

# WIVELISCOMBE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2024 held in the  
Community Centre at 7.00pm

## Attendees

**Councillors:** R Wilson (chair), B Wilson, P McNichol, F Higginson, M Blaker, Tim Parker  
C Kirk, P Martin and P Berman

**Clerk:** Mrs Sarah Towells

**Other:** D Mansell (SC) 3 member of public – Hayley and Craig Bibby and Sue Coles

## Apologies

**Councillors:** E Gaines and S Shopland

**Other:** None

**24/93 To note apologies for absence:** As noted above.

**24/94 Any New Declarations of Interest or dispensation:** There were none.

**24/95 Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> August 2024:** It was resolved to approve the minutes.

**24/96 Planning:** It was resolved to accept the Planning groups report and it was further resolved the planning group could respond to the email regarding the application for Greenway Farm.

SC	49/24/0047/CQ	Application for prior approval for proposed change of use from agricultural building into one dwelling house (class 3) and associated buildings operations at Foxlea Farm, Maundown, Wiveliscombe	It was resolved to SUPPORT this application as previous permission has been granted under CQ.
SC	49/24/0046/LB	Demolition and rebuilding of partially collapsed stone boundary wall to the rear of 8 West Street, Wiveliscombe	It was resolved to SUPPORT this application for safety reasons
SC	49/24/0043	Conversion of outbuilding into annex with workshop and garage at The Lodge, Higher Whitefield Rocks, Wiveliscombe	It was resolved to SUPPORT this application

## **24/97 Finance:**

**24/97.1 Accounts for approval:** It was resolved to pay the accounts below.

Sarah Towells	Payroll and expenses	£917.81
HMRC	PAYE	£187.99
Claire's Cleaning	Toilet cleaning	£690.00
Wiveliscombe Community Centre	Hall Hire for July	£20.00
British Gas (DD)	Jubilee Gardens	£20.18
Primary School PTFA	Grant	£400.00
MSMG	Benches and gates	£194.98
Octopus Energy	Toilets	IN CREDIT £41.87
WAP	Library	£1625.00
WAP	Library Rent	£900.00
Wivey Walkers	Town Map	£40.00

**24/97.2 Current account analysis and Bank reconciliation for August 2024:** It was resolved to note the current account analysis and bank reconciliation, and Cllr B Wilson would sign these.

**24/97.3 Budget monitoring:** It was resolved to note, and Cllr B Wilson would sign this.

**24/97.4 PAYE figures for August:** It was resolved to note, and Cllr McNichol would sign this.

**24/97.5 Application from Recreation Ground for improved Car Parking;** Cllr R Wilson left the room during this item and Cllr Blaker took over as chair. It was resolved that although the Council support the Recreation Ground they thought this was not the best way to do so with public money, so with one vote against it was resolved not to grant them the money.

- 24/98 Report from Community Centre:** It was resolved to note the committee met on the 5<sup>th</sup> September but Cllr McNichol had not yet received the minutes so was unable to produce a report.
- 24/99 Report from Somerset Councillor:** Cllr Mansell reported that there had been a few issues with roadworks with cones being placed in the wrong road (West Street instead of West Road). The enhanced maintenance programme is now out for highways.
- 24/100 Crime Report:** It was resolved to note the report.
- 24/101 Correspondence:**
- 24/101.1 Letter from the Cambridge Building society: A letter had been received to say the interest rates on the saving account had been reduced from 2.90% to 2.65% with effect from 30<sup>th</sup> August.
- 24/101.2 Letter from NatWest: A letter had been received to say the business reserve account interest had dropped to 1.35% from 1.25% with effect from 15<sup>th</sup> October.
- 24/101.3 Street Licence for Whelans Café: It was resolved to support the application.
- 24/101.4 Street License for stall in the Square: It was resolved to support the application.
- 24/101.5 Email from Lovell Homes regarding allotments: It was resolved to write back and ask for further information. Who would own the land? What would happen with the 6 meter bat area? Could electricity be put in the shed? Would the Council also have responsibility of the allotment car park?
- 24/101.6 Death of our footpaths: Cllr McNichol had been in contact with Wivey Walkers who had contacted the rights of way team to start discussions.
- 24/101.7 Parish Council Scheme of allowances: It was resolved with one abstention and one vote against to allow Town Councillors travel allowance if on Council business outside the parish.
- 24/102 Community Plan Update:** It was resolved to note the draft minutes and accept the recommendations.
- 24/103 Saturday mornings Cllr Surgery:** It was resolved to note the October surgery falls at the same time as the community plan consultation and the open day so as many councillors as possible to attend
- 24/104 Jubilee Gardens:** It was resolved more painting had been done.
- 24/105 Allotments:** It was resolved Cllr B Wilson and the Clerk had done the health and safety check.
- 24/106 Highways:** Sue Coles addressed the Council regarding her concerns for flooding around Northgate due to the gully's not being cleaned often enough. She requested the Town Council take this over. She left the meeting to speak with Dave Mansell about this matter.
- 24/106.1 Improvements to the Square – update: It was resolved to note there would be no update until after the Community Plan Consultation. Cllr Mansell reported that Town and Parish Council would get a different level of service for carrying out a feasibility study.
- 24/106.2 SID's for Wiveliscombe: A request has been sent to SC asking for exact costings for the poles for the SID's. It looks like SID grants from the police are available again. At last Chipstable PC meeting, they were still waiting for their application to be processed. There are two other parish councils in the ward discussing SIDs and speed limits at their meetings.
- 24/107 Christmas festival update:**
- 24/107.1 Quotes for Christmas light install: It was resolved to note only one quote had been received from Encore who have fitted the lights for the past few years. It was resolved to accept their quote.
- 24/108 Review of Risk Register:** It was resolved to note there were no updates.
- 24/109 Library update:** It was resolved to note the report.
- 24/110 Report from WAP:** It was resolved to note there was no report.

**24/111 Refurb of War memorials:** The Clerk confirmed that Somerset Council had received the planning applications, as the Council agreed to the quote last year it was resolved the Clerk would check to see if the quote was still valid.

**24/112 Green Spaces:** It was resolved to note there was no update.

**24/113 Phone Box on Plain Pond:** It was resolved that Cllr Blaker would clear the weeds and brambles away from the area.

**24/114 Bleed Kits:** Cllr R Wilson reported there was a bleed Kit outside the pharmacy.

**24/115 Report from Health and Wellbeing group:** Cllr McNichol reported the programme has 11 aspects with a connecting thread of improving people's lives, in particular their physical and mental health. There is a range of grants, all of which would have to go through the Town Council, from seed grants for scoping ideas, small project grants, and larger grants for major projects. The projects need to be new/innovative approaches tackling issues, not 'business as usual' for existing projects. All of these grants involve a financial commitment from the Town Council, which for the larger grants could be over a few years as a project becomes self-sustainable, including the monitoring of progress of a project and its evaluation. However, we need to take a more proactive approach in finding ways to support our local community's H&WB needs. A wide range of issues were picked up during the WTC Community Plan consultation – the actions from these form an evidence base to help identify priorities (*see Appendix*). For example, practical actions from Section 4.4 (Leisure Groups and Classes) include improving access to walking, more allotments. Practical actions from Section 10.3 (Activities/Facilities – young people) include play equipment for specific age groups, MUGA on the Rec, all weather track. Such actions above could help to improve access to opportunities for physical activity by a wider range of people across all ages/abilities who may feel excluded from participating. Possible approaches could be 'taster' sessions for sports, music, or gardening, using local groups to promote; or summer activities in the Rec during school holidays; or 'chair yoga' for less mobile individuals.

At the August WTC meeting, representatives from Wivey Cares had attended to discuss applying for a SALC H&WB grant. This was discussed by the H&WB group, in particular whether it met SALC criteria such as being a new project or an innovative approach. Without access to details of what sort of project Wivey Cares were actually proposing, it was difficult to ascertain whether a SALC H&WB grant could be applied for. It was decided to seek more information from Wivey Cares i.e. to submit to us exactly what they want the grant for?

**24/116 Items for the next meeting to be held on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2024:**  
Cllr training

Meeting Closed 8.26pm