

Salisbury City Council

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SALISBURY
CITY COUNCIL



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Minutes

Meeting of : Full Council
Date : 9 March 2026
Meeting held in : The Guildhall, Salisbury
Commencing at : 1830 hours

Present:

Chair: Cllr J Wells

Vice Chair: Cllr A Bayliss

Cllrs P Beaven, J Bolwell, M Brown, S Charleston, V Charleston, B Dalton, S Foster, A Hoque, S Hocking, R Johnson, J Nettle, T Last, V Milos, P Podger, A Riddle, E Rimmer, S Rideout, R Rogers, A Suddards and C Taylor.

Officers: Asa Thorpe, Steve Bishop, Louise Webber, Andrew Hunt and Clare Dickinson.

There were 3 members of the public and 2 members of the press present.

Cllr A Hoque left at 2103 hours

Cllr T Last left at 2114 hours

1. Apologies:

Apologies were received from Cllr P Sample and Cllr C Corbin.

2. Public Questions/Statement Time:

There were no questions or statements submitted by members of the public.

3. Councillor Questions/Statement Time:

Cllr Taylor submitted the following question:

Wiltshire Council intend to increase Car Parking Charges and amend the operating hours from 7am to 7pm with full charging being applied to Sundays which will have a

negative impact on local residents and business as explained in the recent email from Salisbury & District Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Is the Administration for or against these changes? What have they already done to object to these changes and will they undertake to discuss with the Wiltshire Council Administration keeping Salisbury Car Park operating hours unchanged?

The question was deferred to agenda Item 19.

4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

The minutes of the Extraordinary Full Council meeting held on 3 February 2026 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

The minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 10 November 2025, previously approved on 12 January 2026, corrected Resolution 17.2 to now read:

The Council agreed that all future audit reports continue to be formally received by The Finance committee, with any observations to be referred to Full Council.

5. Declarations of Interest:

No declarations of interest were received.

6. Dispensations:

No dispensations were requested or granted.

7. Chair's Announcements:

The Council paused to note the anniversary of the Salisbury Novichok incident and recognised the resilience of the city and emergency services.

8. Administration Leader Announcements:

The Administration Leader referred to current topics including Salisbury 800 and the Wiltshire Council car parking proposals.

It was reported that the relevant Wiltshire Council Cabinet Member had been invited to attend a public meeting in Salisbury on the parking issue.

9. Changes to Committee Memberships:

No changes to committee memberships were reported.

10. Referral of Minutes:

Minutes taken since the Full Council meeting on 12 January 2026 were considered:

Finance Committee

5 January 2026

Planning Committee	19 January 2026
Commercial Services	2 February 2026
Community Services	9 February 2026
Planning Committee	16 February 2026
Finance Committee	23 February 2026

These were taken as read and noted.

11. Update from Outside Representatives:

The Council received verbal updates from representatives covering the Disability Interest Group Salisbury, the Allotment Association, Wiltshire Creative, Salisbury Museum, the Bus Partnership, the Salisbury Conservation Area Panel, the Local Highways and Footpaths Improvement Group, and the Environment Action Group. Matters raised included accessibility support and advocacy, allotment occupancy and management matters, conservation and heritage issues, local highways matters including changes to 20mph policy, and meeting arrangements for the Environment Action Group.

Resolved that:

11.1 The Council notes the updates.

12. Outside Representatives Nominations - Flood Co-ordinator:

The Council considered nominations for the role of Flood Co-ordinator.

Proposed: Cllr Taylor

Seconded: Cllr Last

A vote was taken, and it was

Resolved that:

12.1 Cllr S Hocking be appointed as Flood Coordinator.

The Council considered nominations for the role of Deputy Flood Co-ordinator.

Proposed: Cllr Hoque

Seconded: Cllr S Charleston

A vote was taken, and it was

Resolved that:

12.2 Cllr V Charleston be appointed as Deputy Flood Coordinator.

13. Budget Monitoring Report for 2025/26 Month 10:

The Responsible Finance Officer, Steve Bishop, reported a month 10 underspend of £842,000, but advised that this was affected by accounting adjustments, including the reversal of a previous dilapidation's accrual, and by an estimated HMRC VAT liability. Council was advised that the year-end position was therefore likely to be significantly less favourable than the headline month 10 figure suggested.

Resolved that:

- 13.1 The Council notes the financial position at the end of January, Officers' explanations for the variances over £50,000, the estimated VAT liability and the consequential uncertainty of the outturn position.

14. CIL Working Group Report:

Council received the report of the CIL Working Group.

It was noted that further clarification was required regarding the possible 5% administration fee, and that the scoring matrix may require refinement to ensure alignment with legal and policy requirements. A factual correction was also made that Pride in Place related to Bemerton rather than Bemerton Heath.

The Council discussed governance, scoring, application arrangements and the need to begin operating a process while allowing for later review.

Proposed: Cllr Last

Seconded: Cllr Riddle

A vote was taken, and it was:

Resolved that:

- 14.1 The Council approves the work of CIL monies is included in the responsibilities of the Communities Committee and Head of Community Services.
- 14.2 The Council agrees for an online portal application process.
- 14.3 The Council agrees that applications are received and considered twice yearly – March and September.
- 14.4 The Council approves Officers to advise on whether projects meet the basic CIL threshold.
- 14.5 The Council approves Officers to give a rationale on grading for the Committee to decide.
- 14.6 The Council agrees that The Communities Services Committee may reserve the right to take larger applications direct to Full Council.

- 14.7 The Council approved the Stakeholder Engagement Plan.
- 14.8 The Council approves that appropriate and relevant feedback be offered, and given, to all applicants, whether successful or not.
- 14.9 The Council approves the CIL Working Group matrix for implementation, on the basis that the framework be used for upcoming rounds and a review report be brought back to Full Council in September 2026 following initial operation for further refinement be undertaken where required.

15. Twinning with Nivelles:

Council considered a report regarding proposed twinning with Nivelles, Belgium.

Discussion included the importance of community benefit, the role of twinning associations, the need for future planning around exchanges and civic hospitality, and the potential cultural and funding opportunities arising from a further twinning relationship.

Proposed: Cllr Dalton

Seconded: Cllr Foster

A vote was taken, and it was:

Resolved that:

- 15.1 The Council authorise Officers to begin the process of the twinning through liaising with their contacts in Nivelles.
- 15.2 The Council authorise Officers to draft an informal Declaration of Friendship.
- 15.3 The Council request that Officers bring a report back to a future Full Council to ratify a formal twinning with more comprehensive costings.

16. Disposal of Freehold Interest - Fisher House, 84 Fisherton Street:

Council considered the report regarding disposal of the freehold interest at Fisher House, 84 Fisherton Street.

Members were advised of the proposed receipt of £100,000 and the negotiated overage provision, under which the Council would receive 35% of any uplift in value if the property changed hands within 10 years.

Proposed: Cllr Podger

Seconded: Cllr Foster

A vote was taken and it was:

Resolved that:

- 16.1 The Council notes the NPV assessment, valuation advice and consultation feedback.
- 16.2 The Council approves disposal of the freehold interest in Fisher House to Bolingbroke Limited for £100,000.
- 16.3 The Council authorises Officers to incorporate agreed overage provisions into the sale documentation.

17. Poultry Cross Working Group Report & Permission to Procure:

Council received a verbal update from the Working Group Chair, Cllr Sam Foster, and considered the officer report seeking permission to procure.

Members discussed the distinction between essential structural works and any later enhancement phase, the need for proper heritage approvals and procurement, and the budget provision identified for phase 1.

Proposed: Cllr Dalton

Seconded: Cllr Last

A vote was taken, and it was:

Resolved that:

- 17.1 The Council approve the commencement of the procurement process to appoint a specialist heritage conservation contractor for the Poultry Cross.
- 17.2 The Council grant permission to spend up to £400,000 for delivery of Phase 1 works.
- 17.3 The Council notes that the existing Repairs & Maintenance Contract is not suitable for these highly specialised heritage works.
- 17.4 The Council endorses the “topdown” repair strategy recommended by Loop Architects and supported by Historic England.
- 17.5 The Council authorises the submission of Scheduled Monument Consent applications and associated heritage approvals.
- 17.6 The Council supports the exploration of external grant funding, using the detailed design documentation now available.

18. CCTV Equipment Purchase and Maintenance Contract:

Council considered the report on the CCTV equipment purchase and maintenance contract and the need to commence procurement.

Proposed: Cllr Hoque

Seconded: Cllr Nettle

A vote was taken, and it was:

Resolved that:

- 18.1 The Council approves the commencement of the procurement process for a 5-year CCTV maintenance and purchasing contract (with a break clause in year 3).
- 18.2 The Council authorises a total budget of up to £350,000 for the duration of the 5-year term.
- 18.3 The Council delegates authority to the CCTV Manager to finalise the specification in collaboration with Hampshire County Council Procurement.

19. Motion NM64 C Taylor - Car Parking Charges:

Council considered a motion from Cllr Taylor concerning Wiltshire Council car parking charges and the proposed decoupling of Salisbury City Council's own car park charging arrangements from Wiltshire Council.

A recorded vote was requested. The motion was debated at length. During debate, a local business owner spoke about the likely detrimental impact of the proposed parking changes on city centre businesses.

A recorded vote was requested by Cllr Taylor.

For – Cllrs Suddards, Taylor, Hocking, Nettle, Rimmer, Podger

Against – Cllrs Brown, Riddle, Bayliss, Last, V Charleston, S Charleston, Rogers, Dalton, Milos, Foster, Last, Johnson, Beaven, Hoque, Bolwell

Abstentions – Cllr Rideout

A vote was taken and **the motion was not carried.**

20. Motion NM66 A Riddle - Car Parking Charges:

Council considered a motion from Cllr Riddle regarding car parking charges.

The motion was discussed as an alternative and more collaborative approach, proposing that the City Council work with the business community during the consultation period and, if that failed, consider decoupling Lush House car park charges and hours from Wiltshire Council's arrangements.

Cllr Riddle proposed an amendment to her original motion to state:

"Should that fail, this council will **consider** decoupling Lush House car park charges and hours from those of Wiltshire and instruct officers to freeze the charges and hours, thereafter, reviewing them during the annual budget setting process."

Proposed: Cllr Riddle

Seconded: Cllr Foster

A vote was taken, and it was:

Resolved that:

- 20.1 During the public consultation period, Salisbury City Council's Administration will work with the city's business community and set up a meeting with Wiltshire's leadership to get these proposals reversed. At the very least, the higher Sunday charges and extended hours should be dropped.
- 20.2 Should that fail, this Council will consider decoupling Lush House car park charges and hours from those of Wiltshire and instruct Officers to freeze the charges and hours, thereafter, reviewing them during the annual budget setting process.

It was agreed by the Committee, in accordance with Standing Order 3(x), to extend the meeting beyond three hours.

21. Motion NM65 C Taylor – Traffic Lights at Castle Road Roundabout:

Council considered a motion from Cllr Taylor requesting that National Highways investigate whether Salisbury's trunk road roundabouts, including the Harnham gyratory, could be operated more efficiently without traffic lights for part or all of the day.

Debate covered congestion, air quality, pedestrian safety, anecdotal evidence from the period during which signals had been out of operation, and the respective roles of councillors and National Highways.

The motion was put to the vote and **was not carried**.

22. Exclusion of Press and Public:

Council considered whether to exclude the press and public for item 23.

Proposed: Cllr S Charleston

Seconded: Cllr Foster

A vote was taken, and it was:

Resolved that:

- 22.1 In accordance with section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of agenda item 23 as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, as defined in Paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 namely matters relating to information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual.

The meeting moved to Exempt at 2148 hours.

23. Exempt item - Salisbury 800 update and presentation:

Council received the Salisbury 800 presentation in exempt session.

24. Urgent Matters (if any) which by reason of special circumstances the Chair, decides should be considered as a matter of urgency:

There were no matters considered under this item.

The meeting closed at 2219 hours.

Signed versions of the minutes are available on request.