



**DORSET & WILTSHIRE  
FIRE AND RESCUE  
AUTHORITY**

**Minutes of the Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Authority meeting held remotely  
on 18 June 2020 at 10:00 hours.**

Members present:

Cllr Rebecca Knox (Chair)  
Cllr Byron Quayle (Vice Chair)  
Cllr Steve Baron  
Cllr Pete Barrow  
Cllr Richard Biggs  
Cllr Ernie Clark  
Cllr Malcolm Davies  
Cllr Paul Hilliard  
Cllr Peter Hutton  
Cllr Toby Johnson  
Cllr Bob Jones  
Cllr Christopher Newbury  
Cllr Paul Oatway  
Cllr Garry Perkins  
Cllr Pip Ridout  
Cllr Ann Stribley

Officer attendance:

Chief Fire Officer (CFO), Ben Ansell  
Clerk & Monitoring Officer, Jonathan Mair  
Head of Financial Services and Treasurer, Ian Cotter  
Deputy Chief Fire Officer (DCFO), Derek James  
Director of Community Safety, Assistant Chief Fire Officer (ACFO) Jim Mahoney  
Director of People Services, Jenny Long  
Director of Service Support, ACFO Byron Standen  
Head of Information, Knowledge & Communications, Vikki Shearing  
Head of Response Support & Response Development, Area Manager (AM), Andy Cole  
Head of Strategic Planning & Corporate Assurance, Jill McCrae  
Corporate Governance Manager, Nicki Whitehouse  
Democratic Services Support, Steph Howard

*Initials* \_\_\_\_\_

- 20/14 Welcome**
- 20/14 The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed Members, Officers, and members of the public.
- 20/15 Apologies**
- 20/15.1 There were no apologies. Cllrs Abdul Amin and Brian Mattock were not able to access the meeting due to technical issues which were no fault of their own, however, they were able to listen to the meeting via the public gallery.
- 20/16 Declarations of Interest and notifications of any other business.**
- 20/16.1 The Chair asked Members for any disclosures of pecuniary interests under the Localism Act. There were none.
- 20/17 Minutes of the Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Authority meeting on 12 February 2020.**
- 20/17.1 The Chair asked Members to review and approve the minutes from the last meeting.
- 20/17.2 Chief Fire Officer Ben Ansell confirmed that all actions contained in the minutes had been completed.
- 20/17.3 **RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of 12 February 2020 be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.**
- 20/18 Receive the draft minutes of the Finance & Audit Committee meeting on 6 December 2019.**
- 20/18.1 Cllr Bob Jones presented the minutes to Members explaining that the Committee had subsequently met in March 2020.
- 20/18.2 **RESOLVED: Members received the minutes of the Finance & Audit Committee of 6 December 2019.**
- 20/19 Dispensation for non-attendance at meetings and approval of temporary changes to Standing Orders.**
- 20/19.1 The Clerk & Monitoring Officer, Jonathan Mair introduced the report, drawing Members' attention to the summary in paragraph 2.3. He explained that the Coronavirus Regulations provided flexibility in that the

*Initials* \_\_\_\_\_

Authority could hold its meetings virtually, but that it was necessary to provide a dispensation to Members from Section 85 of the Local Government Act, should they not be able to attend a virtual meeting within a six-month period through no fault of their own.

20/19.2 Members discussed the Local Performance and Scrutiny Committee meetings due to be held in August and September and expressed their desire to hold these in some form, as long as the current situation allows.

20/19.3 **RESOLVED: That under Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972, all Members of the Authority receive a dispensation from attending meetings.**

20/19.4 **RESOLVED: That in order to facilitate virtual meetings, Members approved the temporary changes to Standing Orders set out in appendix A to the report.**

20/19.5 **RESOLVED: That the Section 85 dispensation and temporary Standing Orders should remain in place until 7 May 2021, in line with the regulations enabling virtual Authority and Committee meetings.**

20/19.6 **RESOLVED: That the Authority suspends meetings until mid-September 2020, with the exception of the Local Performance and Scrutiny Committee meetings for Quarter 1 2020, scheduled to be held at the end of August and beginning of September, which will go ahead as long as the current coronavirus situation allows.**

**20/20 Date of next meeting**

20/20.1 The Chair confirmed the date of the next Authority meeting as 30 September 2020 from 10am.

Meeting closed at 10:17hrs

*Signed:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Initials* \_\_\_\_\_