



Wincanton
Town Council



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**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE FULL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 05th October
2026 AT 7:00PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, WINCANTON TOWN HALL**

MEMBERS PRESENT: N Anderson (Deputy Chairman), A Armstrong, J Eadington, K Hearne, C Lovegrove, J Macfarlane, D Old, C Rodgers, P Rodgers, C Wallis, Tim Child, Tom Hancock, Jorge Lewis, Amir Nabil and Richard Posnett

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT: 15

SOMERSET COUNCILLORS PRESENT: None

PROPER OFFICER: Tracy Dunn – Deputy Town Clerk/RFO

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A member of the public stated the High Street sign as you enter Wincanton is hidden and raised a question regarding tree surveys due to the condition of some trees in the Town.

The Deputy Town Clerk/RFO confirmed that regular Tree condition surveys take place relating to trees within Town Council land but that there will be trees on private and other public land which do not fall under their responsibility

A member of the public spoke about Angel lane and a trip over a manhole cover on the pavement. They were directed towards Somerset Council who hold responsibility for these areas.

Cllr Old spoke in public participation regarding the Precept increase, including a rise in salaries, in comparison to other towns and quoted the population of Wincanton as being 6300.

01. 10/26 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN/TOWN MAYOR

To invite nominations and elect the Chair/Town Mayor of Wincanton Town Council and receive the Declaration of Acceptance of Office

Nominations were invited to elect a new Chair of Wincanton Town Council.

Cllr Anderson was proposed and seconded

Resolved: to Elect Cllr Anderson as the chair/Town Mayor of Wincanton Town Council

3 Abstentions

02. 10/26 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE To receive, and consider approval, of apologies for absence including the reason given

None

The Local Government Act 1972 Section 85 requires councillors to attend council meetings regularly. Members who cannot attend should tender apologies and reason for absence, to the Proper Officer by 5pm on the day of this meeting.

None, all present

03. 10/26 DECLARATIONS OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

To acknowledge the declarations of acceptance of office received following the Uncontested elections and consider any dispensations for those Councillors not in attendance

All declarations of acceptance of office were signed and witnessed prior to the meeting.

Resolved: To acknowledge the declarations of acceptance of office

04. 10/26 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

Under the Localism Act 2011 (sections 26-37 and Schedule 4) and in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct, members are required to declare any interests and agree any dispensations to stay.

None

05. 10/26 TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES 07th September 2026

To approve the minutes of the previous Full Council meeting, held on Monday 07th September 2026, as a correct record. To be signed by the chair of the meeting and stand as an accurate record of the meeting (Local Government Act 1972 Sch 12)

Resolved: to approve the minutes with one amendment, to remove Doug Smith from the list of members present, the minutes were duly amended and signed by the Chair.

06. 10/26 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM:

- I. The Chairman/Vice Chairman: None
- II. Somerset Councillors representing Wincanton on matters of interest to the town and the local community: None
- III. local organisations and Youth Connect Southwest – gave a verbal report on attendance and activities
- IV. To receive reports from Town Councillors acting as representatives to outside bodies: Councillor Eadington gave an update on the carnival and arrangements for clear up. Cllr Armstrong requested 2 more representatives for Avon and Somerset Police. This will be included in the next agenda.

V. Deputy Town Clerk/RFO (Appendix 2)

Resolved: To note the reports

07. 10/26 YOUTH CONNECT SOUTH WEST

- a) To consider extending the Youth Connect South West contract until 31st March 2027
- b) To consider subsidising a visit to the Mill on the Brue (Appendix 3)

Resolved:

a. To approve the extension of the Youth Connect South West Contract until 31st March 2027 and

b. to approve a budget of £20 per child up to a maximum of 15 children, with costs to be vired from the available unused funds from the annual awards budget

1 Abstention

08. 10/26 To receive an informal update from the Council's independent investigator

Resolved: The informal update from the Investigator was noted, along with a Statement & Formal Apology from Councillor Old. The Statement & Formal Apology is as below:

Statement By Cllr Dawn Old:

"Chairman, Councillors and Members of the Public,

I refer to the complaint to the Monitoring Officer but also to the goings-on in this Council Chamber and outside in the rest of the town.

I consider it to be unreasonable to hold the view that I am the only Councillor or Member of the Public that has allegedly made unfounded, derogatory and hurtful accusations about the Town Clerk, her personal life and Council business.

With hindsight, I can see how this could amount to the view of the Monitoring Officer as a failure to treat others with respect, and how the Monitoring Officer has decided it would amount to a breach of the Code of Conduct.

For my part, I offer an apology to the Town Clerk, the rest of the staff and to the people of the town I love and live in.

We must resolve these issues that mire our Council and our town."

2 members of the public left the meeting

09. 10/26 ACTION LIST

To note circulation of the Actions from Meeting list and discuss any matters arising

Resolved: To note the action list with an update regarding the request for reimbursement for the costs of the hazardous waste removal to be bought back to the next Council meeting.

10. 10/26 PLANNING

A) TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

Application Number	Address and description
26/01752/LBC	Albion House 1 South Street Wincanton Somerset BA9 9DH 26/01752/LBC Like-for-like repair and reinstatement of fire-damaged modern fabric within the rear workshop & to retain surviving historic features Albion House 1 South Street Wincanton Somerset BA9 9DH Resolved: to recommend approval
26/02154/TCA NOTIFICATION ONLY	St Audreys South Street Wincanton Somerset BA9 9DR 26/02154/TCA Notification of intent to reduce/ pollard No.3 Hornbeams (T1, T2 & T3) included within Conservation Area. T1, T2 & T3: Hornbeams, reduce/pollard back 3-4m to previous cut points. St Audreys South Street Wincanton Somerset BA9 9DR Noted
26/02227/HOU	8 Rickhayes Wincanton Somerset BA9 9BH 26/02227/HOU Single-storey side extension to the property to provide an accessible bedroom and wet room, with associated internal alterations and external works to provide level access. 8 Rickhayes Wincanton Somerset BA9 9BH Resolved: to recommend approval
To note the following planning decisions	
26/01754/HOU 9 South Street Wincanton Somerset BA9 9DH Proposed replacement garage : Approved	
26/01527/HOU 30 Balsam Fields Wincanton Somerset BA9 9HF Demolition of single storey building and erect two storey extension : Approved	

11. 10/26. FINANCE

- To receive the Payments lists, to be signed by the Chairman of the meeting (Appendix 5, to follow)
Resolved: to receive the Payments, which were duly signed by the Chairman
- To consider and approve adding the Administration Officer as an administrator for the Council's bank accounts

Resolved: to approve adding the Administration Officer as an administrator for the Council's bank accounts

- c) To note satisfactory completion of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2025/26 and note display of the Notice of Conclusion of Audit (Appendix 6)

Noted

12. 10/26 CALE PARK TOILETS

To consider and approve authority delegated power to spend due to vandalism (Appendix 7)

Resolved: to approve delegated spending authority to the Deputy Town Clerk/RFO up to £1,500 and for advice to be sought from the Security provider as to the most suitable location for the CCTV transmitter

13. CHANGE OF MEETING DATES

To consider and approve a change of meeting dates effective from January 2027 (Appendix 8)

Resolved: To change Full Town council meetings to the 3rd Monday of the month with effect from January 2027

14. 09/26. TO CONSIDER THE FURTHER INFORMATION PROVIDED FROM A POP-UP LOCATION FROM A WOOD-FIRED PIZZA COMPANY

To consider and approve the location requested: The Market Place, Dates/Times requested: Wednesdays or Thursdays between approximately 5pm to 8pm the request and resolve any fees

Resolved: to approve the Market place location on one Wednesday per month from 5:30pm until 8:00pm at no cost on a 3 month trial bases

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

To resolve that, in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting due to the confidential nature of **Confidential/Exempt Personnel Matters**. Staff in confidence

Resolved : that the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting due to their confidential nature

1 Abstention

The remaining members of the public left the meeting

15. 10/26 To consider and approve the salary budget for 2027/28 subject to any further discussion relating to the outstanding job description reviews and evaluations (Appendix 09 to follow)

Resolved: That the Salary budget, including job evaluations and scale point increases, be considered by the Personnel Committee, with their recommendations reported to Full Council as part of the final budget consideration.



16. 10.26 To note the Monitoring Officers Conclusion relating to a complaint against a Councillor

Resolved: It was noted that the Monitoring Officer's decision regarding a standards complaint made against Cllr Anderson was: Decision No further action

17. 10/26 To receive an update on HR matters

Resolved: Council noted the Independent Investigator confidential update on Governance matters including HR implications. All Councillors were offered the opportunity to take part and should request appointments via the Deputy Town Clerk.

18. 09/26 CLOSE OF MEETING AND CONFIRM DATE OF NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

To confirm the date of the next Full Town Council Meeting as **Monday 02nd November 2026 at 7pm**. All items for inclusion on the agenda must be submitted to the Clerk by **9.00am Friday 23rd October 2026**.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 8:46pm