

.WIVELISCOMBE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON Monday 16th February 2026 in the Community Centre at 7.00pm

Attendees

Councillors: R Wilson (Chair), B Wilson, T Parker, A Kyle, C Kirk, E Gaines, P Green, L Schofield and N Blaker

Clerk: Mrs Sarah Towells

Other: Nick Harvey (In the Mix) and Dave Mansell (SC)

Apologies

Councillors: P Berman, P Martin, A Woollaston, S Shopland.

Other: None

Councillors absent without apology: P Doherty

25/277 To note apologies for absence: As noted above.

25/278 Any New Declarations of Interest or dispensation: Cllrs Kyle, Schofield and Green all declared an interest regarding item 25/295.

25/279 Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 19th January 2026: It was **resolved** to approve the minutes, and the Chairman would sign them.

25/280 Minutes of the extra-ordinary meeting held on Wednesday 28th January 2026: It was **resolved** to approve the minutes, and the Chairman would sign them.

25/281 Co-option of new councillors: It was resolved to co-opt Paul Green and Logan Schofield onto the Council who both signed their declaration of office and would take part in the remainder of the meeting.

25/282 To consider the Planning group's report: It was **resolved** to accept the report and submit the responses to planning department.

25/282.1 Agreed responses in the table below.

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|----|------------|--|---|
| SC | 49/25/0039 | Formation of porous surface to enable car parking in the winter at the Recreation Ground, Culverhay Lane, Wiveliscombe | It was resolved to support this application with the comment that the colour of the consolidated stone surfacing is selected to be appropriate for the surroundings. |
| SC | 49/25/0051 | Erection of stable building at Yeo Farm, Waterrow Road, Wiveliscombe | It was resolved to support this application. |
| SC | 49/25/0008 | Installation of windows and roof lights to dwelling with erection of porch and installation of windows and roof lights on outbuilding at Marsh Cottage, Langley Marsh Road, Wiveliscombe | It was resolved to support this application. |

25/283 Finance:

25/283.1 Accounts for approval: It was **resolved** to pay the accounts below.

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|-------------------------------|---------------------------|----------|
| Sarah Towells | Payroll and expenses | £1160.03 |
| HMRC | PAYE | £372.91 |
| Octopus | Toilets | £82.61 |
| Wiveliscombe Community Centre | Hall Hire for January | £35.00 |
| British Gas (DD) | Jubilee Gardens | £20.18 |
| MSMG | Jubilee Gardens - January | £84.00 |
| WAP | Room hire and storage | £50.00 |
| Tindle Newspapers | Advert for toilet tender | £172.80 |
| Wiveliscombe Town Hall Trust | Winding clock | £100.00 |

| | | |
|--------------------|---|-----------|
| SCF Forecourts Ltd | Toilets | £28454.40 |
| Town Hall Trust | CIL payment for ceiling repairs(first instalment) | £7885.92 |
| Somerset Council | Library staff | £11890.34 |
| Wivey Pool | CIL payment for new toilet | £24660.41 |

25/283.2 Current account analysis and Bank reconciliation for January 2026: It was **resolved** to note the current account analysis and bank reconciliation, and Cllr B Wilson would sign these.

25/283.3 Budget monitoring: It was **resolved** to note, and Cllr B Wilson would sign this.

25/283.4 PAYE figures for January: It was **resolved** to note the figures, and Cllr R Wilson would sign them. A payment of £372.91 would be sent by cheque to HMRC.

25/283.5 To receive draft minutes from the Finance Committee held on 9th February 2026: It was **resolved** to note the draft minutes and approve recommendations for the following grants:

Wivey Kick Around S137 grant of £600.00

In the Mix S137 grant of £400.00

Citizens Advice Somerset £349.00

WAP for Street market £600.00

St Lukes Community Building CIL grant of £25,000 but this must be match funded.

25/284 Report from Community Centre: It was **resolved** to note there was no report.

25/285 Report from Somerset Councillor: Cllr Mansell reported that the 26 and 27 buses would continue as is and the 25 would start 10 minutes earlier from Dulverton.

Planning application for Greenway Farm and Langley House would be looked at by the planning committee next week.

Central Government turned down the request to increase the Council tax by more than 4.99%.

The Council have a £33 million budget gap, but this will need to be covered by capitalization to set the budget which would be agreed on 4th March. There will be a Somerset Council election in 2027.

25/286 Correspondence:

25/286.1 Variation of premise licence for Tanners Stores, 8 West Street, Wiveliscombe: It was **resolved** to support the application.

25/286.2 Dog bin emptying quote: It was resolved to agree to the quote from Somerset Council to empty the dog bins.

25/286.3 Email from Roy Hayes regarding finger post in Challick Lane: It was **resolved** to submit the application to CPRE to help to restore the finger post.

25/286.4 Email from Karen McDonald for grant application for Crimestoppers South west. It was **resolved** not to give them a grant.

25/287 Saturday mornings Cllr Surgery in March: It was **resolved** Cllr Blaker would do the March session.

25/288 Report from Cllr Surgery held in February: It was **resolved** to note there was no report.

25/289 Agree Volunteer for the February Radio show: It was **resolved** Cllr R Wilson would do the February Radio show.

25/290 Review of Risk Register: It was **resolved** to note there was no updates.

25/291 New Town Council Website/online mapping and emails in line with new legislation: It was **resolved** to note that 'Parish Online' had started work on this and the domain name would be Wiveliscombetowncouncil.gov.uk

25/292 20mph zones in Wiveliscombe:

25/292.1 Update on Signs for residents: It was **resolved** to defer this to the next meeting.

25/293 Toilets- Verbal update: Cllr R Wilson reported the two cubicles were finished and would be open as soon as the approved cleaning contractor could start.

25/293.1 Quotes for area of old gents toilets: It was **resolved** to accept the quote of £6826.00 with an additional £949.00 for a door into the service area. It was further resolved to ask for additional power points and a timed heater.

25/293.2 Storage racking: It was **resolved** to get storage racking to store boxes of files and other items within the new storage area.

25/293.3 Wiveliscombe Public toilet sign: It was **resolved** to replace the sign like for like.

25/293.4 Discuss and agree tender for toilet cleaning contract: It was resolved to note 3 quotes had been received and it was **resolved** to award the contract to MSMG at £565.00 per calendar month and further resolved to write to Claires Cleaning to thank her for the work she had done the previous 7 years.

25/294 Asset Register: It was **resolved** to note there were no updates.

25/295 Management companies for housing developments in Wiveliscombe: Discuss possible ways forward: Discussions took place and it was **resolved** Cllr Parker would put a proposal together for the March meeting.

25/296 Health and Wellbeing Grant – request for extension to 31st August 2026 and agree terms: It was **resolved** the Clerk would write and ask for an extension to the grant time to enable taster sessions to run through drier months.

25/297 Library update: The Clerk reported that Somerset Council had circulated draft contracts and the Library Working Group were waiting to hear back from them before submitting them for Full Council approval. The Library Working group are meeting following this meeting to look at the draft funding agreement between The Town Council and The Town Hall Trust. It was **resolved** the Town Council were happy for the Library Working Group to work with the Town Hall Trust to get a draft funding agreement in place to submit to Full Council at the March meeting.

25/298 Report from LCN Highways group: It was **resolved** to note the draft minutes that had been circulated.

25/299 To adopt development and training policy: It was **resolved** to adopt the policy.

25/300 Crime Report: It was resolved to note the report. It was further **resolved** the Clerk would write and ask for attendance at our Council meetings if possible.

25/301 To form a Highway Working group to do consultation with business's: It was **resolved** that Cllrs Berman, Schofield, B Wilson and Woollaston would form the group. The group would be known as The Square Working Group.

25/302 Items for the next meeting to be held on Monday 16th March 2026:

Report from Square Working group

Library contracts

Proposal from Cllr Parker regarding management companies for housing developments

25/303 Close meeting: Meeting Closed 20.23