

WIRKSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Finance Buildings and Personnel Committee held
10 February 2025**

**FBP24/81 Present: Cllr A Clamp (Chairman), Cllr E McDonagh, Cllr A Jordan, Cllr A Pollock and Cllr C Whittall
In attendance: 2 Trustees of Heritage Centre, 1 member of public, Paul Jennings (Town Clerk)
Teams: Cllr Barker**

FBP24/82 Apologies for Absence: Cllr P Carr

FBP24/83 Variation in Order of Business: Take item 13 Heritage Centre immediately after open forum and to refer item 7 Community Grant to Full Council.

FBP24/84 Members' Pecuniary Interests in Agenda Items:

Cllr Clamp	Personal interest in item 7 Community Grants as chair of Now
Cllr Taylor	Personal interest in item 13 Heritage Centre as partner is a Trustee

Open Forum opened 6:35pm

FBP24/85 Open Forum:

The Trustees of the Heritage Centre requested a meeting with the Town Council and sought the Town Council's support in getting the Café reopened and securing the future of the heritage collection.

Open Forum closed 6:50pm

FBP24/86 Heritage Centre

The Trustees of Wirksworth Heritage Centre have taken the difficult decision to close. Citing that current economic climate, increased running costs and poor trading conditions are all factors in this decision.

**REC that a working party be established to liaise with Heritage Centre and other linked parties. Members of the Working Party are Cllr Rostron, Cllr Clamp and Cllr Whittall.
That to assist the councils understanding of the issue, that a list of questions be sent to the trustees.**

Cllr Jordan dep 7:20pm

FBP24/87 Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting of the Finance Buildings and Personnel Committee dated 13 January 2025 were confirmed as a correct record.

FBP24/88 Monthly Budget Balance

The clerk identified those budget lines where there was a significant variation to the plan and provided an explanation for the differences.

REC that information be noted.

FBP24/89 Community Grant

Request from NOW for a grant of £650 to contribute towards of operational costs of the skatepark.

REC that matter be consider at Full Council on 17 February 2025.

FBP24/90 Martyn's Law

The guidance has now been clarified with anticipated requirements of the Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Bill, also known as Martyn's Law applying to internal events with 200 attendees.

REC that the Town Council resolve that as the largest capacity room (main hall) falls below the capacity threshold that it opt out of the standard tier applicable to venues with 200+ people. The Town Council will include the guidance provided by Martyn's law checklist as part of the wider considerations that inform the council's measures in place to ensure that it venues are safe.

FBP24/91 Memorial Hall – Noise and Fire Exits (attached)

A tenant has raised concerns regarding the potential impact of noise from the adjacent building once it is converted into a gym.

The adjacent building owner has requested that the two existing fire exits onto the Town Council be kept clear. Over time as the "Stones" building fell into disuse, they have become obstructed.

REC that it be noted that the adjacent building owner is installing sound proofing/mitigation as part of the works.

That the clerk be delegated to make any adjustments necessary to assist the adjacent building owner to ensure that the 2 fire exists are compliant with regulations (with the expectation that any costs or works to ensure compliance will be met by the adjacent building owner).

FBP24/92 Leases

To review the approach and processes applied to the management of the leases for the spaces across the Town Council estate - at present Town Hall (6) and Memorial Halls (7).

REC that matter be reconsidered in a further 3 months.

FBP24/93 Review of Town Council Estate

As part of the Town Council discussion regarding the level of precept it was resolved (C24/86) that within this term of the council (by 2027) to undertake a review of the costs of maintaining the Council's assets. In order to progress this work, an initial term of reference outlining the scope and depth of the review is required.

REC that as a 1st step the clerk collate and analyse the costs and income for the Council estate over the past 5 years (to be reported back to FB&P).

FBP24/94 Breastfeeding Welcome Here Award

DCC operate a Breastfeeding Welcome Here Award, a **free accreditation scheme** to demonstrate that a business/organisation supports families to breastfeed at their venue. This would require the provision of a seat in each building.

REC that council in principle welcome this initiative but should seek advice /guidance from the scheme regarding what potential location(s) and type seating would be appropriate. That consideration be given to installing a nappy change table to the disabled toilet at the Town Hall as part of the any works.

FBP24/95 Meadows Project Phase 1

Update on current position in regard to invoicing, funding, UKSPF levelling up funds claimed and WTC element of match funding.

REC that the proposed format and assumptions regarding staff time be used to evidence the Town Council's contribution towards the match funding commitment - Project Management costs £8000. To note the current position of the project and costs.

FBP24/96 Town Hall Heating

Update following discussions with Commercial Plumbers who service DCC properties.

REC that it be noted that the contractor ha advised that they do not feel they can assist and have suggested that a Heating Engineer should be instructed to assess the building and design a replacement system. Given the implied costs of this, to further action be taken at this time.

The meeting closed at 8:35 pm

Chairman