

Dunstable Town Council
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Paul Hodson, Town Clerk and Chief Executive

Date: 20 September 2024

Dear Councillor,

You are hereby summoned to attend a Meeting of Dunstable Town Council which will be held on Monday 30 September 2024 at Grove House in the Council Chamber at 7.00 pm. The meeting will be streamed live, and the recording then made available. To view the meeting live or afterwards use this link: [livestream](#). Members of the public and press are also welcome to attend in person. Members of the public may ask a question during the public session, either in person or online via MS Teams. Where possible, we ask that anyone who wishes to ask a question contacts the Council beforehand to enable a response to be prepared, via democratic@dunstable.gov.uk or 01582 513000 by 4 pm on Friday 27 September.

Please scan the below QR code to find the full agenda online:



This meeting will be filmed by the Council and broadcast live and will be capable of repeated viewing. If you are seated in the Council Chamber, it is likely that the cameras will capture your image. By your presence you are deemed to consent to be filmed, and to the use of those images and sound recordings for webcasting or training purposes.

If you address the committee in person or via Teams, your contribution will be recorded and broadcast, unless this is during a private session, as permitted by the Access to Information provisions.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence.
2. To agree as a correct record the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 20 May 2024 and 24 June 2024 (Minutes enclosed - page 4)
3. Specific Declarations of Interest
4. Chair's Remarks including Civic Events and Mayoral Activities (see page 12)
5. Public Question Time
6. To receive reports of the following Committees:

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Page</u>
Community Services	2 September 2024	21
Grounds and Environmental Services	9 September 2024	25
Finance and General Purposes	16 September 2024	to follow

7. Action Tracker – (see page 30)
8. To receive the minutes of the Dunstable Joint Committee held on 5 June 2024 (see page 31)
9. To approve the Calendar of Meetings for 2025/26 (see page 38)
10. Referral Report(s) –
10.1. Reference up from Grounds and Environmental Services Committee (see page 40)
11. Reports/updates by Members of Central Bedfordshire Council on matters of interest to the Town Council
12. RECOMMENDED In terms of Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972, the following items will be likely to disclose exempt information relating to establishment and contractual matters and it is, therefore, RECOMMENDED that pursuant to the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 the public and press be excluded.
13. Priory House Project Management Recommendation Report (report to follow)
14. Referral Report(s) –
14.1. Reference(s) up from the Personnel Committee (report(s) to follow)

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Paul Hodson".

Paul Hodson
Town Clerk and Chief Executive

DUNSTABLE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

HELD AT PETER NEWTON PAVILION, SKIMPOT ROAD, LUTON, LU5 4JU.

ON MONDAY 20 MAY 2024 FROM 7.00 pm

Present: Liz Jones (Retiring Town Mayor); Louise O’Riordan (Retiring Deputy Town Mayor); Councillors Trevor Adams; Gregory Alderman; Richard Attwell; Wendy Bater; Robert Blennerhassett; Matthew Brennan; Philip Crawley; Mark Davis; John Gurney; Kenson Gurney; Peter Hollick; Sally Kimondo; Nicholas Kotarski; Matthew Neall; and Johnson Tamara with Paul Hodson (Town Clerk and Chief Executive)

Before the commencement of the meeting Reverend Rachel Phillips led the Council in prayer.

108/24 ELECTION OF TOWN MAYOR

It was proposed by Councillor Bater, and seconded by Councillor Brennan and

RESOLVED: That Councillor Louise O’Riordan be elected Town Mayor of Dunstable for the ensuing Municipal Year.

The newly elected Town Mayor made the statutory Declaration of Acceptance of Office and gave a short address to the Council. The Mayor’s charities for the year were to be Kids in Action and the Dunstable Foodbank.

The Town Mayor was presented with her robes and chain of office whilst Bart O’Riordan was presented with his Mayor’s consort badge.

109/24 VOTE OF THANKS FOR THE RETIRING MAYOR

It was proposed by Councillor Adams and seconded by Councillor Hollick and

RESOLVED: That Councillor Liz Jones be in receipt of the sincere thanks of the Council for the courteous, efficient, and admirable manner in which she has discharged the important and exacting duties of the office of Town Mayor of Dunstable during the Municipal year ended 20 May 2024.

Councillor Jones was presented with her past Mayor’s chain and new pin for the year 2024/25.

110/24 SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS

There were no specific declarations of interest.

111/24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Councillor Michelle Henderson

112/24 APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR

It was proposed by Councillor Alderman, seconded by Councillor Jones, and

RESOLVED: That Councillor Sally Kimondo be elected Deputy Town Mayor of Dunstable for the ensuing Municipal Year.

The newly appointed Deputy Town Mayor made the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

Councillor Kimondo was presented with her Deputy Mayor's chain whilst her consort received their Deputy Mayor's consort badge.

113/24 TOWN MAYOR'S CHAPLAIN

The Town Mayor was pleased to report that Reverend Rachel Phillips, Team Rector of Dunstable had agreed to be the Town Mayor's Chaplain for the ensuing Municipal Year.

114/24 APPOINTMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

RESOLVED: That the following Committees be appointed for the ensuing Municipal Year 2024/25 and associated Chairs and Vice-Chairs as set out below:

Finance and General Purposes Committee Louise O'Riordan, Sally Kimondo, Gregory Alderman (Chair), Nicholas Kotarski (Vice-Chair), Kenson Gurney, Liz Jones, Richard Attwell, Wendy Bater, Peter Hollick, Matthew Brennan, John Gurney, Phillip Crawley, Michelle Henderson, and Johnson Tamara

Community Services Committee Louise O'Riordan, Sally Kimondo, Liz Jones (Chair), Matthew Neall (Vice-Chair), Trevor Adams, Robert Blennerhassett, Peter Hollick, Wendy Bater, Gregory Alderman, Mark Davis, John Gurney, and Nicholas Kotarski

Grounds and Environmental Services Committee Louise O'Riordan, Sally Kimondo, Richard Attwell (Chair), Phillip Crawley (Vice-Chair), Johnson Tamara, Robert Blennerhassett, Trevor Adams, Matthew Brennan, Matthew Neall, Kenson Gurney, Mark Davis, and Michelle Henderson

Personnel Sub-Committee Louise O'Riordan, Sally Kimondo, Gregory Alderman, Richard Attwell, Liz Jones, Nicholas Kotarski, and Johnson Tamara

Dunstable Joint Committee Louise O'Riordan, Sally Kimondo, Gregory Alderman, Liz Jones, and Richard Attwell (Named substitutes: Remaining Vice-Chairs of the three Standing Committees)

Plans Sub-Committee Louise O'Riordan, Sally Kimondo, Wendy Bater, Richard Attwell, Nicholas Kotarski, Peter Hollick, and Gregory Alderman

115/24 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 15 May 2024 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

116/24 REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS, ETC

It was moved by Councillor Neall seconded by Councillor Attwell, and

RESOLVED: That the representatives to serve on outside organisations be as follows:

<u>Body</u>	<u>Representative</u>
Observer at Development Committee (Central Beds)	Nicholas Kotarski
Dunstable International Town Twinning Assoc.	Louise O’Riordan, Peter Hollick and Kenson Gurney
South Beds Dial-a-Ride Management Cttee	Peter Hollick
Citizens Advice Management Committee	Richard Attwell
Hospice at Home Management Cttee	Wendy Bater
Dunstable Town Band	Robert Blennerhasset
Dunstable District Scouts Trustee Board	Nicholas Kotarski
Ashton Schools Foundation	Gregory Alderman, Peter Hollick
Ashton Almshouses Charity	Louise O’Riordan, Gregory Alderman
Chews Foundation	Kenson Gurney, Matthew Brennan
Poor’s Lands Charity	Liz Jones, Kenson Gurney
Lockington Charity	Liz Jones, Kenson Gurney
Marshe Charity	Liz Jones, Kenson Gurney
Dunstable Men in Sheds	Richard Attwell

117/24 QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER 16

There were no questions.

The Meeting ended at 7.40 pm.

DUNSTABLE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

HELD ON MONDAY 24 JUNE 2024 COMMENCING AT 7.00 PM

Present: Councillors Louise O’Riordan (Town Mayor), Sally Kimondo (Deputy Mayor), Trevor Adams; Gregory Alderman; Richard Attwell; Wendy Bater; Robert Blennerhassett; Matthew Brennan; Mark Davis; John Gurney; Kenson Gurney, Michelle Henderson, Peter Hollick; Nicholas Kotarski, Liz Jones, Matthew Neall, Johnson Tamara with Paul Hodson (Town Clerk and Chief Executive), John Crawley (Head of Grounds and Environmental Services), and Lisa Scheder (Head of Corporate Services and RFO)

Apologies: Councillor Phillip Crawley

Public Attendance: Nil

151/24 MINUTES

Members noted that the minutes of the meeting held on 20 May 2024 would be considered by the next meeting of the Council.

152/24 DECLARATIONS

No declarations were raised

153/24 CHAIR’S REMARKS

The Town Mayor spoke in support of a report relating to activities and summarised the events her and the Deputy Mayor had attended since the Annual Council Meeting.

154/24 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions put to the meeting.

155/24 COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Community Services Committee held on 3 June 2024 be received.

156/24 GROUNDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Grounds and Environmental Services Committee held on 10 June 2024 be received.

157/24 FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 17 June 2024 be received.

158/24 ACTION TRACKER

The action tracker was noted.

159/24 MARKET CHARTER

The Town Clerk and Chief Executive summarised the report.

Councillor Matt Brennan requested that the group's meetings be recorded. The Town Clerk and Chief Executive explained that any formal sessions would be likely to be held in confidential session due to commercial and legal interests, but offered to provide minutes of the Group's meetings to enable transparency.

ACTION: Town Clerk & Chief Executive

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: To form a Markets Working Group

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: To agree a representative group of members to form the group to include Councillors Trevor Adams, Gregory Alderman, Wendy Bater, Robert Blennerhassett, John Gurney, Kenson Gurney, Michelle Henderson and Liz Jones

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: For the working group to meet approximately twice, one to receive a briefing on the current use of the Charter by the Council and the projected impact of any changes and then to review the options and agree a recommended approach to provide to Full Council

ACTION: Town Clerk and Chief Executive and Head of Community Services

160/24 TRANSPARENCY REPORT

The key parts of the report were summarised by the Town Clerk and Chief Executive.

Councillor Liz Jones requested that social media posts for council meetings be more consistent. The Town Clerk and Chief Executive responded that officers would work on ways to encourage public engagement by highlighting agenda items of particular interest due for discussion, whilst acknowledging that posts simply advising of a meeting may be of little interest otherwise.

Members discussed the monthly surgeries in detail, and suggested advertising more widely as well as asking members of the public how they would like to engage with Members. The Town Clerk and Chief Executive confirmed costs incurred for room hire over the last year totalled £70 for 3 of surgeries, with others being free of charge as well as using Council owned premises. The Town Clerk and Chief Executive suggested that officers could provide Members with posters advertising monthly surgeries where they see fit.

ACTION: Marketing and Communications Officer and Democratic Services Manager

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: To continue to stream Council and Committee meetings live.

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: To continue to provide social media messages alerting residents when items of particular interest are to be discussed in Council meetings.

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: To continue to hold monthly surgeries called open public meetings, to be circulated between the five wards.

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: To include a “public question time” section in the agenda for each committee meeting as well as Full Council.

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: To amend Standing Orders in regard to public questions at meetings to request rather than require members of the public to submit questions three days in advance, and to allow members of the public to address Full Council on any matter relevant to the Town Council’s services and responsibilities.

161/24 TO AGREE A RESPONSE TO CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL’S DRAFT LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN.

The Town Mayor advised Members that the consultation period would end on 30 June 2024. A response, compiled by the Mayor, along with Councillors Liz Jones, Gregory Alderman and Richard Attwell, had been circulated to Members. Councillor Nicholas Kotarski requested an addition to the response regarding the unreliability of the B bus service serving Downside.

Councillor Liz Jones noted the reference to a possible Hop and Stopper to serve the 3 of 5 wards currently receiving a reduced service and suggested that it would be appropriate for the Council to consider this at a future meeting.

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: To submit the response provided to Central Bedfordshire Council’s draft local transport plan, with the inclusion of Councillor Kotarski’s addition.

162/24 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT AND INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT

The Head of Corporate Services and Responsible Financial Officer summarised the key areas of the report to Members.

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: To receive and note the Internal Audit Report (Final) 2023/24 at Appendix 1, also presented to the Finance and General Purposes Committee on 17 June 2024.

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: To approve a recommendation made by the Finance and General Purposes Committee on 17 June 2024 to appoint the internal auditor for financial year 2024/25.

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: To approve the Annual Governance Statement and the Accounting Statement as part of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for the year ended 31 March 2024, for submission to the auditor, in compliance with the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 (S1 2015/234).

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: To authorise the Chair and Town Clerk & Chief Executive to sign the Annual Governance Statement.

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: To authorise the Chair to sign the Accounting Statements.

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: To note the Council's loans and Long-term liabilities as at 31 March 2024 at Appendix 4.

163/24 TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE DUNSTABLE JOINT COMMITTEE HELD ON 14 MARCH 2024

Councillor Gregory Alderman provided a verbal update from the meeting held on 5 June 2024 and confirmed that he was the new Vice-Chair of the Dunstable Joint Committee and that Central Bedfordshire Councillor Carole Hegley was the new Chair.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Dunstable Joint Committee held on 14 March 2024 be received.

164/24 TO AGREE THE TOWN COUNCIL'S REPRESENTATIVES AND SUBSTITUTES ON THE DUNSTABLE JOINT COMMITTEE

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: to appoint Councillors Trevor Adams and Matthew Brennan as substitutes for the Dunstable Joint Committee, in addition to Councillor Kotarski.

165/24 REFERRAL REPORTS

The Town Clerk and Chief Executive summarised the report.

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: to release funds from the Grove House Building Maintenance Reserve of up to £226,550 to allow for essential repair and maintenance works.

The Town Clerk and Chief Executive summarised the referral report from Personnel Sub-Committee held on 20 June 2024 regarding a staff pay review.

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: To create an ear-marked reserve of £25,000 for staff review and support

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: To release the newly created ear-marked reserve to fund a pay review following the Council's usual procurement process.

166/24 REPORTS/UPDATES BY MEMBERS OF CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL ON MATTERS OF INTEREST TO THE TOWN COUNCIL

No update.

The meeting closed at 8:23 pm.

Event	Date	Comments
The Geek The Witch The wardrobe - Enchanted day	29.06.24	Councillor Kimondo attended
Sea Cadets AGM	01.07.24	A lovely evening of camaraderie and service amongst the committee. John Chatterley was voted into serve on the committee.
Hospice at Home Volunteers AGM	02.07.24	Delightful to observe the business of the meeting and how well the organisation is doing. Special recognition to the volunteers who continue to serve as well as those that have stepped back after many years. Liz Jones was nominated as the new Chair.
Friends of Priory House & Gardens fundraising towards the Pergola Project in Priory Gardens.	06.07.24	This event was a huge hit, it was hosted by past Mayor Pat Staples who laid on a huge spread of food and welcomed all into her home. Money was raised toward the Pergola Project in Priory Gardens.
Dunstable Town Council Young Traders Market Judge	06.07.24	Despite the rain, this was a big success and the first ever Young Traders Market went ahead with great attendance of stall holders and visitors. Cllr Liz Jones assisted the Town Centre Manager and I to judge the stalls and whilst all were worthy winners there could be only 3. Country House Treats (Skye Alefounder) was the overall winner and well deserved too.
Leighton Buzzard Truck Convoy Charity cheque presentation	07.07.24	A BBQ took place at the organisers home with cheques being awarded to nominated charities and

		<p>recognition awards for the organisers. Gina & Graham Munt were perfect hosts and we had a really lovely afternoon, huge thanks and gratitude for all they do year upon year to delight the people along the streets from Junction 9 of the M1 all the way to Leighton Buzzard via Dunstable.</p>
<p>Bedfordshire games 34th Annual Games for Teenagers and Adults with Learning Difficulties.</p>	<p>09.07.24</p>	<p>A wonderful event enjoyed by all participants and spectators. A large group of chain gangers attended and assisted with handing out the medals to participants. Lots of laughter and fun was had all round. Was great to meet Helen Nellis the immediate past Lord Lieutenant of Bedfordshire. Big thanks to the organisers of this event.</p>
<p>AIB Judging</p>	<p>09.07.24</p>	<p>Despite the rain this was a very uplifting day. Of note were the judges comments regarding Dunstable's Community spirit which shone through the rain and made me feel so proud. All that helped to make this day and the projects a success should be proud.</p>
<p>Kings House School Prize giving</p>	<p>09.07.24</p>	<p>Delightful evening celebrating the pupils of Kings House School. The pupils have all achieved so much and worked extremely hard, these awards were a great way to end the term before their summer holidays. Thanks to the organiser for the</p>

		huge bouquet of flowers I was presented with, it was a very pleasant surprise and incredibly thoughtful.
Ardley Hill Academy Sports day	10.07.24	A very well organised and varied day of activities. The school, staff and pupils were exemplary and equally so were the parents. This is a great institution led by Mr Fox and his very competent staff. Thank for inviting me.
All Saints Academy Annual awards evening	11.07.24	I very pleasant evening with the Mayor of Houghton Regis where we celebrated the achievements of the pupils who were all incredibly talented. Another school that should be so proud of what they have so far achieved.
Bedfordshire College Graduation	18.07.24	Cllr Blennerhasset accompanied me to the grand Bedfordshire College whose building is modelled on Chequers. The setting and back drop is stunning and it was a beautiful sunny day. At least 200 students graduated with delightful whoops and applause from all of us and their friends and family. I left their feeling lifted. Very grateful to be invited and meet so many wonderful people including the staff.
Kids in Action Bingo night	20.07.24	A great evening with Kids In Action and their supporters. Cllr Liz Joens and past Mayor Claire Meakins were in attendance too. Despite me not winning it was a

		great night with monies raised directly for KIA.
Mayor of Bedford Borough Council early afternoon tea	20.07.24	This event was tied in with the River Festival. It was such an interesting event, the Mayor of Bedford even took me on a personal tour of the council chambers which were very impressive. Another wonderful afternoon of tea, cake, celebration and community.
Dunstable croquet club award presentation	20.07.24	This was wonderful as not only did I get to meet the Croquet club and present them with their awards, I also was shown how to play! Thank you Ronnie for trusting me with your croquet stick, it was great fun.
Chums and Crumbs visit	25.07.24	I won at bingo, twice! They said they will not invite me back which was hilarious! I had one of the best afternoons with like minded people and also felt the warmth and community within the room, I felt very comfortable, had fun and will return.
The Geek The Witch The wardrobe shop opening	27.07.24	I opened the shop using a spell from Harry Potter and a wand! I have achieved adult life goals. Excellent shop and a very valued business in Dunstable.
Best front garden judging	28.07.24	Debbie and I went around Totternhoe which is beautiful. We judged gardens, allotments and businesses. Debbie taught me the names of so many plants that I will never remember but her

		<p>knowledge was deep! I was impressed. I can't wait for the awards in October where we will announce the winners that we agonised over. It was close in so many categories. Huge thanks to Debbie for being a warm and friendly host.</p>
Dunstable Rotary Breakfast	30.07.24	<p>A very successful first breakfast meeting for the new President Alan Corkhill. The High Sheriff was in attendance and spoke well. Big thanks to Kazmicks for hosting this event in the most hospitable of ways.</p>
Dunstable Downs Rotary Club Meeting	01.08.24	<p>This lovely group is an offshoot of the main Dunstable group which grew too large. I had a lovely evening with friendly people and enjoyed the interaction with all – especially the black Labrador that belonged to the President.</p>
Dunstable Town Cricket club presidents' day	02.08.24	<p>As soon as I arrived I felt at home. There is something magical in this place, the warmth and friendliness of the President and his wife and other committee members made me feel like I was at home with family. We had laughter and late sunshine and I didn't want to leave but I will definitely return. Thank you for welcoming me so warmly.</p>
Kingsgate Group health event	10.08.24	<p>Councillor Kimondo attended</p>

<p>Dukeminster Care Home Marian White 100th Birthday celebrations</p>	<p>13.08.24</p>	<p>Now, this was definitely my highlight. The privilege of meeting a lovely lady that has turned 100, watching her open her card from the King and the absolute joy on her face when her daughter arranged for her favourite bird of prey, owls, to visit was priceless. The Rev. Rachel Phillips and DL Cynthia Gresham were in attendance and we had such a lovely afternoon we did not want to leave and the staff had to gently push out of the door so they could serve dinner. It was one of my favourite parties. Thank you Marian and al of the staff, family and friends that organised the party.</p>
<p>ABF Summer Concert</p>	<p>15.08.24</p>	<p>Councillor Kimondo attended</p>
<p>Dunstable Town Council Ashton Square Day</p>	<p>17.08.24</p>	<p>Excellent weather, great acts and I got to open the vent with the first act which was the Methodist Church group. Their performance had us all toe tapping and singling along. A great day and well attended by participants and spectators alike.</p>
<p>Frances Ashton House Tea and Cake</p>	<p>17.08.24</p>	<p>It was a real honour to be invited by the residents of Ashton House to experience the new garden furniture and have some wonderful cake! I love cake and Claire was a perfect hostess and provided lots of it. So happy to see the furniture looks great in the garden and has created a valued community space</p>

		for all of the residents to enjoy.
Mecca Bingo Charity night	22.08.24	A very enjoyable night for a very serious cause. Wingman Mentors and Mecca Bingo managed to raise a massive £2k towards bleed kits which was great. Lovely to see this event supported by the Deputy Mayor of Luton, Dunstable and the High Sheriff of Beds.
'Bridgerton Themed' Afternoon Tea on the Green	24.08.24	Councillor Kimondo attended
Beecroft 50 th Anniversary	25.08.24	Councillor Kimondo attended
Kids in Mind Elvis Afternoon	26.08.24	I danced and danced and had the best time. The people that make KIA are just wonderful to be around. It was so much fun and was an opportunity for the staff to be appreciated for all that they selflessly do.
Dunstable Rotary Club Luncheon	28.08.24	Thank you to the club for inviting me. The lunch was very nice and the staff went to a lot of effort on my vegan meal.
Luton Town Council Knife Angel closing and farewell ceremony & vigil	29.08.24	A very sombre and thought provoking afternoon but also a very informative one too, a chance to reflect on how violence only ever causes harm and that we must spread more love and be the change we want to see. Families that had lost loved ones to knife crime were supported, but it was art that spoke louder than anything else. The Knife Angel is beautiful and deeply sad at the same

		time. The conversations that were had were the real victory of this amazing statue making Luton it's home for the month of August. Of note were the speeches by Luton Mayor Cllr Tahmina Saleem and the poets – especially Quinton Malaise.
Citizens Advice Dunstable & District AGM	05.09.24	A new treasurer was voted in to serve on the committee. Highlight of the evening was John Buckledee who amused us with his historical tales of Dunstable in his very entertaining style, a very engaging and knowledgeable asset to Dunstable.
Don't Let Dunstable Die Job Fair Opening	11.09.24	A very successful first job fair! The organisers should be very proud.
Houghton Regis Town Council Civic Reception	13.09.24	A wonderful evening of camaraderie and laughter as well as connection. Gratitude to all that attended from the chain gang and in particular Houghton Regis Mayor Cllr Elaine Cooper who hosted the evening which was a big success.
Newport Pagnell Town Council Cultural and Literary Festival	14.09.24	The Houghton Regis Mayor accompanies me to this event where we spent hours dancing and meeting people from different cultures and countries, it was educational but loads of fun too. Big thanks to hosts Mayoress of NP Sarah Day (who MC'd the event) and Mayor Paul Day.

Hope Church Prayer and Soup	15.09.24	Spirituality, meaningful friendship and community were in abundance. I will return. Especially for the vegan soup and cupcakes!
Dunstable U3a (university of the third age) 25 th anniversary	16.09.24	The Dunstable U3A should be extremely proud for achieving the 25 year milestone and 800 members! It was a delight to meet all and celebrate with them, especially member 001.
Ashton St Peters Awards Presentation	18.09.24	This was very humbling, John Crawley and I attended the morning assembly to present the award won by the school in the Anglia in Bloom competition. We met Cllr Johnson Tamara who joined us to present the award. Rev. Rachel Phillips led a small service about positivity. We then got to see the wildlife and growing gardens the pupils had created. It was very impressive. Well deserved and they should be round of winning the best Young Peoples Project across the region of 6 countries. Huge achievement.
Make a difference – BBC 3 counties radio	18.09.24	So many deserving people that give back. So lovely to see Lord Lieutenant and Rachel Hopkins MP in attendance along with the Mayor of Watford. We danced, we sang, we clapped, we cried and we absolutely cheered for those that were nominated – all are winners.

DUNSTABLE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

HELD ON MONDAY 2 SEPTEMBER 2024 FROM 7:00 pm

Present: Councillors Louise O’Riordan (Town Mayor), Sally Kimondo (Deputy Mayor), Liz Jones (Chair), Matthew Neall (Vice-Chair), Gregory Alderman, Robert Blennerhassett, Mark Davis, Peter Hollick, and Nicholas Kotarski.

In Attendance: Gina Thanky (Events Officer), Gill Peck (Youth and Community Manager), Jackie Carrington (Priory House Duty Manager), Georgia Pearson (Democratic Services Manager) Becky Wisbey (Head of Community Services) and Paul Hodson (Town Clerk and Chief Executive)

In Attendance: Annette Clynes (Town Centre Manager)
(Remotely)

Apologies: Councillors Trevor Adams, Wendy Bater and John Gurney

Public: Nil

167/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Hollick declared a non-pecuniary interest in Dunstable Musical Theatre under Agenda Item 8.

168/24 MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings of the Community Services Committee held on 3 June 2024 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

169/24 TOWN CENTRE SERVICES

The Town Centre Manager highlighted the key points of the report to members.

Back in July 2023 there were 28 market stall bookings, in July 2024 there were 56 stall bookings. August was similar with an increase in stall bookings from 2023 to 2024.

The Town Centre Manager gave an update on the Twilight Markets which currently have 24 stall bookings for Friday, 30 stall bookings for Saturday and 22 stall bookings for Sunday.

The Town Centre Manager gave an update to members on progress with plans for a pop-up shop in the Quadrant. Market stall holders were contacted to understand their possible interest in hiring out space in a pop-up shop. Most would be interested depending on the details.

170/24 GROVE CORNER AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Youth and Community Manager summarised the report provided to members.

The Head of Community Services gave members an update on the UKSPF Cultural Project being delivered by NGYT and the BBB Group. Some of the key findings so far include the desire and will to move further with the project and there are lots of opportunities which have been identified. Some queries had been raised about working with the Grove Theatre.

171/24 OLDER PEOPLES' SERVICES

Members noted the report provided which was summarised by the Youth and Community Manager.

Rock and Roll is taking place on 1 October 2024. The tickets went out last week and sold out straight away. Officers are currently creating a waiting list for those who were unable to secure tickets.

172/24 EVENTS

The Events Officer summarised the key points in the report.

The events programme for 2025 provide has been amended slightly. The Motor Rally is now being held on 14 June 2025 to now align with the Dunstable and Leighton Buzzard Truck Convoy as well as the middle row markets planned for 2025. Dunstable Live has been moved to allow for a 2 week gap between the 2 largest events.

Councillor Davis advised officers that east ward residents have queried if Dunstable Rocks could be held within the gap of events in August over the bank holiday weekend. The Town Clerk and Chief Executive highlighted that it had become the Council's practice not to hold events on Bank Holiday weekends due to the additional costs involved and experience of less people attending. The Head of Community Services advised members that some years ago Dunstable Rocks had been ended due to logistical and cost difficulties.

Councillor Jones wondered if Town Council could start to work with Dunstable Musical Theatre to offer them some stability with having one of the Town Council's free uses of Grove Theatre for a period of time to ensure future planning. Members did not make a decision about this approach, preferring to wait for the outcome of the cultural programme and arising recommendations which may be relevant.

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: to approve and allocate Dunstable Musical Theatre Company one of the free uses of Grove Theatre in 2025/26 and to decline the request from the Veterans Foundation.

173/24 PRIORY HOUSE

The Priory House Duty Manager summarised the report provided to members and highlighted key information.

Members were advised that the 6-hour post contracted to Saturdays has now been fulfilled along with 2 new casual staff to help with the events coming up later in the year.

The G&T night for the bank holiday weekend unfortunately was not as successful as hoped, however this may have been due to the weather forecast for that evening preventing the public from attending.

Members were informed that Priory House are looking at hosting their decorating a cake workshop, the charm workshop as well as trying out a Christmas themed tea blending workshop over the Christmas period.

174/24 40TH ANNIVERSARY TOWN CELEBRATIONS

The Head of Community Services summarised key points of the report.

Members discussed in detail the recommendations within the report and,

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: for officers to proceed with planning for the following events as of immediate effect to meet the timescales required: Fortnight of Fun (additional activities) £10,000 and Soap Box Derby £10,000. Officers were also asked to explore the potential opportunities for external funding for these events.

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: for officers to include proposals for the youth festival and shop front decorating kits, with reports for the next committee meeting providing the draft budget for 2025/26.

175/24 REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

South Beds Dial-a-Ride Management Committee – Councillor Peter Hollick

The next meeting will take place in November. A few Sundays ago, a barbecue was held to thank staff and drivers. There had been bus timetable amendments on the day of the meeting; Central Bedfordshire Council have changed some of their routes.

Dunstable Town Band – Councillor Robert Blennerhassett

Nothing to report.

Men in Sheds – Councillor Richard Attwell

The Shed refurbishment has been completed, with the final part the replacement of the windows with modern double-glazed units (funded by DMiS).

The Shed is financially stable, with in excess of £6,000 in the bank at the end of their last financial year. They have been successful in applying for grants for specific purposes from organisations including BLCF, Whitbread and the Co-Op and continue to explore these as opportunities arise.

Men in Sheds continue to support the DTC markets in Ashton Square. These continue to be reasonably successful for the group, demonstrating support from our local community.

Membership remains stable at around 27 members - now including the first lady member.

Men in Sheds continue to make their 'bread and butter' garden and home objects for general sale, largely from recycled timber provided by local companies. They have also undertaken various commissions, including several raised planters for a community garden at a Doctor's Surgery in Luton, a cat ladder for a local resident and a gate for the ex-president of a local Rotary group.

The meeting closed at 8:29 pm

DUNSTABLE TOWN COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GROUNDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
COMMITTEE**

**HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, GROVE HOUSE, HIGH STREET NORTH,
DUNSTABLE**

ON MONDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 2024 FROM 7 pm

Present: Councillors Louise O’Riordan (Town Mayor), Sally Kimondo (Deputy Town Mayor), Richard Attwell (Chair), Trevor Adams, Matthew Brennan, Robert Blennerhassett, Michelle Henderson, Matthew Neall and Johnson Tamara

In Attendance: Councillor Peter Hollick, John Crawley (Head of Grounds and Environmental Services), Dimitrisz Sopisz (Grounds Operations Manager), James Slack (Corporate Performance & Compliance Manager), Lauren Swinnerton (Splash Manager), Mary Dobbs (Cemetery Manager), Katherine Doyle (Parks and Green Space Development Officer) and Georgia Pearson (Democratic Services Manager)

Apologies: Councillors Trevor Adams, Philip Crawley, Mark Davis and Paul Hodson (Town Clerk and Chief Executive)

Public: Nil

176/24 SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no specific declarations of interest

177/24 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of Grounds and Environmental Services Committee held on 10 June 2024 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

178/24 PLANS-SUB COMMITTEE

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meetings of the Plans Sub-Committee held on 10 June 2024, 8 July 2024, 5 August 2024 and 19 August 2024 be received.

179/24 ACTION TRACKER

Members received and noted the updates on actions from previous meetings.

The Splash Manager updated members that now the peak Splash Park season is over, discussions are taking place with the Priory House team to continue working together on selling products across both venues.

180/24 BENNETTS SPLASH PARK

The Splash Manager summarised the report provided to members.

Councillor Brennan asked if the venue could continue to provide a Santa's Grotto as it did last year. The Splash Manager advised that an approach had already been made to an external provider about the idea to encourage some further use of the space.

The Splash Manager gave members an update on the current bookings already scheduled and how the Café will be running throughout the rest of the off-peak season.

Members were advised on a rebranding for the off-peak season noting that the venue will become Bennett's Café and Community Hub. Members were asked to choose between two new branding logos.

181/24 GROUNDS – INFORMATION REPORT

Members received the report circulated.

Cemetery

The Cemetery Manager summarised the report.

The Cemetery working group along with The Cemetery Manager, the Head of Grounds and Environmental Services and the Grounds Operations Manager had visited crematoriums at Bierton, near Aylesbury, and the new Oakfield Gardens, near Flitwick earlier in the day. The visits were very beneficial and both members and officers have come away from the visits with some thought-provoking ideas for future new burial grounds within Dunstable.

Councillor Brennan asked if there was an update on when the Council will hear back from the Environmental Agency regarding the proposed new cemetery land. The Cemetery Manager advised that once they have reviewed the report the Council may receive a report within a minimum of 21 days however this could take longer.

Allotments

The Cemetery Manager summarised the report.

Recreation Grounds – Play Areas

The Grounds Operations Manager summarised the report. It was advised that fortunately there have been no further vandalism incidents since the last report.

Sports Pitches and General Grounds Maintenance

The Grounds Operations Manager updated members on the key parts of the report.

Town Centre and Town Rangers

The Grounds Operations Manager summarised the report.

Green Space Projects

The Parks and Green Space Development Officer summarised the report.

Since writing the Priory Gardens Pergola and knee rail project report, scheduled monument consent had been granted by Historic England. However, unfortunately the Friends of Priory House and Gardens were not successful with their bid for a £20,000 grant from the Awards for All lottery fund. Fortunately, funds are available within approved reserves to complete the project. The public will be made aware before any work starts in Autumn 2024/Winter 2025.

Officers have sought quotes for the refurbishment of the red phone box. Initial quotes have come in over the original budget. Further quotes will be obtained to seek a reduction in costs.

Dunstable achieved another Gold award this year at Anglia in Bloom in the Large Town category. A number of other awards were also given for Dunstable projects and open spaces. Members complimented all those involved.

182/24 MAINTENANCE OF PRIORY CHURCHYARD

The Head of Grounds and Environmental Services summarised the report to members and highlighted the key points.

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: to note the Council's responsibilities associated with maintaining the Priory Churchyard, the current reserve balance and the future contributions which the Council will make

183/24 FRENCHS AVENUE FOOTPATHS

The Grounds Operations Manager updated members on the current situation regarding the Frenchs Avenue footpaths including the shortfall in funding.

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: to continue with the proposed footpath works as originally approved.

To recommend to Full Council the release of a further £11,960 from the Open Space Improvement Plan Reserve.

184/24 40TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

The Head of Grounds and Environmental Services summarised the report to Members. Members discussed each proposal in depth.

Councillor O’Riordan asked if it would be possible to look into pairing the 40 social media posts with handing out packets of seeds that could go out with Talk of the Town to encourage people in the Town to get involved with the celebrations.

ACTION – The Head of Grounds and Environmental Services to investigate further.

Councillor Henderson left the chamber at 8:43pm

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: that officers bring forward the following options to the next Committee meeting: the planting of 40 trees, the planting of 40,000 bulbs and a rose named after Dunstable for inclusion in the draft budget for 2025/26. Members also requested information on a combined tree and bulb planting project.

185/24 SALTING AND GRITTING IN DUNSTABLE

The Head of Grounds and Environmental Services summarised the key points of the report.

Councillor Tamara requested details of the financial implications for the Town Council taking on more responsibilities with gritting and salting the footpaths within Dunstable Town Centre. Members also requested information about any possible risks or liabilities for the Council associated with slip and fall claims.

ACTION – The Head of Grounds and Environmental Services

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: that officers further investigate the options for partnership working with Central Bedfordshire Council including regular salting and gritting of the Town Centre pathways and public areas by the grounds service with a view to providing a further report to this Committee.

186/24 REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

CBC Development Committee – Cllr Nicholas Kotarski

Councillor Kotarski attended the Development Management Committee on Wednesday 26 June 2024 and presented Dunstable Town Councils objections to the proposed redevelopment of the old library site at Vernon Place.

The planning application was nonetheless approved by the committee.

187/24 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: in terms of Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972, the following item will be likely to disclose exempt information relating to establishment and contractual matters and therefore, pursuant to the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 the public and press be excluded.

188/24 DUNSTABLE BOWLS CLUB RELOCATION

The Head of Grounds and Environmental Services gave a verbal update to members.

The meeting closed at 9:23 pm

Full	159/24	24/06/2024	Market Charter	For the working group to meet approximately twice, one to receive a briefing on the current use of the Charter by the Council and the projected impact of any changes and then to review the options and agree a recommended approach to provide to Full Council	Town Clerk and Chief Executive + Head of CS	The Working Group has met once and agreed the scope of a report to be presented to the Community Services Committee on 21 October 2024	Ongoing
Full	160/24	24/06/2024	Transparency Report	Members discussed the monthly surgeries in detail, and suggested advertising more widely as well as asking members of the public how they would like to engage with Members. The Town Clerk and Chief Executive confirmed costs incurred for room hire over the last year totalled £70 for 3 of surgeries, with others being free of charge as well as using Council owned premises. The Town Clerk and Chief Executive suggested that officers could provide Members with posters advertising monthly surgeries where they see fit. □	Marketing and Communications Officer and Democratic Services Manager	This is now complete	Complete

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF DUNSTABLE JOINT COMMITTEE HELD
AT GROVE VIEW, DUNSTABLE ON 5 JUNE 2024 AT 19:00**

Present:

Central Bedfordshire Councillors:

Cllr P Crawley
Cllr Neall
Cllr Young
Cllr Hegley

DTC Councillors:

Cllr Alderman
Cllr Atwell
Cllr Jones
Cllr Kimondo
Cllr O’Riordan

CBC Officers:

Ms S Hobbs
Ms S Hughes
Mr C Martin

DTC Officers

Mr P Hodson
Ms B Wisbey

Outside Body Representatives

J Bowes- Dunstable Cultural Consortium
S Warboys- Don’t let Dunstable Die
S Knott
S Patterson- BRCC

Remote Participants

Cllr Hares – Central Bedfordshire Council

Others in Attendance

Cllr Baker- CBC Executive Member for Finance
Cllr Watkins- CBC Executive Member for Assets and
Housing
Jim Goldsmith – Chief Inspector, Bedfordshire Police

1. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR.

Cllr Hegley was unanimously elected Chair of the Committee

Cllr Alderman was unanimously elected Vice-Chair of the Committee.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

3. TO CONFIRM SECRETARIAT

It was confirmed that Central Bedfordshire Council would continue as Secretariat.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Hegley declared that her husband had a street traders' licence.

Cllr Jones was a member of the Dunstable and Silsoe Hunters Pickleball Club.

5. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Two Members of the Public attended the meeting to speak to the Committee.

Firstly Ms Barbary, owner of a Forrest School, spoke to the Committee about the benefits of Forrest Schools, what they involve and the positive effects they can have on the environment and the people who attend. Ms Barbary asked the Committee for help identifying a piece of land she could operate her school within Dunstable. The Committee expressed support for the school and would contact Officers and relevant executive Members to look into this project.

Secondly, representatives from the Dunstable and Silsoe Hunters Pickleball Club were asking the Committee for help to establish a home ground in Dunstable. The representatives gave an introduction to the sport of pickleball and highlighted its value in promoting the physical and mental well-being of its participants. They informed the Committee that they are a growing club with strong membership but need a designated outdoor space which will allow the club to continue to grow. The Committee were supportive of the club and helped identify some spaces which the club could use, Members agreed to contact the relevant Officer and Executive Members to help with securing a location.

The Executive Member for Assets thanked both speakers for attending the meeting and making their presentations. Although he could not make any decisions at the

meeting, he assured both speakers that he would be in contact with them and would discuss with Officers how best the two speakers could be supported.

6. PARKING FEES AND CHARGES.

The Committee received a verbal update from the Executive Member for Finance about Parking Fees and Charges.

- The Executive Member told the Committee that he was asked by Full Council to consult with the Joint Committees on the Parking Fees and Charges. The Executive Member asked for the Committees views on fees and charges for on street parking and Council Car Parks within Dunstable.
- Members expressed disappointment that they had not been provided with data prior to being asked their views. Members stated it was difficult to provide feedback without being completely clear what they were being asked to comment on.
- It was reported that enforcement of parking restrictions was a major concern in the town, with reports being made of several cars being illegally parked, with little to no enforcement being undertaken.
- It was raised that the Councils Parking Strategy should promote business in the town, and that providing free parking in Council car parks, particularly Ashton square, could help increase footfall in the town.
- Members asked for a detailed report into the figures of parking in the town and it was expressed that a collaborative approach between the Council and the Committee should be taken.
- The Executive Member thanked the Committee for their comments and stated they would feedback to Officers and planned to return to a future meeting.

7. CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair expressed her thanks to Committee for electing her as Chair. The Chair placed on record her thanks for the work undertaken by the outgoing Chair and wished Cllr O’Riordan luck in her new role as Mayor of Dunstable.

8. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting from 14 March 2024 be approved as a true and accurate record.

9. UPDATE FROM THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR BUSINESS, HOUSING AND PUBLIC ASSESTS.

The Committee were provided with a verbal update from the Executive Member for Business, Housing and Public Assets on the strategy for Dunstable.

Points and Comments Included:

- The Executive Member thanked the Committee for inviting him to the meeting and asked members for their views on what was needed to help improve Dunstable and in particular the Town Centre.
- Members asked for an update on Ashton Square and what was happening with the former Wilko site. The Executive Member confirmed that work was ongoing, but he could not comment publicly at this stage.
- Members raised concerns about the management of Ashton Square, with reports that issues are not being dealt with and services such as litter picking, and repairs not being undertaken.
- A Member reported that they had been approached by a national chain interested in renting a vacant property on the high street but had received no reply from the Assets Team when they contacted them.
- The Executive Member expressed concern at these reports and would investigate with the Assets Team. He urged Members to approach him directly with concerns in the future to ensure they are dealt with correctly.
- The Executive Member confirmed that he was attending a meeting with Ward Members and Officers to walk around Ashton Square and other areas in the Town and invited Members of the Committee to join the meeting.

NOTED

The verbal update from the Executive Member for Business, Housing and Public Assets.

10. DUNSTABLE JOINT COMMITTEE FUNDING.

The Committee received a report asking for approval of the criteria and process of spending budget following the recommendation of the DJC Working Group.

Points and Comments Included:

- The DJC Working Group had met to discuss how the funding available to the committee would be spent and formed criteria to be applied to applications.
- It was confirmed that applications would be reviewed by Officers before a report is brought before the committee.
- Applications for funding should be town wide and support the 2050 vision, proposals should enhance the sense of pride in Dunstable.
- It was confirmed that one off and pilot schemes could be considered under this criterion.
- In response to a question, it was confirmed that previous applications received before this criterion was formed would still be considered.

RESOLVED

That the criteria and process of spending budget associated with Dunstable Joint Committee be accepted.

11.CO-OPTED OR OUTSIDE BODIES UPDATE.

The Committee received a report on the findings of the Working Group on co-option and representation of outside bodies on Dunstable Joint Committee.

NOTED

The Report on the findings of the Working Group in Co-Option and Outside Body representation.

RESOLVED

That Officers invite the Outside bodies highlighted in Appendix B of the report to join Dunstable Joint Committee as co-opted Members.

12. BEDFORDSHIRE POLICE UPDATE REPORT.

The Committee received a report from Bedfordshire Police on matters relating to the locality.

Points and Comments included:

- The Bedfordshire Police representative provided a detailed summary of the report to Members.
- Recent successes such as convictions and new operations were highlighted to the Committee.
- It was reported that a dedicated off-road motorcycle team had been formed to target the issue of nuisance bikers and contained 9 trained Officers.
- Concerns were raised about dangerous and illegal parking on the high street and Officers were asked to take action. It was confirmed that this was not an issue Bedfordshire Police could devote resources to and it was a matter for Council Enforcement to deal with.
- Members raised concerns about the format of the data included in the report and the Police representative confirmed that they would investigate making the data more user friendly and accessible.

NOTED

The Bedfordshire Police Update Report.

12. DUNSTABLE TOWN COUNCIL UPDATE REPORT.

The Committee received an update on activities being undertaken by Dunstable Town Council.

Points and Comments included:

- The Shopwatch scheme was highlighted to the Committee, and it was confirmed all shops in the town centre could become members, not just those located in the Quadrant.
- It was confirmed that the benches in the square will be removed and replaced with a single bench. It was reported that this will help reduce anti-social behaviour in the area.
- The final water refill station provided by the UKSPF would be installed in Ashton Square.
- The work of the detached youth workers was highlighted, and members were encouraged to contact DTC with any areas that could be added to the scheme.

NOTED

The Dunstable Town Council Update Report.

13. CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL UPDATE REPORT

The Committee received an update on activities being undertaken by Central Bedfordshire Council.

Points and Comments Included:

- The Committee were provided with a summary of the actions contained within the report.
- An update was provided on the state of UKSPF funding, and it was confirmed that 91 thousand pounds would be used to bring improvements to Dunstable Town Centre.
- It was reported that the format of the report would change for future meetings, with links provided to upcoming CBC Meetings and decisions to allow greater input from the DJC. Members expressed their support at this change.

NOTED

The Central Bedfordshire Council Update Report.

14. WORKPLAN

RESOLVED

That the workplan contained within appendix a of the report be accepted.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was Confirmed that the next meeting of Dunstable Joint Committee would take place on Thursday 19 September 2024 at Grove View.

DUNSTABLE TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING OF FULL COUNCIL
MONDAY 30 SEPTEMBER 2024
NEW CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2025/26

Purpose of Report: For members to approve the new calendar of meetings for year 2025/26
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1 ACTION RECOMMENDED

- 1.1 That the new calendar of meetings for the year 2025/26 be approved (enclosed at Appendix 1).

2 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 Please note that the new calendar of meetings does include the Plans-Sub Committee dates continuing to be on Mondays at 6:30 pm.
- 2.2 Dunstable Joint Committee dates have not been added as we do not know these dates at present. Once confirmed these will be added and updated accordingly.
- 2.3 Once these dates have been approved, the Democratic Services Manager will add them to Councillor's electronic diaries.

3 AUTHOR

Georgia Pearson – Democratic Services Manager
Email – democratic@dunstable.gov.uk

TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS CALENDAR 2025 / 2026**ALL MEETINGS COMMENCE AT 7.00pm UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED**

Day	Time	Date	Meeting
Monday	7.00 pm	19/05/2025	Annual Council Meeting
Monday	6.30 pm	02/06/2025	Plans Sub-Committee
Monday	7.00 pm	02/06/2025	Community Services Committee
Thursday	7.00 pm	05/06/2025	Personnel Sub-Committee
Monday	7.00 pm	09/06/2025	Grounds and Environmental Services Committee
Monday	7.00 pm	16/06/2025	Finance and General Purposes Committee
Monday	6.30 pm	23/06/2025	Plans Sub-Committee
Monday	7.00 pm	23/06/2025	Full Council
Monday	6.30 pm	07/07/2025	Plans Sub-Committee
Monday	6.30 pm	28/07/2025	Plans Sub-Committee
Monday	6.30 pm	18/08/2025	Plans Sub-Committee
Monday	7.00 pm	08/09/2025	Community Services Committee
Thursday	7.00 pm	11/09/2025	Personnel Sub-Committee
Monday	7.00 pm	15/09/2025	Grounds and Environmental Services Committee
Monday	6.30 pm	15/09/2025	Plans Sub-Committee
Monday	7.00 pm	22/09/2025	Finance and General Purposes Committee
Monday	6.30 pm	06/10/2025	Plans Sub-Committee
Monday	7.00 pm	06/10/2025	Full Council
Monday	6.30 pm	27/10/2025	Plans Sub-Committee
Monday	7.00 pm	03/11/2025	Community Services Committee
Thursday	7.00 pm	06/11/2025	Personnel Sub-Committee
Monday	7.00 pm	10/11/2025	Grounds and Environmental Services Committee
Monday	7.00 pm	17/11/2025	Finance and General Purposes Committee
Monday	6.30 pm	17/11/2025	Plans Sub-Committee
Monday	7.00 pm	01/12/2025	Full Council
Monday	6.30 pm	08/12/2025	Plans Sub-Committee
Monday	6.30 pm	05/01/2026	Plans Sub-Committee
Monday	7.00 pm	12/01/2026	Community Services Committee
Thursday	7.00 pm	15/01/2026	Personnel Sub-Committee
Monday	7.00 pm	19/01/2026	Grounds and Environmental Services Committee
Monday	7.00 pm	26/01/2026	Finance and General Purposes Committee
Monday	6.30 pm	02/02/2026	Plans Sub-Committee
Monday	7.00 pm	09/02/2026	Full Council
Monday	6.30 pm	23/02/2026	Plans Sub-Committee
Monday	7.00 pm	02/03/2026	Community Services Committee
Thursday	7.00 pm	05/03/2026	Personnel Sub-Committee
Monday	7.00 pm	09/03/2026	Grounds and Environmental Services Committee
Monday	6.30 pm	16/03/2026	Plans Sub-Committee
Monday	7.00 pm	16/03/2026	Finance and General Purposes Committee
Monday	7.00 pm	23/03/2026	Annual Town Meeting
Monday	7.00 pm	30/03/2026	Full Council
Monday	6.30 pm	13/04/2026	Plans Sub-Committee
Monday	6.30 pm	11/05/2026	Plans Sub-Committee
Monday	7.00 pm	18/05/2024	Annual Council Meeting
Monday	6.30 pm	08/06/2026	Plans Sub-Committee

DUNSTABLE TOWN COUNCIL

FULL COUNCIL

MONDAY 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

**REFERRAL REPORT FROM GROUNDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
COMMITTEE**

<p>Purpose of Report: To consider and approve a recommendation made by the Grounds and Environmental Services Committee on 9 September 2024.</p>

1. SPENDING PROPOSALS

1.1 At the meeting Members received a report requesting approval for additional funding over and above that previously approved to undertake footpath improvements and repairs at Frenchs Avenue Open Space.

1.2 RESOLVED:

To recommend to Full Council the release of a further £11,960 from the Open Spaces Improvement Plan Reserve.

Minute Number (183/24)

2 AUTHOR

2.1 John Crawley
Head of Grounds and Environmental Services
john.crawley@dunstable.gov.uk