

## To all members of the Town Council

You are **SUMMONED** to attend the **MEETING** of the **TOWN COUNCIL** on **Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at 7.30pm** to be held in **the Community Hall**. The press and public are also invited to attend.

*Councillors are reminded that as office holders they are expected to comply with the Nolan Principles and the Council's Code of Conduct as well as showing respect for others in accordance with the law.*

*Before the start of the meeting, in accordance with Standing Order 3 (e) there will be an opportunity for members of the public to comment on agenda items (at the discretion of the Chair of that meeting).*

*In accordance with Standing Order 3 (f) the question/comment time is limited to 3 minutes each, and the session should not exceed 15 minutes (unless directed by the Chair of that meeting). Contributions from members of the public do not form part of the official meeting and will not normally be included in the official minutes unless they are deemed helpful in explaining subsequent Council decisions.*

*Please be aware that the proceedings may be filmed or recorded.*

LNewby

**Lisa Newby**  
**Town Clerk**  
**19<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

### **AGENDA**

**24/169: Apologies for Absence (LGA 1972 s85(1)).**

**24/170: Declarations of Interest.**

Members to declare any interests, including disclosable pecuniary interests (DPI) they may have in agenda items that accord with the requirements of the Town Council's Code of Conduct and to consider any written requests from members for dispensations that accord with the Localism Act 2011 s33 (b-e) (This does not preclude any later declaration).

**24/171: Minutes of the previous meeting (LGA 1972 sch 12 para 41 (1)).**

To receive, approve and sign [the minutes of the last Town Council meeting](#) held on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2025, and the [minutes of the extra ordinary meeting](#) of the Town Council held on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2025, as a true and accurate record.

**24/172: Reports from Somerset Councillors:**

- a. Lucy Trimmell
- b. Tom Power.

**24/173: Casual Vacancy**

To consider any applications received to fill the recent casual vacancy by co-option. The declaration of office is to be signed by the successful candidate, subject to an application being received, and the applicant being present. .

**24/174: Minutes and Recommendations from Committees and from those Working Groups that report to the Full Council:**

**a. Town Committee.**

To receive the minutes from the meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2025 (if available), and to note or approve any recommendations and decisions as required.

- i. Clerk to contact officers at Somerset Council to discuss the S106 funding. The S106 funds to include onsite and offsite play areas, allowing the opportunity to upgrade current play areas rather than creating more play areas if possible.
- ii. To apply for the higher level tier of Countryside Stewardship for the Abbey Ponds area and the Dovecote fields area to enable more funding opportunities for maintenance needs once the higher tier option becomes available.
- iii. To form a separate grounds maintenance schedule and contract for the Abbey Ponds area.
- iv. Town Clerk to write a letter in support of the BUFC grant funding application on behalf of the Town Council.
- v. To approve the quote from the water supplier as recommended by the clerk.
- vi. To re-schedule the next meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> May due to so many Cllrs being unavailable.

**b. Planning and Consultation Response Committee.**

To receive [the minutes from the meeting](#) held on 12<sup>th</sup> March and to note or approve any recommendations and decisions as required.

Since the Weight Restriction Order exemption permit system has become inoperative (because Somerset Council no longer issues permits and Bruton Town Council has no legal authority to do so), and since the Police evidently lack the manpower to enforce Bruton's Weight Restriction Order, the Committee recommends the Town Council to:

- i. ask Somerset Council to remove references to the non-existent permit system from its website because they only serve to confuse hauliers, contractors and members of the public;
  - ii. ask the Highways Authority and the Police to investigate whether alternative techniques like linked ANPR cameras could provide a more cost-effective means of enforcing and reinforcing the Weight Restriction Order;
  - iii. ask the Highways and Planning Authorities to ensure that emerging traffic management plans associated with the proposed residential developments along the Brewham Road and the south side of Cuckoo Hill will require all HGV construction traffic to access the sites via the Frome Road (the A359 north of Bruton), avoiding Bruton Town Centre.
- c. Climate and Ecological Emergency Working Group.**  
To receive any updates and recommendations.
- d. BruBowl Working Group.**  
To receive any updates and recommendations.
- i. To consider which Bruton Town Councillors to be members of the BruBowl Working Group, to support quorate meetings (deferred from February 2025 full council meeting).
- e. Bruton Town Plan Working Group.**  
The first meeting of the Bruton Town Plan Working Group took place recently, with the following recommendations:
- i. To amend the Terms of Reference for the working group to increase the number of councillors from three to four.
  - ii. Working Group members to be agreed: Councillors Buckland, Dunn, Jones and Taylor; Good Company Directors David Weston and Alison Weir; Bruton Chamber members Charlotte Evans and Mark Ruthven; One Planet Bruton members Jane Durney and Dee Mullis.

**24/175: Clerk's Report.**

To receive [a short report](#) from the Town Clerk to update on ongoing matters. The report has been published on the town council website.

**24/176: Utilities works in 2025 requiring road closures**

Communication has been received from Wales and West Utilities, regarding works to take place in Bruton to replace gas mains, in the later part of 2025. To discuss how best to engage with the Utilities company.

**24/177: Risk Register.**

To review and agree the [Risk Register](#), as reviewed in Finance and Resources Committee in January 2025.

**24/178: Asset Register.**

To review and agree the Asset Register for the 2024/25 accounting period.

**24/179: Bank Reconciliations.**

- a. To approve [the bank reconciliations](#) for the current and deposit accounts and credit card for the period 1<sup>st</sup> February to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2025.

**24/180: Accounts for Payment.**

- a. To approve [payments list](#) for March 2025

**24/181: Transfer of funds between bank accounts**

- a. To note the transfer of £15,000 to be made in March to meet the March 2025 payments.

**24/182: Reports - to receive reports from:**

- a. Members representing the Council on outside bodies.
- b. Town Councillors.
- c. Chair.

**24/183: Date of the next meeting of the Full Council:** The next full council meeting is Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2025, 7.30pm at the Community Hall.

Agenda items to the clerk for consideration by Friday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2025.

**END OF AGENDA**