



How to contact us:
Write to: Manor House, Church Street,
Littlehampton, West Sussex, BN17 5EW
Email: lrc@littlehampton-tc.gov.uk
Call: 01903 732063
Find us online: www.littlehampton-tc.gov.uk
Town Clerk – Laura Chrysostomou

Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Town Council held in The New Millennium Chamber, Manor House, Church Street, Littlehampton, BN17 5EW on Thursday 18 June 2026 at 7.10pm.

Present:

Councillor May – Chair
Councillor Butcher
Councillor Blanchard-Cooper
Councillor Daws
Councillor Long
Councillor Northeast
Councillor Tandy
Councillor Tilbrook
Councillor Dr Walsh KStJ
Councillor Woodman

In attendance:

Laura Chrysostomou – Town Clerk
Sandra Hearsey – Office Manager
Lina Voskresenskaya – Civic and Communications Officer

2026 to 2027

31. Evacuation Procedures

The evacuation procedures were noted.

32. Filming of Council Meetings, Use of Social Media, and Mobile Phones.

The procedures were noted.

33. Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors O'Neill, Wiltshire, Worne and Lee.

34. Declarations of Interest

Members and Officers were reminded to make any declarations of disclosable pecuniary or personal and/or prejudicial interests that they might have in

relation to items on the agenda. The standing declarations were noted and no further declarations were made.

35. Public Forum

Nine members of the public were present and no written representations had been received.

36. Awarding of the Freedom of the Town of Littlehampton to Dr James Walsh KStJ, RD

- 36.1. Council was asked to confer the title of Honorary Freeman of the Town upon Dr James Walsh KStJ, RD, in recognition of more than fifty years of service to the Town and community as a Town Councillor, in accordance with section 249(5) of the Local Government Act 1972.
- 36.2. Councillor Tilbrook proposed the motion and spoke in support of Dr Walsh's nomination. He noted that, during his time at the Town Council, Dr Walsh had served Littlehampton across all committees and numerous outside bodies and had twice served as Mayor. Members agreed that his extensive knowledge of the town, its history, communities and organisations had been invaluable to those who had worked with him during his public service. Councillor Tilbrook also referred to Dr Walsh's long-standing advocacy for improved healthcare provision in the town and to his exemplary courtesy and respect. A letter of congratulations and gratitude from Josh Babarinde MP, President of the Liberal Democrats, was read to Council. Councillor Tilbrook concluded that the Honorary Freedom of the Town would be a fitting recognition of Dr Walsh's service to Littlehampton, its residents and the Council.
- 36.3. Councillor Tandy seconded the motion and spoke of Dr Walsh's local knowledge and long-standing commitment to public service. He stated that Dr Walsh's repeated election to both Town and District Councils over more than fifty years demonstrated the value placed on his experience and reliability. He concluded by emphasising his support for the motion as a rare and appropriate acknowledgement of Dr Walsh's service to the Town and its Councils.
- 36.4. Members endorsed the motion and the points raised, offering their congratulations and gratitude for Dr Walsh's many years of service. They praised his contribution to debate, the breadth of advice and knowledge he had shared, and his dedication to supporting, teaching and inspiring those around him.

It was unanimously resolved that:



The title of Honorary Freeman of the Town be conferred upon Dr James Walsh KStJ, RD.

- 36.5. The Mayor thanked Dr Walsh for his service to the Council and the community of Littlehampton over the previous fifty years. In recognition, she presented him with an official Scroll of Freedom bearing the following words:

“We thank you with the highest honour we can bestow for valuable and devoted services rendered to the Council as a Town Councillor for over fifty years.

“We truly applaud and commend your support in the community and as an advocate for the Town of Littlehampton, for which we thank you most sincerely.”

- 36.6. Dr Walsh thanked Councillors, colleagues, friends, Officers, residents and his family for their support and kind words. He reflected on highlights of his service, including involvement in campaigns for swimming pool provision and health services, the development of Littlehampton Academy, town twinning and the growth of the town. He noted that he was honoured to be the first individual recipient of the Freedom of the Town and expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to serve Littlehampton over many years.

The meeting closed at 7.35pm.

Mayor