

# Gainsborough Town Council

Richmond House, Richmond Park, Morton Terrace

Gainsborough, Lincolnshire, DN21 2RJ

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## FULL COUNCIL MINUTES

Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on **Tuesday 3 December 2024** at **6:30pm** in the Ceremony room, Richmond House, Richmond Park, Morton Terrace, Gainsborough, DN21 2RJ.

**Councillors Present:** Councillor Kenneth Woolley (Chair)

Councillor Nigel Bowler  
Councillor Richard Craig  
Councillor Michael Devine  
Councillor Richard Doy  
Councillor Paul Key

Councillor Nicholas Coxon  
Councillor Dennis Dannatt  
Councillor David Dobbie  
Councillor Paul Hooton  
Councillor James Plastow

**In Attendance:**

Rachel Allbones

Stephen Coulman

Town Clerk

Operations Manager

Also Present:

One member of the public

### Open Forum Public participation

A member of the public requested that a memorial tree or something along those lines for volunteers who have passed, and recognition for volunteers.

### FC25/117 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors C Davies, S Morley.

### FC25/118 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were made.

### FC25/119 Dispensation Requests

No dispensation requests were received.

### FC25/120 Items for Exclusion of Public and Press

No items for the exclusion of public and press.

### FC25/121 Community Emergency Planning

Presentation deferred until a future meeting, as they were unable to send a representative.

### FC25/122 Minutes of the Previous Meeting (Paper A)

Initialled:

Full Council minutes 2024-25

**RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday 20 November 2024 be approved as a as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chair.

Note: Councillors Bowler and Hooton abstained from voting on the above resolution.

### **FC25/123 Committee Meeting Minutes (Papers B - E)**

- i. Property and Services Committee, Tuesday 12 November 2024 Paper B
- ii. Personnel Committee, Wednesday 13 November 2024 Paper C
- iii. Planning Committee, Tuesday 19 November 2024 Paper D
- iv. Finance and Strategy Committee, Tuesday 26 November 2024 Paper E

**RESOLVED:** to **NOTE** the draft minutes of the Committees.

### **FC25/124 Announcements (Paper F)**

- i. Chair of Council

The Chair informed Members of the memorial tree planting for the former Mayor Tim Davies, the success of the Charity Christmas Ball to raise money for local palliative care, attendance at both Scotter Ward and Ferndene Care Home opening of their palliative care suits.

- ii. Leader of Council

The Leader informed Members of his attendance with the Town Clerk and Operations Manager at the Community Emergency Planning engagement session. Also the outgoing Operations Manager was thanked for hard work.

- iii. Representatives on Outside Bodies

Councillor Craig reported that the Community Rail Partnership were working on art at the railway stations.

- iv. Town Clerk

**RESOLVED:** to **NOTE** the Town Clerk's report.

### **FC25/125 Committee Vacancies (Paper G)**

- i. **RESOLVED:** to appoint Councillor Hooton as a substitute to the Planning Committee.

### **FC25/126 Civility and Respect Pledge (Paper H)**

**RESOLVED:** to sign up to the Civility and Respect Pledge and agree to the following statements:

- Our Council has agreed that it will treat all Councillors, Town Clerk and all employees, members of the public, representatives of partner organisations, and volunteers, with civility and respect in their role.
- Our Council has put in place a training programme for Councillors and staff.
- Our Council has signed up to Code of Conduct for Councillors.
- Our Council has good governance arrangements in place including, staff contracts, and a dignity at work policy.
- Our Council will commit to seeking professional help in the early stages should civility and respect issues arise.

- Our Council will commit to calling out bullying and harassment when it happens.
- Our Council will continue to learn from best practice in the sector and aspire to being a role model/champion council e.g., via the Local Council Award Scheme
- Our Council supports the continued lobbying for the change in legislation to support the Civility and Respect Pledge, including sanctions for elected members where appropriate.

Note: Councillors Coxon, Dannatt, Devine and Key voted against the above resolution.

Note: Councillor Craig abstained from voting on the above resolution.

**FC25/127 Enabling remote attendance and proxy voting at local authority meetings consultation (Paper I)**

**RESOLVED:** to complete the consultation document as individuals, but respond NO as a Council under **Question 10** *In addition to provisions allowing for remote attendance, do you consider that it would be helpful to introduce proxy voting?*

**FC25/128 Correspondence (Paper J)**

**RESOLVED:** to **NOTE** the correspondence circulated.

**FC25/129 Items for Notification**

- Community Emergency Planning
- 2025/26 Budget
- LWL Parish Council Engagement Session - 14th January 2024

**FC25/130 Time and Date of Next Meeting**

**RESOLVED:** to **NOTE** the date and time of the next Full Council meeting scheduled for Tuesday 7 January 2025 at 6:30pm at Richmond House, Morton Terrace.

The meeting closed at 7:49pm.

Signed as a true record of the Meeting: \_\_\_\_\_ Dated \_\_\_\_\_  
Presiding chairman of approving meeting