



Notice of the next Council Meeting

Members of the Public and the Press are invited to attend all Council Meetings
(Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960)

Dear Councillors,

You are hereby summoned to attend the following meeting:

Meeting of... Finance and Policy Executive Meeting

Place... Bridgwater Room
Date... Monday, January 8, 2024
Time... 13:00

Councillors will be discussing all the items listed overleaf on the Agenda.

Yours faithfully

David Mears

David Mears FdA FSLCC

Town Clerk

2 January 2024

(Prior to the start of the meeting)

Questions and comments from members of the public

This provides an opportunity for members of the public (who are not usually permitted to speak during the meeting except by special invitation of the Chairman) to participate before the start of the meeting by asking questions, raising concerns, or making comments on matters affecting Bridgwater. No decision can be taken during this session¹, but the Chairman may decide to refer any matters raised for further consideration.

¹N.B Councils cannot lawfully decide items of business that is not specified in the summons/agenda (LGA1972 Sch 12, paras 10(2)(b) and Longfield Parish Council v Wright (1918) 88 LJ Ch 119).

Under the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014, any members of the public are allowed to take photographs, film, and audio record the proceedings and report on all public meetings (including on social media). No prior notification is needed but it would be helpful to let the office know of any plans to film or record so that any necessary arrangements can be made to provide reasonable facilities to report on meetings. This permission does not extend to private meetings or parts of meetings which are not open to the public. All recording and photography equipment should be taken away if a public meeting moves into a session which is not open to the Public.

If you are recording the meeting, you are asked to act in a reasonable manner and not disrupt the conduct of meetings, for example by using intrusive lighting, flash photography or asking people to repeat statements for the benefit of the recording. You may not make an oral commentary during the meeting. The Chairman has the power to control public recording and/or reporting so it does not disrupt the meeting. Recording must be clearly visible to anyone at the meeting

A G E N D A

FEC2024/1 - To receive Apologies for Absence and to approve the reasons given

FEC2024/2 - Declarations of interests

Members to declare any interests, including Disclosable Pecuniary Interests they may have in agenda items that accord with the requirements of the Town Council's Code of Conduct and to consider any prior requests from members for Dispensations that accord with Localism Act 2011 s33(b-e) (NB this does not preclude any later declarations)

FEC2024/3 - Minutes

To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the Finance and Policy Executive Committee Meeting held on Monday 20 November 2023 (LGA 1972 sch 12, para 41(1))

FEC2024/4 - To note the Action List

FEC2024/5 - To receive and discuss the draft budget (awaiting street cleaning figures) for 2024/25.

Please note staffing items of the budget will be discussed under agenda item FEC2024/7

FEC2024/6 - Resolve to exclude members of the press and public

To agree that agenda item FEC2024/7 be dealt with after the public (including the press) have been excluded as publicity would prejudice the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

FEC2024/7 - To receive and discuss the draft budget - staffing and TUPE costs
(awaiting street cleaning figures, job evaluations and benchmarking)

FEC2024/8 - To receive the organisational staffing review report for Bridgwater Town Council

and to discuss and consider the adoption of the 12 recommendations contained therein.

FEC2024/9 - Date of the next meeting

Monday 12th February

End of Agenda

Committee Members:

Brian Smedley (Chair), Dave Loveridge, Irena Hubble, Jacqui Solomon, Kathy Pearce, Liz Marsh, Mick Lerry, Tim Mander, Liz Leavy (Ex-Officio), Gill Slocombe (Ex-Officio)