

ANNUAL TOWNS' MEETING

Minutes of the Annual Towns' Meeting held on 15th May 2025 at 6pm
held at the Baptist Church Hall, College Street, Burnham-on-Sea, TA8 1AR

Attendees Cllr Perry - Mayor, 11 Councillors the Town Clerk, Deputy Clerk and
Responsible Finance Officer and 5 members of the public,

1. Introductions and welcome from the Mayor, Councillor Sharon Perry

Councillor Perry welcomed members of the public to the meeting and introduced all the Councillors.

2. Official noting of the Town Councillor apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Searing.

3. To receive and approve the Minutes of the Annual Towns' Meeting of 16th April 2024

The minutes of the Annual Towns' Meeting held on the 18th April 2024 were received, approved and duly signed by the Mayor.

(one member of the public entered at this juncture)

4. To receive a report from the Police

The written report was provided to all attendees. Copy attached.

Councillor Millard raised concerns of the lack of PCs and PCSO's.

The Mayor has asked the Town Clerk to arrange a meeting with Inspector Knight to discuss staffing and other issues relating to the towns.

5. Presentation of Annual Reports 2024-25

The Mayor read her annual report.

A copy of reports from the Mayor, Town Clerk, Responsible Finance Officer and Committee Chairs were provided to all attendees. Copy attached.

(Councillor Flurry entered at this juncture)

Signed by Chair..... Date.....

6. Open Forum

A number of members of the public raised questions. All residents who wished to speak were residents within the Town.

The issues raised were:

- *Illegal selling of tobacco.*

The Mayor confirmed she would raise this issue with the police.

- *There are a number of potholes within the towns that need filling.*

It was confirmed that these would need to be reported to the Somerset Highways via the Somerset website.

- *The pavements are uneven.*
- *There are a number of posts with blank metal signs that need removing.*
- *A number of white lines need repainting.*
- *The drains at South Street and Victoria Street cause flooding across the roads.*

The Mayor confirmed she would take a walk with the resident to take note of these issues and put forward to Somerset Council.

- *The Town Council committee meetings calendar has an error.*

The Mayor confirmed this would be rectified.

- *A member of the public asked for an update on the refurbishment of the Council Chambers and car park access.*

The Town Clerk confirmed an update would be given at Council in June.

- *Roadworks removing pavement access and no accessibility in place for mobility users.*

Councillor Hendry confirmed he would take this forward.

- *A member of the public expressed there were not enough toilets available at events held in the town.*

Councillor Gudka said he would pass on the feedback to future event organisers.

Signed by Chair..... Date.....

- *Query regarding how the figures are presented for the net cost for the Princess Theatre.*

Councillor Gudka stated the Council would look at how it is presented for next years report. A full set of accounts would be presented to Council in June.

- *A resident queried if it right for a local authority to operate the Theatre?*

This was reviewed and considered by the Council approximately 18 months ago. It was voted on and the decision to continue to operate the theatre and appoint an inhouse Manager was agreed.

7. Town Mayor's closing remarks and thanks

The Mayor thanked all those who attended.

Signed by Chair..... Date.....