**Minutes of the Meeting of Bury St Edmunds Town Council,
held at the Guildhall, Bury St Edmunds,
on Wednesday 28 October 2026 at 7pm**

Present: Cllrs Higgins (Town Mayor), Hind (Deputy Mayor), Armitage, Chung, Iannelli-Popham, Mager, O'Driscoll, Sayer and Stamp

Also present: Nicola Whittle (Responsible Financial Officer/Assistant Town Clerk), Jessica Warn – Healthy Homes Advisor, Mark Cordell and Sue Warren – BID, Nigel Wolstenholme – RBL. One member of public.

1. To receive apologies for absence
Apologies were received from Cllr's Augustine, Lindberg, Mackenzie, McGoochan, Stennett and Waterman, PCSO's Mark Ellis and Jo Whiting. No apologies were received from Cllr Halpin.

2. To receive declarations of interest, additions to register and any gifts or hospitality received.
All District Councillors declared: `*That I may vote differently at District or County Council level from that recorded at this meeting'*. Cllrs Armitage, Chung, Higgins, Hind, Mager, O'Driscoll, Sayer and Stamp declared a local non-pecuniary interest as District Councillors. Councillor Stamp also declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 10.

3. To consider written applications by a member for dispensation, from the restrictions in section 31(4) of the Localism Act 2011 and specify the period for which any dispensation has effect
None.

4. To confirm, adopt and sign the minutes from the Full Council held on 23 September 2026
Resolution Record No. **BSETC/538/28/October/26**
RESOLVED that the Full Council minutes from the meeting held on 23 September 2026 be agreed and signed, as an accurate record. The vote was unanimous.

5. Public Forum
No members of public spoke.

6. Mayor's announcements
The Mayor, Cllr Higgins advised Members that the Mayoral team had attended the following events representing the Town Council:

- County Harvest Festival in the Cathedral
- Sextons Manor School – Bake off and Cake sale
- Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal Launch
- Multicultural Women's Group – Taste of cultural event.

7. Town Clerk's report
The Town Clerk advised that the office continued to be busy and advised members of the following:

- Fireworks in the Abbey Gardens on Saturday 07 November. Gates open at 5pm with the display at 7.30pm.
- 2 minutes silence on the 11 November on Angel Hill. Please let the Clerk know if you are attending and would like to lay a wreath.
- The Christmas Light event will take place on the 19 November from 3pm – 8pm.
- The office sent an email to all councillors regarding EV Charging Points in Bury. Unfortunately, there wasn't time to take to planning. Cllr O'Driscoll had looked as the proposals were in his ward. He was happy.

8. To note the PCSO's report
Unfortunately, the PCSO'S were unable to attend, so no report was given.

9. Healthy Homes Advisor
Jessica Warn, the Healthy Homes advisor at West Suffolk explained the importance of spreading awareness of energy efficiency and the importance of improving your property.
Resolution Record No. **BSETC/539/28/October/26**
RESOLVED that Jessica be thanked for attending. She will liaise with Housing Associations and Resident groups.

10. Bury St Edmunds and Beyond
Mark Cordell and Sue Warren from Bury St Edmunds and Beyond requesting the town council to continue support them with funding of £35,000 in the financial years 2027/28 and 2028/29.
Resolution Record No. **BSETC/540/28/October/26**
RESOLVED that Bury St Edmunds and Beyond be awarded £35,000 for the years 2027/28 and 2028/29 in the budget and agreed this payment per annum. Vote was unanimous.

11. To receive the report and adopt the recommendations of the Planning Licensing and Finance Committee meetings:
11.1 23 September 2026
11.2 14 October 2026
Resolution Record No. **BSETC/541/28/October/26**
RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning, Licensing and Finance committee meetings held on 23 September and 14 October 2026 be **ADOPTED**. The vote was unanimous.

12. Increase in Allotment Rent
This item was deferred until a future meeting.

13. To approve the payment of an Abbeycroft invoice for up to £14,840.04 for the Youth Work Service Level agreement from October to December [as agreed in the budget]. As Abbeycroft were unable to fulfil their commitment in August and September, this invoice will be a lower amount.
Resolution Record No. **BSETC/542/28/October/26**
RESOLVED to approve payment up to £14,840.04 to Abbeycroft for their youth work.
8 voted in favour of this, and 1 was abstained.

14. To note Responsible Financial Officer's report
Members were advised that the budget will provisionally be discussed by the Planning and Finance Committee before being presented to full council at the end of November.
Resolution Record No. **BSETC/543/28/October/26**
Report noted.

15. Date of next meeting Wednesday 25 November 2026

The meeting ended at 7.40pm

Signed: _____ Dated _____

DRAFT