



Council Committee Minutes  
Minutes of a meeting of Langport Town Council's

**Finance and Personnel Committee**

Held on **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2025** at 7.00pm

<b>Present:</b>	
Cllr Dromgoole Cllr Wilson Cllr M Crumb (Chair)	Cllr Donald Cllr Glas

Also present: Gerard Tucker – Town Clerk, Morag Kelly – Deputy Town Clerk

**FP2024/33 To receive Apologies for Absence and to approve the reasons given.**  
(LGA 1972 s85 (1)) None received – all present.

**FP2024/34 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 declarations)*. Cllr Dromgoole declared an interest in item FP2024/38 as he has been invited to become a Trustee of Landmark Langport.

**FP2024/35 To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2024 (LGA 1972 sch 12, para 41 (1))**

The minutes of the previous meeting were considered to be accurate and were duly signed by the Chair.

**FP2024/36 To consider the amount requested from Somerset Council for the local contribution from the precept.**

The clerk presented an example of the precept form to be submitted to Somerset Council. The proposed rise from £114,795 (24/25) to £124,620 (25/26) equates to an increase of 8.56%. A Band D property will have an annual increase of £18.99. Cllr Dromgoole proposed, seconded by Cllr Wilson and unanimously **AGREED** that the suggested increase is presented to Somerset Council.

**FP2024/37 To receive requests for Grant Awards:  
Regular Funding of amounts *less* than £1,000**

Applications have been received from:

Octagon Theatre and Westlands (retrospective contribution to Play day on Cocklemoor) – requesting £150. This event was held in August and was well supported with between 40 and 50 young people attending. No reference can be found of there being a request for funding prior to the event. On receipt of an invoice in November, it was realised that a contribution was expected. Councillor unanimously **RESOLVED** to pay the invoice

Citizens Advice Somerset are request a financial contribution of £332. The amount requested equates to 1% of the running costs of the organisation for one year. There remains £100 in the grants budget. Cllr Wilson proposed, seconded by Cllr Donald and unanimously **AGREED** that a contribution of £100 be offered, with a covering explanation of our financial situation.

**FP2024/38 To Receive requests for Grant Awards:  
Funding amounts of *more* than £1,000**

Applications have been received from:

Landmark Langport – request for a financial contribution in this financial year of £7,500. Councillors considered this application. Whilst there are no funds left in this year's grants, the clerk was asked to write to the applicant and inform that financial support in the current year has been provided in the form of an increase in rent, financially supporting the installation of the internal lift and project managing the application and installation of an external lift. Councillors were keen to continue supporting the organisation and have already agreed to assign £4,500 in the next financial year. As a further offer of support, the services of the Town Clerk are to be offered in helping to identify external grants and assist the applicant before submission. A financial contribution was not awarded.

Huish Academy – request for a contribution towards the refurbishment of the sports hall Of £2,000. There being no funds left in the grants budget, no financial contribution was awarded.

**FP2024/39 Having received the charges for bin emptying after 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025 –  
to discuss purchasing larger bins for Cocklemoor**

Somerset Council has indicated that from April 2025 town and parish councils will be responsible for the costs associated with emptying bins located on council owned land. The cost of £6.50 +VAT is for each bin emptied. By amalgamating dog waste and litter bins, regular overhead costs can be saved. The clerk has contacted the appropriate Somerset Council department and requested information on the regularity of the emptying of the bins. There was no decision to be taken at this time and in due course, this item will again be included on an agenda.

**FP2024/40 To consider the transfer of investments to the Churches,  
Communities and Local Authority (CCLA) Fund**

Both the clerk and deputy clerk attended a meeting where a representative of the CCLA presented. The increase in interest payments in the past year would have been approximately £2,500 over our current banking system. Councillors were in agreement that the increase of our investments – due to receiving the precept just once, makes the use of

CCLA attractive. The clerk was asked to set up a Zoom link with the CCLA to enable councillors the opportunity to ask questions and seek guidance on the appropriate investing of funds, risks, access etc.

**FP2024/41 To consider the Job Description, Person Specification and Advertisement for the role of Lengthsman.**

The clerk presented a suggested advert, person specification and job description for the position of Lengthsman. Cllr Crumb will proof read the advert. All of the documents were considered acceptable and the clerk was thanked for his input. The emphasis has to be to all Councillors, that instructions to the Lengthsman will come through the Clerk's Office.

The meeting closed at 8.25pm

DRAFT

