

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL RESIDENTS' TOWN MEETING FOR BURY ST EDMUNDS  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 19 MARCH 2025 AT 7.30PM  
AT THE GUILDHALL, BURY ST EDMUNDS**

The meeting was preceded by an informal assembly allowing members of the public to meet with representatives from many local groups and societies.

**PRESENT:**

**Town Councillors:** Cllrs Hind (Mayor) Cllr Higgins (Deputy Mayor) Chung, Iannelli-Popham, Mager and Waterman

**West Suffolk Councillor** Jo Rayner

**Suffolk County Councillor** Richard Rout

**Representatives from:** Abbeycroft Leisure, Bury Abbey Rotary, Bury in Bloom, Bury Drop In, BSE BID, BSE Deaf & Hard of Hearing, Bury Film Society, Bury Town Trust, Crafty Foxes, Fair Trade Partnership, Feelgood Suffolk, Moreton Hall Residents Association, River Lark Catchment Partnership, Royal British Legion, Southgate Community Centre, Theatre Royal, West Suffolk Stillbirth and Neonatal Death Charity, PCSO's Mark Ellis and Jo Whiting and members of the public.

**Town Council staff:** Jodie Budd (Town Clerk), Jacqueline Howells (Assistant Town Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer) and Beverley Kipling (Civic Projects Assistant)

**1. WELCOME BY THE MAYOR CLLR HIND**

Cllr Hind welcomed everyone to the meeting and congratulated both Councillors and Council Officers on a very successful year.

Cllr Hind thanked everyone who attended and supported her first Civic Service held on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March. It has been a very busy Mayoral year with Councillor Hind representing the Town Council at numerous events in Bury St Edmunds and beyond.

**2. TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING HELD ON 13 MARCH 2024**

The minutes from the meeting on 13 March 2024 were approved and signed as a correct record.

**3. REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE COUNCIL – TOWN CLERK**

'It's wonderful to see so many of you here. I can't believe it's a been a year since our last meeting. Since I started last year, I have had the privilege to meet so many people. To me, Bury St Edmunds has the biggest community spirit. Everyone willing to work together to make Bury a better place for our residents and tourists.

As a town council we have supported many charities and organisations with grant funding, both from our general pot but also Councillors using their locality budgets.

As you will see from the speakers later, we have supported new organisations this year, which is really great. We continue to encourage previous and new groups to apply.

We continue to work closely with Abbeycroft Leisure to fund a youth outreach worker. Part of their role is to assist at the weekly Teen Chill event held at the Newbury Centre.

The Town Council has a new website. Please forward to us details of any events you are holding. We will happily advertise them on our website and Facebook pages.

Before they give their report, I would just like to thank our two PCSO's Mark and Jo for the wonderful support they give our town.'

#### **4. REPORT FROM PCSO'S MARK ELLIS AND JO WHITING**

PCSO's Mark Ellis and Jo Whiting, who are both funded by Bury St Edmunds Town Council, attended the meeting to give an annual report on their activities.

Throughout the year they have been co-ordinating with local groups, retailers and engaging with the general public to target problem areas and address public disorder issues.

Bury St Edmunds remains a very safe place to live and work and the PCSO's attend the monthly Full Council meetings to update Councillors on any matters of concern.

Any member of public is welcome to attend the monthly Town Council meetings to report any problems or they can be reported by email or telephone to the Town Clerk who will pass the information onto the Police.

#### **5. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COMMUNITY GROUPS, TOWN ORGANISATIONS AND RECIPIENTS OF TOWN COUNCIL FUNDING**

Representatives from the following organisations presented reports about their activities during the previous year: Bury St Edmunds BID, Bury Drop In/Smoke Free Generation project, Bury Film Society, BSE Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Bury in Bloom sub group of the Bury Society, Churchgate Area Association, Crafty Foxes, Mildenhall Residents Association, Moreton Hall Residents Association, Royal British Legion and River Lark Catchment Partnership,

#### **6. OPEN FORUM – RESIDENTS MAY RAISE ANY MATTER RELATING TO THE TOWN**

Town, District and County Councillors were able to respond to questions raised by members of the public.

#### **7. CONCLUDING REMARKS – DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Mayor and Town Clerk thanked everyone for attending and were looking forward to another successful year.

Members of public are very welcome to attend the monthly Town Council meetings in person, or the Town Clerk and Town Councillors can be contacted by email.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Dated: \_\_\_\_\_