



LANGPORT TOWN COUNCIL
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LANGPORT TOWN COUNCIL – Council Minutes

Minutes of the Meeting of Langport Town Council held on Tuesday 3rd December 2024 at 7.00pm in the first-floor meeting room, Langport Town Hall

Present: Councillors

S Glas

A Donald

I MacNab

S Peterkin (Chair)

C Gherasim

M Crumb

R Crumb

A Wilson

B Paterson

In attendance was Gerard Tucker, Town Clerk, Morag Kelly, Deputy Town Clerk. There were no members of the public present.

TC2024/98 To receive Apologies for Absence and to approve the reasons given ([LGA 1972 s85 \(1\)](#))

Cllr Dromgoole was unable to attend as he is currently in Scotland supporting a family member.

TC2024/99 Declarations of interests

Members to declare any interests, including Disclosable Pecuniary Interests they may have in agenda items that accord with the requirements of the Town Council's Code of Conduct and to consider any prior requests from members for Dispensations that accord with Localism Act 2011 s33(b-e) (NB this does not preclude any later declaration.

There were no declarations of interest.

TC2024/100 To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the Town Council Meetings held on Tuesday 19th November 2024 ([LGA 1972 sch 12, para 41 \(1\)](#))

The minutes of the meeting held on 19th November were considered accurate and were duly signed by the Chair

TC2024/101 Town Clerk's Oral Report -

Including use of delegated powers and update on progress since the last meeting. The Clerk thanked those who supported the continued setting up of the Christmas lights in Langport over the weekend. Also to Cllr R Crumb for his support and guidance on dealing with the invasion of weed in the Back Water.

TC2024/102 To receive written or oral reports from meetings and training attended by councillors on behalf of the Council

Councillors have not involved with either additional meetings or training.

TC2024/103 Planning

Application Number: 24/02385/ADV

Location: One Stop Community Stores 7-8 Parrett Close Langport. TA10 9PG

Proposal: Installation of adverts: 2no. externally illuminated fascia sign, 3no. ACM panels, various window vinyl, 2no. lockable poster cases, window safety manifestation and 1no. clip frame.

Applicant: One Stop Community Stores Ltd

Application Type: Advert Application

The application was displayed, which included comparisons between what is currently in situ and proposed. The rebranding of One Stop was unanimously supported by Councillors who raised no concerns.

TC2024/104 To relocate (or remove) the Lighthouse located at Bow Bridge.

The lighthouse located near Bow Bridge was an arts project installation which was intended to connect low lying areas on the Bristol Channel with a light displayed at times of flood. Unfortunately, internet problems and the impromptu relocation of the lighthouse at the time of delivery has meant that it has never worked. It is now considered by some residents to be an eyesore, with a recommendation that it is either relocated or removed. After an interesting discussion, Cllr R Crumb proposed, seconded by Cllr Paterson and unanimously **RESOLVED** that the lighthouse is removed after it has first been offered to the original artist, who is welcome to remove the installation at her own cost.

TC2024/87 To receive a summary from the Finance and Personnel meeting held on 27th November.

To include recommendations to award grants to Langport Foodbank - £750, Somerset Youth Theatre - £250 and Langport Runners £150. The Clerk informed that he has contacted SALC (Somerset Association of Local Councils) and sought clarification if Langport Town Council has the General Power of Competence. It transpires that it does not, despite the Clerk being CiLCA qualified (there was not a contested election). He further enquired if the setting up of Service Level Agreements (SLA's) with regular recipients of grant funding could be a way of financially supporting organisations over and above the limit set in the Free Resource. In response, SALC have indicated that this is acceptable, providing the recipients are delivering a service which has been appropriately defined with Key Performance Indicators (KPI's) regularly monitored. The Clerk is to have a conversation with The Youth Club representatives to try and identify a way forward.

TC2024/88 Presentation of the 2025/26 budget

The Clerk presented a detailed summary of the budget proposed for the year 2025/26. Having such a small residential base on which to draw additional precept, together with the ever expanding list of expenditure due to devolution, the budget is extremely tight. The key features within the budget are to employ a 16 hours per week handyman/lengthsman to undertake jobs around the town. To afford the emptying of litter and dog waste bins from 1st April. To set aside £5,000 to assist with feasibility studies of potential additional car parking. To include financial support for Landmark Langport to assist with essential repairs and maintenance of properties and to consider Service Level Agreements with regular grants beneficiaries. The suggested budget if adopted would add an additional 8.55% to the local precept, taking the amount generated through local contributions to £124,620. Cllr Wilson proposed, seconded by Cllr M Crumb that he proposed budget be accepted. This proposal was supported unanimously. The Clerk was thanked by Cllr M Crumb for the work that he had dedicated to preparing the budget, which had been presented clearly.

TC2024/89 Chairman's Report The Chair acknowledged the numerous events, markets and performances that have either taken place or are planned in Langport during the Christmas period. She thanked the numerous people who work tirelessly to help in delivering a vibrant community in which to both live and work.

Councillors raised the following observations to be considered at a future meeting. Continuation of the memorial to Deborah Speed. Who is responsible for clearing the brash and foliage on Common Moor, the clerk is to enquire through the Secretary – Jane Redfearn. Cllr Gherasim enquired if additional cctv coverage can be provided in Cocklemoor car park. This is a Somerset Council owned car park and a request would need to be submitted to them.

Meeting closed 8.25pm

Signed Date: