

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF RINGWOOD TOWN COUNCIL

Held on Wednesday 30th April 2025 at 7pm at Ringwood Gateway, The Furlong, Ringwood

PRESENT: Cllr Rae Frederick (Chairman)
Cllr Philip Day (Vice Chairman)
Cllr Andrew Briers
Cllr Luke Dadford
Cllr Ingrid De Bruyn
Cllr Gareth DeBoos
Cllr Mary DeBoos
Cllr Janet Georgiou
Cllr John Haywood
Cllr Peter Kelleher
Cllr James Swyer
Cllr Michael Thierry
Cllr Becci Windsor

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr Chris Wilkins, Town Clerk
Mrs Jo Hurd, Deputy Town Clerk
District Cllr Jeremy Heron
District Cllr Nigel Linford
District Cllr Steve Rippon-Swaine

ABSENT: Cllr Glenys Turner
District Cllr Richard Frampton

C/7333 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were 7 members of public present from Stillwater Park to update on the ongoing situation regarding one of their neighbours and the resulting environmental nuisance. One representative read a letter she had sent to the Ombudsman seeking resolution of the issue. She criticised NFDC for failing to take enforcement action and for failing in their duty of care to protect residents.

The Town Mayor empathised with the residents and implored District Councillors to do all they could to assist.

District Cllr Thierry suggested convening a meeting with the relevant Director at NFDC, District Councillors and representatives from the Police and Stillwater Park. District Cllr Haywood also agreed to follow up with NFDC officers.

C/7334 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Turner and District Cllr Frampton.

C/7335 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

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C/7336
GRANT AID AWARDS

Grant Aid certificates were presented to representatives as follows:-

- i) £500 to Youth Riders towards the cost of a gazebo and safety equipment;
- ii) £500 to Greening Ringwood towards the cost of making raised beds at Greyfriars garden;
- iii) £800 to Ringwood District Girl Guides towards the cost of replacement toilet facilities; and
- iv) £500 to Ringwood Round Table towards the cost of refurbishing Santa's sleigh.

C/7337
POLICE REPORT

Sergeant Chris Pell presented the Neighbourhood Policing Team quarterly report (*Annex A*).

He reported a 4.3% reduction in crimes reported over the last 12 months in Ringwood town area. The team regularly reviews priorities and he encouraged feedback from the community to inform this, and also asked that all crime be reported.

Shoplifting remains a priority and some progress is being made. The most prolific offenders have been identified and work is taking place to tackle this. One offender had been charged and sentenced to 6-months and it was hoped a Community Behaviour Order would be in place on his release.

There had been a slight decrease in formal action taken in comparison to the previous year. The level of staffing and abstractions influenced this, but the team was working hard to make a difference and make the town a better place.

Members thanked Sergeant Pell for his report and praised his attitude and approach.

C/7338
MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 26th March 2025, having been circulated, be approved and signed as a correct record.

C/7339
RECREATION, LEISURE AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE

It was noted that the meeting of Recreation, Leisure and Open Spaces Committee scheduled for 2nd April 2025 had been cancelled.

C/7340
PLANNING, TOWN & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Cllr Day presented the minutes of the Planning Town & Environment Committee meeting held on 4th April 2025.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Planning, Town and Environment Committee meeting held on 4th April 2025 be received.

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C7341
POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Cllr M DeBoos presented the minutes of the Policy and Finance Committee meeting held on 23rd April 2025.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Policy and Finance Committee meeting held on 23rd April 2025 be received.

C/7342
COMMITTEE COMPOSITION

Members considered changes to the composition of council committees, sub-committees, working parties or panels. It was noted this item was primarily for appointments to committees and that resignations could be tendered at any time.

It was noted that updated Terms of Reference will be presented to the Annual Meeting next month.

RESOLVED: That there be no changes to membership and representation.

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| ACTION N Vodden |
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C/7343
COMMUNICATIONS TO BE RECEIVED

The Town Mayor reported the following:

She had attended a Local Government Reorganisation event at NFDC and Ringwood Rotary's 75th Charter Dinner.

She encouraged attendance at the VE Day 80th anniversary commemoration event on 8 May from 9pm in the War Memorial Gardens and asked for volunteers to assist on the night.

She was looking forward to numerous events taking place on Saturday 10 May including the ECO Fair, Repair Café and a Civic Day for a delegation of visitors from Ringwood's twin town in Pont Audemer.

C/7344
REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

County and District Councillor Thierry reported the County Council appeared to be in limbo with the focus being on devolution. It had been announced that a new waste management facility would be built in Eastleigh, to be operational in 2027.

District Councillor Rippon-Swaine reported that work continued on the Local Plan Review.

District Cllr Heron reported that delivery of new wheelie bins had commenced in Lymington and New Milton. In response to a question, he explained that all properties had been assessed to determine the most suitable waste containers for the new waste collections, and there was a process to appeal the allocation. There is also a process to request assisted collections for those unable to put out waste for collection.

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C/7345
REPORTS FROM TOWN COUNCILLORS

Cllr Day had attended a Civic Day in Wimborne on behalf of the Mayor.

Cllr Swyer had represented the Council at the Churches Together Good Friday Walk of Witness.

Cllr M Deboos encouraged everyone to complete the Council's survey regarding celebrating the 800th anniversary of the Market Charter: <https://ringwood.gov.uk/events/800th-anniversary-of-the-market-charter/>

C/7346
FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Forthcoming Meetings – to note the following dates:

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|-------------------------------------|
| Planning, Town & Environment | 10.00am | Friday 2 nd May 2025 |
| Recreation, Leisure & Open Spaces | 7.00pm | Wednesday 7 th May 2025 |
| ANNUAL TOWN ASSEMBLY | 7.00pm | Wednesday 14 th May 2025 |
| Policy & Finance | 7.00pm | Wednesday 21 st May 2025 |
| Full Council | 7.00pm | Wednesday 28 th May 2025 |

C/7347
EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That, in accordance with section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public were excluded because publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted (*Confidential minutes - Annex B*).

C/7348
LEGAL MATTERS

The Town Clerk reported on ongoing legal matters.

RESOLVED: That the Town Clerk's verbal report be received and the recommended course of action be approved.

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| ACTION C Wilkins |
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There being no further business, the Town Mayor closed the meeting at 8.29pm.

APPROVED
28th May 2025

TOWN MAYOR

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Ringwood Quarterly Report



General Crimes & Outcomes General Crime Summary

Crime VRD

01/04/2024 29/04/2025

District Count Occurrence

NEW FOREST 1,927

Total Crimes

1,927

Total Crimes (SPLY)

2,013

% Difference

-4.3%

Crime Volumes



| HMIC 9 Group | Apr 24 | May 24 | Jun 24 | Jul 24 | Aug 24 | Sep 24 | Oct 24 | Nov 24 | Dec 24 | Jan 25 | Feb 25 | Mar 25 | Apr 25 | Total |
|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| 1 Violence Against the Person | 64 | 57 | 64 | 58 | 43 | 53 | 48 | 48 | 53 | 56 | 34 | 40 | 48 | 664 |
| 2 Sexual Offences | 2 | 2 | 5 | 8 | 12 | 8 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 8 | 9 | 1 | 5 | 73 |
| 3 Robbery | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | 1 | 2 | 6 |
| 4 Theft Offences | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4a1 Burglary Residential | 3 | 6 | 3 | 6 | 5 | 12 | 6 | 9 | 8 | 5 | 7 | 6 | 9 | 85 |
| 4a2 Burglary Business and Community | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ATTEMPTED BURGLARY - BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY | 1 | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | | | | 1 | | 1 | 10 |
| BURGLARY - BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY | 5 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 7 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 8 | 5 | 4 | 53 |
| 4b Vehicle Offences | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Interference with a motor vehicle | 1 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 2 | 1 | 26 |
| Theft from motor vehicle | 16 | 9 | 11 | 20 | 9 | 13 | 10 | 10 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 128 |
| Theft of a motor vehicle | 1 | 5 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 39 |
| Unauthorised taking of a motor vehicle | 1 | | | | | | | 1 | | | | 1 | | 3 |
| 4c Theft from the Person | | 1 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | | 1 | 9 |
| 4d Bicycle Theft | 2 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 3 | | 2 | | | | 21 |

The above graph shows the number of offences recording for past 12 months in the area your local Neighbourhood Police Team (including the Fordingbridge Officers) operate, this includes beats outside of the Ringwood Town area. You will note a 4.3% reduction in crimes recorded, whilst this is a positive we continue to work hard to ensure we try to make Ringwood and the surrounding area even safer for residents, there remains much to do!

As mentioned previously, towards the end of last year we made a change to improve the way in which we engage with local representatives with a monthly meeting now taking place between Sergeant Pell, Inspector Ord and Chris Wilkins during which we are looking to gather information relating to the concerns of the community in order to better focus our resources and understand community priorities.

As a result of discussions with Chris Wilkins we have ammended the presentation of the crime stats to now show the most recent 3 months compared to the same period the year before (SPLY – Similar Period Last Year)



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CONSTABULARY**
101
IN AN
EMERGENCY
CALL 999





Ringwood Quarterly Report



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Ringwood South

| | Current 90 days | SPLY | Difference |
|--|-----------------|------------|------------|
| <u>Violence with Injury</u> ↑ | 10 | 19 | -9 |
| <u>Violence without Injury</u> ↑ | 23 | 50 | -27 |
| <u>Other Sexual Offences</u> ↑ | 4 | 5 | -1 |
| <u>Burglary Residential</u> ↑ | 2 | 4 | -2 |
| <u>Burglary Business and Community</u> ↑ | 6 | 9 | -3 |
| <u>Vehicle Offences</u> ↑ | 6 | 12 | -6 |
| <u>Bicycle Theft</u> ↑ | 1 | 0 | +1 |
| <u>Shoplifting</u> ↑ | 18 | 21 | -3 |
| <u>All Other Theft Offences</u> ↑ | 16 | 10 | +6 |
| <u>Criminal Damage</u> ↑ | 14 | 16 | -2 |
| <u>Trafficking of Drugs</u> ↑ | 1 | 2 | -1 |
| <u>Possession of Drugs</u> ↑ | 4 | 0 | +4 |
| <u>Possession of Weapons Offences</u> ↑ | 4 | 1 | +3 |
| <u>Public Order Offences</u> ↑ | 12 | 20 | -8 |
| TOTAL | 121 | 169 | -48 |



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Ringwood Quarterly Report



Ringwood North (Poulner)

| | Current 90 days | SPLY | Difference |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|------------|
| <u>Violence with Injury</u> ↗ | 6 | 4 | +2 |
| <u>Violence without Injury</u> ↗ | 19 | 22 | -3 |
| <u>Sexual Offences</u> ↗ | 0 | 1 | -1 |
| <u>Burglary Residential</u> ↗ | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| <u>Vehicle Offences</u> ↗ | 2 | 4 | -2 |
| <u>Shoplifting</u> ↗ | 9 | 1 | +8 |
| <u>All Other Theft Offences</u> ↗ | 1 | 7 | -6 |
| <u>Criminal Damage</u> ↗ | 2 | 14 | -12 |
| <u>Drugs Offences</u> ↗ | 0 | 2 | -2 |
| <u>Public Order Offences</u> ↗ | 3 | 5 | -2 |
| TOTAL | 45 | 63 | -18 |



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Ringwood Quarterly Report



Ringwood East & Sopley

| | Current 90 days | SPLY | Difference |
|--|-----------------|-----------|------------|
| <u>Violence with Injury</u> ↗ | 1 | 2 | +1 |
| <u>Violence without Injury</u> ↗ | 7 | 9 | -2 |
| <u>Sexual Offences</u> ↗ | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| <u>Burglary Residential</u> ↗ | 1 | 4 | -3 |
| <u>Burglary Business and Community</u> ↗ | 2 | 1 | +1 |
| <u>Vehicle Offences</u> ↗ | 2 | 1 | +1 |
| <u>All Other Theft Offences</u> ↗ | 1 | 2 | -1 |
| <u>Shoplifting</u> ↗ | 1 | 0 | +1 |
| <u>Criminal Damage</u> ↗ | 5 | 3 | +2 |
| <u>Drugs Offences</u> ↗ | 1 | 0 | +1 |
| <u>Public Order Offences</u> ↗ | 4 | 3 | +1 |
| TOTAL | 26 | 26 | 0 |



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Ringwood Quarterly Report



Current Priorities for the Ringwood Neighbourhood Policing Team

Shoplifting – Business crime remains an area priority. We are attending all reports, building links to the local businesses and detecting more offences – through CCTV and utilising Facial Recognition ID. Use of Out of Court disposals as well as court summons employed.

Anti-Social Behaviour – We are aware of concerns from local businesses relating to groups of youths causing problems within the town, we have identified those involved and are working with partners to ensure they face consequences for their behaviour, we have gathered evidence to seek a CBO against one of the main perpetrators of ASB in the town, this is a work in progress.

Successes/Outcomes

- In March we arrested and remanded Ringwood's most prolific shoplifter, your local Policing Team gathered evidence to charge him with 7 offences and he was placed before the Courts and was sentenced to 6 months, we are looking at a Community Behavioural Order (CBO, formally known as an ASBO) in order to protect the community when he is released.
- In April 25 we arrested an intoxicated and abusive male who was causing issues in the Poulner area. We arrived on scene after receiving multiple calls and within a few minutes and were able to safely take him into custody. He was subsequently charged with offences and we will be working to obtain Court Orders to ensure he is dealt with robustly if he continues.
- PC Ian Bigland seized an E-Scooter which was being ridden into on-coming traffic and issued the rider with a traffic offence report for no insurance. E-Scooters are regulated and we will take action against those who flout the law and use them illegally.
- Arrest of male who stole metal racking from outside a business within the town, Ringwood Police Team worked with colleagues in Southampton locate and arrest the suspect at his home address later in the day, the racking was still on his truck on his driveway!



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Ringwood Quarterly Report

In addition, and to give you a flavour of the type of incidents we are dealing with on a daily basis, we have been involved in the following

Attended a road traffic collision on the A31 where a person had reported being deliberately rammed.

Attended a report of a vulnerable old man walking in the carriageway in his pyjamas.

Issued a Dog Behaviour Contract as part of an out of court disposal to the owner of a dog that was dangerously out of control and bit someone.

FAT Outcomes (Formal Action Taken)

FAT Outcome VRD

26/01/2025 29/04/2025

| District | FAT Outcomes | FAT Rate |
|------------|--------------|----------|
| NEW FOREST | 66 | 16.0% |

HMIC 9 Group

| | FAT Outcomes |
|--|--------------|
| 1 Violence Against the Person | 18 |
| 2 Sexual Offences | 6 |
| 3 Robbery | 0 |
| 4 Theft Offences | 33 |
| 5 Criminal Damage and Arson Offences | 2 |
| 6 Drug Offences | 3 |
| 7 Possession of Weapons Offences | 0 |
| 8 Public Order Offences | 3 |
| 9 Miscellaneous Crimes Against Society | 1 |
| Total | 66 |

FAT Outcome Rate YTD

13.7%

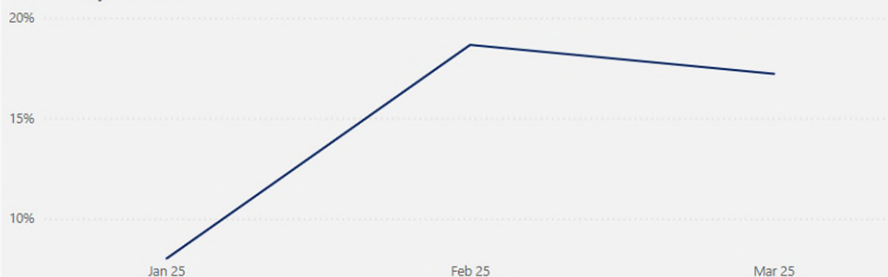
FAT Outcome Rate YTD (SP ...)

17.6%

% Difference

-3.8%

FAT Rate by Mth & Yr



- A slight reduction in Formal Action Taken outcomes when compared to the same period last year, however when the reduced staffing is taken into account I can reassure the Councillors that the team continue to work very hard to keep the town safe.



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Ringwood Quarterly Report



Your current Ringwood Neighbourhood Policing Team

Inspector 1904 Darren Ord

Sergeant 3895 Chris Pell

The Ringwood Designated Named Officer (DNO) is PC 28455 Ian Bigland

PC 29986 Nat Roberts

PC 24202 Naz Chalk

PCSO 13439 Tracey Cooper

PCSO 17944 Jas Sparshott



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