

**WIVELISCOMBE TOWN COUNCIL
LIBRARY WORKING GROUP MEETING
Held at Community Office, Wiveliscombe
Wednesday 04th December 2024 at 6.00pm**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cllr Parker (Chair) Cllr R Wilson, Cllr B Wilson, Cllr F Higginson

CLERK: Mrs Sarah Towells

OTHER: None

APOLOGIES: Cllr Gaines

24/10LWG Apologies: As noted above

24/11LWG Declarations of interest: There were none.

24/12LWG Minutes from meeting held on 14th November 2024: It was resolved to approve the minutes.

24/13LWG Flaws in current contracts: It was resolved to note that the current contracts that are in place between WTC/WAP and WTC/SCC are inconsistent causing difficulties. Retention of grants to WAP and charges to WTC that the grant should be used for. Lack of delivery from WAP engaging with neighbouring parishes to get grants from them. Retaining income from library activities. WAP should use funding from other fundraising activities under 2.5(a) and 3.6 of the contract. No meeting with SCC has occurred until November this year however the contract states quarterly meetings.

24/14LWG Look at other community libraries: Discussions took place regarding the way other community libraries are run which are all very different to Wiveliscombe Library. Other libraries looked at were Watchet, Bruton, Somerton, Nether Stowey, and Porlock.

24/15LWG Any other relevant issues:

Community benefits since 2019 – The Clerk had asked SC for a breakdown of footfall from Wiveliscombe and other neighbouring parishes.

Financial - It was resolved that we recommend to Full Council that WAP could have the % increase for next financial year, as requested 11th November. However WAP's budgets show a grant of £12,500 in 2021 so we are not making any further payments for admin fee for managing the library, costs relating to the library or rental costs until the grant received has been spent on core library expenditure and administration.

Library costs compared to other key services and what WTC fund:

Asset	2023-24 costs	Estimated year end 2024-25
Public Toilets	£9,080	£10,104
Plain Pond Allotments	Covered by rental	Covered by rental
Jubilee Gardens	£1,383	£1,858
Christmas Lights	£1,500 to JLF	£5,500
Annual Running Costs		
Wiveliscombe Library	£19,260	£20,561
Wiveliscombe Area Partnership (including Wivey Link)	£4,000	£10,000
Wivey Cares	£2,000	£2,000

24/16LWG Way Forward: It was resolved to recommend to Full Council that we hold a public consultation regarding the library.

24/17LWG Items for next meeting: There were none

24/18LWG Date, time and place of next meeting: Wednesday 15th Jan 2025 at 6.30pm.

Meeting closed at 8.00pm