

BANBURY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Banbury Town Council held at **6:30pm on Tuesday 23 September 2025** at the Town Hall, Banbury.

Present: Councillors Mallon (Town Mayor) and Okeke (Deputy Town Mayor).
Councillors: Beere, Biegel, Brant, Cherry, Clarke, Crichton, Dhesi, Eaton, Elugwu, Harwood, Hussain, Mears, Richards, Stansfield, Strangwood, Urwick, Vaitkus and Woodward.

Officers: Mark Hassall (Town Clerk & RFO)
Paul Almond (Director of Environment and Deputy Clerk)
Helen Durkin (Executive Officer)

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Creed and Thornhill

Members of the Public: 1

BTC.41/25 Declarations of Interest

None

BTC.42/25 Minutes of the Last Meeting

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 17 June 2025 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Town Mayor.

BTC.43/25 Communications

IT WAS RESOLVED to receive and note communications. This included;

- Receiving the news of the loss of former Town Councillor and Mayor Gordon Ross, members showed their respects by way of several tributes and a one minute silence was held.
- Councillor Mallon informed members that he saved artefacts that belonged to Banbury Town Council from Bodicote House, now that it is no longer in use by Cherwell District Council, these items were the Borough Mayor's Oak Chair and a large black and white Aerial photograph of "Banbury Borough Circa 1971".
- The question was raised by the Mayor to the Leader of the Council, Councillor Hussain, that a review of the mayoral chain be made and whether a high quality replica chain be made and the official one be kept in the museum and only used for major events. Councillor Hussain will respond in full at the next full council meeting.

BTC.44/25 Questions – Elected Members and Members of the Public

None

BTC.45/25 Planning Committee

It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 14 May, 11 June, 16 July, 13 August and 10 September 2025 be received by Councillor Beere and seconded by Councillor Woodward.

BTC.46/25 General Services Committee

It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the General Services Committee meeting held on 26 August 2025, be received by Councillor Cherry and seconded by Councillor Biegel.

BTC.47/25 Resources Committee

It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Resources Committee meeting held on 02 September 2025, be received by Councillor Hussain and seconded by Councillor Eaton.

It was **RESOLVED** to reaffirm Banbury Town Council's commitment to the Twinning agreement between the two towns of Hennef and Banbury. Proposed by Councillor Hussain and seconded by Councillor Eaton.

BTC.48/25 External Audit

IT WAS RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

BTC.49/25 Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Accounting Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025 be approved and be signed on behalf of the Council by Councillor Hussain and the RFO.

BTC.50/25 Resolutions Moved on Notice

IT WAS RESOLVED that Resolution No 69 to be moved by Councillor Mallon, and seconded by Councillor Hussain be noted;

"Banbury Town Council thank The Banbury Hive for their recent presentation to Banbury Town Council concerning its proposal for the Banbury Hive at Castle Quay Banbury.

Whilst Banbury Town Council has no influence over the management of Castle Quay, we recognise the number of empty units at the centre and the loss of income Cherwell District Council is experiencing.

Therefore the proposal by The Banbury Hive to set up a social enterprise in Castle Quay would help Cherwell District Council financially by saving business rates to reinvest in Castle Quay, improve the social value of Castle Quay as a destination and assist Cherwell District Council in meeting the objectives of its corporate plan to foster economic centres, promote economic prosperity and to work closely with partners to foster shared solutions .

This council therefore undertakes to write to Cherwell district Council to urge it to work with The Banbury Hive to achieve its stated aims in its Corporate Plan."

The resolution was unanimously accepted by members.

The Meeting ended at 7:00pm