Task Force** – *Update and recommendations*
 - e. **EH&S Policies** – *Update*
- 24/47 **Standing Order review:**
- (i) To review and adopt amended Standing Orders - *circulated prior to the meeting via **Appendix 3***
- 24/48 **Biodiversity Policy:**
- (i) To approve the Clerks recommendation and appoint members from E&P and Asset Management Committee on to a new Biodiversity Working Group (*circulated prior to the meeting via **Appendix 4***)
- (ii) To review and adopt the WTC Biodiversity Policy (also *circulated prior to the meeting via **Appendix 4***)
- (iii) To retrospectively approve the annual Weed control contract as recommended and approved by the F&S Committee (*circulated prior to the meeting via **Appendix 5***)

- 24/49 **Councillor Surgeries** – update from Councillors who attended the Surgery held on Saturday 7th September 2024 and any matters arising
- 24/50 **Community Ownership Fund:**
(i) Potential bid by Watchet Town Council (WTC) and Watchet War Memorial Ground Management Committee (WWMGMC) – *update by Cllr Irven if required*
- 24/51 **Somerset Council Budget cuts:**
(i) Updates if required
- 24/52 **Recreation & Tourism Committee:**
(i) Report and recommendation to amend the Scheme of delegation to disband the Recreation & Tourism Committee in May 2025 - (*circulated prior to the meeting via **Appendix 6***)
(ii) To appoint one member to fill the vacancy on the Recreation & Tourism Committee – *verbal update from the Clerk*
- 24/53 **External Audit:**
(i) To note the contents of the External Auditors report and acknowledge the ‘Notice Conclusion of Audit’ – (*circulated prior to the meeting via **Appendix 7***)
(ii) To note and approve payment of External Auditor invoice for payment - (*circulated prior to the meeting via **Appendix 8***)
- 24/54 **General Power of Competence:**
(i) To declare and approve that the Council can exercise its use of General Power of Competence
- 24/55 **Accounts for payment:**
(i) to retrospectively approve all payments made outside of Full Council meetings (July/August) - *The schedule circulated to all members prior to the meeting for their consideration.*
(ii) to approve the August schedule (paid in September) – *The schedule circulated to all members prior to the meeting for their consideration.*
(iii) to approve all payments made outside of Full Council meetings (August/September) - *The schedule circulated to all members prior to the meeting for their consideration.*
- 24/56 **Exclusion of Press and Public**
“That in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the public be temporarily excluded, and they are instructed to withdraw” (Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960)
- 24/57 **Standards complaint made under the Localism Act 2011** – verbal update from the Clerk
- 24/58 **Finance and Staffing Committee update:**
(i) Update report from F&S committee on staffing matters
- 24/59 **Matters of Correspondence to report** - Correspondence is addressed daily and filed - *The Clerk will report on any relevant correspondence.*
- 24/60 To note **Matters for the next meeting** – no discussion or decisions made