



Wincanton
Town Council



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**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE FULL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 14TH
APRIL 2025 AT 7:00PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, WINCANTON TOWN HALL**

PRESENT: Cllrs H Ellard (Chairman), K Hearne, T Power, D Old, C Rogers, P Rodgers, D Smith, C Wallis & S Wing

PROPER OFFICER IN ATTENDANCE: Emma Curtis – Town Clerk

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT: 1

MEMBERS OF THE LOCAL PRESS IN ATTENDANCE: 0

SOMERSET COUNCIL COUNCILLORS: Cllr T Power

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was one member of the public in attendance who raised a number of issues regarding Wincanton town centre, highways and the High Street. The gentleman volunteered to assist the Town Council in looking at these issues and was advised to contact the Town Clerk.

Cllr Smith spoke as a member of the public concerned about a police car parked on double yellow lines outside the old bank for an hour on Saturday night. Cllr Smith will send an image to the Clerk to follow up with the local policing team.

Cllr Ellard spoke as a member of the public to state that he had been approached by a member of the History Society to ask if the Town Council had a dispute in regard to the clawing back of grant funding. Following conversation, it appeared that this man had been told some misinformation and it was agreed that the Town Council would endeavour to foster better relations with the History Society with Cllr Wallis volunteering to attend meetings as a Town Council representative.

The meeting opened at 7:19pm

1.04/25 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Received from Cllrs A Waistell, T Howe, J Packer and Somerset Cllr L Trimnell

RESOLVED: It was resolved and unanimously agreed to approve the apologies for absence as presented.

2.04/25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

Received from Cllr Power, agenda items 6. 04/25 and 10. 04/25, Somerset Cllr

3.04/25 TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES 24th MARCH 2025

RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed to approve the minutes as a true and accurate record of the meeting. The Chairman duly signed the minutes.

4.04/25 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM:

(i) the Town Mayor: The Mayor reported that since the last meeting he had attended a meeting with The Growing Space regarding planting, attended the VE/VJ 80th Working Group, attended a memorial event and met with representatives of the local food bank.

(ii) Town Clerk: No report received.

(iii) Somerset Councillors representing Wincanton on matters of interest to the town and the local community: Cllr Power referred Cllrs to the report circulated prior to the meeting. No queries were raised. Cllr Power reported he had attended the recent History Day and had been receiving some complaints about the new 20mph speed limit. Cllrs queried whether the speed limit scheme was actually finished. The Clerk stated she would follow this up with Somerset Highways.

Action: 140425/1: Town Clerk

(iiii) local organisations, Town Councillor representatives, and partners: None

5.04/25 ACTION LIST

To note circulation of the Actions from Meeting list and discuss any matters arising:
Circulation of the Action List was noted.

6. 04/25 PLANNING

a) THE FOLLOWING PLANNING APPLICATION WAS NOTED:

Application Number	Address and description
25/00749/COL (Notification Only)	Petrol Filling Station, Morrisons, Southgate Road Application for Certificate of Lawfulness for proposed 24 hour opening of Morrisons Wincanton Service Station. https://ssdc.somerset.gov.uk/planningdocuments?ref_no=25/00749/COL
Noted.	

b) THE FOLLOWING RECENT PLANNING DECISIONS WERE NOTED:

Application Number	Address and description
25/00691/DOC1	Land Adjoining Verrington Hospital, Dancing Lane, Wincanton Discharge of conditon No. 14 (Disposal of Sewage) of planning application 14/00838/OUT (Allowed at Appeal 19.10.2015 APP/R3325/A/14/2222697) Decision: Conditions Discharged

	https://ssdc.somerset.gov.uk/planningdocuments?ref_no=25/00691/DOC1
25/00406/TPO	Verrington Hospital, Dancing Lane, Wincanton, Somerset, BA9 9DQ Application of intent to reduce limb by 3m in height and spread and reducing neighbouring stems to same canopy line and shape of No 1 tree as shown by the South Somerset District Council (WINC 3) 2005 Tree Preservation Order. Decision: Application Permitted with Conditions https://ssdc.somerset.gov.uk/planningdocuments?ref_no=25/00406/TPO

7. 04/25 FINANCE

a) To consider quotation received for reindeer at this years Christmas Light Switch

On: Cllrs considered the quote for reindeer for two hours at £1887.50. Cllr Smith proposed to cancel the reindeer, this was seconded by Cllr Power with two votes in favour and all else against. Cllr Rodgers proposed to proceed with the reindeer, this was seconded and agreed with Cllrs Smith and Power against and Cllr Wallis abstaining.

RESOLVED: It was resolved to approve the quotation at £1887.50 plus VAT and proceed with the reindeer for two hours (Cost Centre: 700 Cost Code: 5005)

Action: 140425/2: Town Clerk

b) To consider quotes for bramble clearance at the cemetery and resolve whether to proceed in this financial year via general reserves or budget for the next financial year:

Cllrs considered quote for bramble clearance at the cemetery. The Clerk reminded Cllrs that this project had not been budgeted for and would need to come from general reserves if undertaken in the current financial year.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to proceed with the bramble clearance at £8,400 plus VAT within the current financial year. (General Reserves)

Action: 140425/3: Town Clerk & Works and Maintenance Supervisor

c) To consider quotes for insurance reinstatement valuations of assets:

Cllrs considered the quote information provided.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed to proceed with the reinstatement valuations at £1,035 plus VAT. (Earmarked Reserves)

Action: 140425/4: Town Clerk & Deputy Clerk/RFO

d) To consider grant application for Lost Lady Society:

Cllrs considered the submitted grant application and agreed it was rather vague as to the benefit to Wincanton residents and suggested the application be refused but would welcome the application being resubmitted once a solid figure of Wincanton ticket sales could be proven.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed to refuse the grant application as submitted.

Action: 140425/5: Town Clerk

e) To note Clerks instruction under delegated authority for the valuation of chattels in Council Chamber:

Cllrs noted this instruction. (Earmarked Reserves)

8. 04/25 UPCOMING MEETINGS

- To note the date of the Annual Parish Meeting as Monday 12th May at 6pm
Noted.

- To resolve to amend the date of the June meeting to coincide with the completion of the internal audit for approval and consideration of the AGAR (Annual Governance and Accountability Return): Cllrs considered a new date for the June meeting.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed to change the June meeting date to Monday 23rd June 2025.

Action: 140425/6: Town Clerk

9. 04/25 APPRAISAL

To resolve to agree a date for the Town Clerks appraisal with the Chairman and HR

Chairman: It was agreed the Clerk would agree a suitable date with Cllr Ellard and Cllr Howe.

Action: 140425/7: Town Clerk

10. 04/25 SOMERSET COUNCIL PUBLIC TOILETS

To reconfirm resolution made in October 2024 not to take on the responsibility of Somerset Council's toilets at the Memorial Hall Car Park: Cllrs considered the current state of affairs in regard to the closure of the toilets and public comments. It was agreed prior to revisiting this resolution that bus companies be contacted to see if they would be willing to contribute to the cost of maintaining the toilets. It was agreed the Clerk would contact the bus companies.

Action: 140425/8: Town Clerk

11. 04/25 VE DAY 80TH COMMEMORATION CALE PARK EVENT

To receive an update on the event at Cale Park and resolved to relinquish the No Drinking Zone from 1pm to 4pm: The Clerk and members of the working group provide an update on the event. It was agreed to relinquish the No Drinking Zone.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed to relinquish the No Drinking Zone until 5pm.

12. 04/25 TRAINING, CONSULTATIONS, AND FORTHCOMING MEETINGS:

- (i) **Correspondence:** To consider request to undertake tool and knife sharpening:
Agreed.
To consider complaint regarding bakery at Market Place:
Complaint noted. Council welcome use of the Market Place.
To consider request for charity 5k run at Cale Park:
Agreed.
To note information about Somerset Day:
Noted

(ii) **Training:** SALC

(iii) **Meetings:** None

13. 04/25 TO CONSIDER AN EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

That pursuant to the provision of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, to consider a resolution to exclude the non-committee members, the press and public from the meeting for the following reason: **Discussion of commercially sensitive information**

RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed to exclude the public and press and enter into confidential session for the purpose of discussing commercially sensitive information.

a) To consider official tenders received for toilet refurbishment:

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to proceed with the tender received from Allens Construction at £41,861 plus VAT. (CIL Funds)

Action: 140425/9: Town Clerk & Works and Maintenance Supervisor

14. 04/25 CLOSE OF MEETING AND CONFIRM DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The date of the next Full Town Council Meeting was confirmed as **Monday 12th May 2025 at 7pm** following the **Annual Parish Meeting at 6pm**. All items for inclusion on the agenda must be submitted to the Clerk by **9.00am Friday 2nd May 2025.**

The meeting closed at 8:12pm