



LANGPORT TOWN COUNCIL
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LANGPORT TOWN COUNCIL – Council Minutes

Minutes of the Meeting of Langport Town Council held on Tuesday 20th May 2025 at 7.00pm in the first-floor meeting room, Langport Town Hall

Present Councillors:

A Wilson	M Crumb
C Gherasim	I MacNab
S Peterkin	R Crumb
S Glas	A Donald

In attendance was Gerard Tucker, Town Clerk, Morag Kelly, Deputy Clerk, Somerset Cllr Richard Wilkins and 7 members of the public. There were no members of the press present.

Public Participation – Items raised included:

- Removal of the lighthouse on Cocklemoor
- A request that draft minutes are placed on the website prior to the next meeting
- Clarification on the car park lease agreement
- A presentation of an independent car park occupation survey

Cllr Wilkins reported on the closure of the maternity ward in Yeovil. He was asked to identify why Langport's pavements have not been left in the same condition as Curry Rivel following works. He was also asked to research why signage at a road closure is not better displayed.

TC2025/1 Election of Chairman of the Council and Acceptance of Office. (LGA 1972 s14 (1), 15(1&2), 33(1) and 34(1&2))

Cllr Dromgoole was proposed for the position of Chairman of the council by Cllr Donald, seconded by Cllr Glas and unanimously **AGREED**. 8-0-0. The declaration and acceptance of office will be signed on Tuesday 26th May on Councillor Dromgoole's return.

TC2025/2 To receive Apologies for Absence and to approve the reasons given (LGA 1972 s85 (1))

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Paterson (holiday) and Cllr Dromgoole (holiday)

TC2025/3 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 Peterkin declared an interest in agenda item TC2025/14 as she had supported Kate Lynch with the painting that requires framing

TC2025/4 Appointment of Vice Chairman of the Council.

Cllr Peterkin was proposed for the position of Vice Chairman by Cllr Glas, seconded by Cllr Donald and unanimously **AGREED**. A statement from the Chairman of the council Cllr Dromgoole was read to the meeting thanking Cllr Glas for his support as Vice Chairman for the previous three years.

TC2025/5 To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Tuesday 15th April 2025 (LGA 1972 sch 12, para 41 (1))

The minutes from the previous meeting were agreed and duly signed by the chair as being a true and correct record of that meeting.

TC2025/6 Town Clerk's Oral Report -

including use of delegated powers and update on progress since the last meeting:

- The clerk informed that a drop in meeting to address concerns about the pending railway bridge works and the closure of the A378 has been organised for Wednesday 11th June at the Langport and Huish Episcopi Sports and Social Club, Eastover, Langport. The session will be attended by representatives from Morgan Sindall, Network Rail and Somerset Council and will be between 4.30pm and 7.30pm.
- Litter picking responsibility for insurance and monitoring purposes is to be transferred from the Inland Waterways Association to the Town Council with immediate effect.
- Additional wheeled bins during fair week have been ordered for the town at a cost of £80.
- Following a recent incident in the car park, it became evident for the need to extend the CCTV coverage of Cocklemoor car park. It is intended to obtain quotes to improve this service.

TC2025/7 To receive written or oral reports from meetings and training attended by councillors on behalf of the Council

No meetings have been attended that are not part of later agenda items

TC2025/8 Financial Regulations

The review of the town council's Financial Regulations is identified in the Standing Orders of the council to take place immediately after the formation of a new council – normally every four years. The Financial Regulations state in 8.5 *The Council shall consider the need for an investment strategy which is to be reviewed annually*. As an investment strategy is being considered, the opportunity is provided to review the Financial Regulations. There were no questions, comments nor amendments raised in relation to the Financial Regulations.

TC2025/9 To receive written or oral reports from meetings and training attended by councillors on behalf of the Council

- i Joint parishes
The Joint Council Committee has not met since the last meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 28th May.
- ii Active Travel. Works to improve the footpath between Langport and Aller has continued with the laying of additional stone around the viaduct and gateways on land owned by Langport Town Council.

- iii Visit to Wessex Water sewerage treatment works. Eight councillors attended a visit of the Langport sewerage works to view the recent £11m investment, the purpose which is to reduce the level of phosphates entering watercourses. The visit was both informative and enjoyable
- iv Entertainment and Activities. Venues for hire in the vicinity are in the process of being updated on to the Langport Life website. A review of noticeboards is also to be implemented.

TC2025/10 To appoint Councillors the following Committee

- i. Finance and Personnel. (Chairman S Dromgoole and Vice-Chairman S Peterkin) Additional members M Crumb, A Donald, S Glas and A Wilson
- ii. Tourism and Marketing. (Chairman S Dromgoole and Vice-Chairman S Peterkin). Additional members R Crumb, C Gherasim, I MacNab, S Glas (Footpath Liaison Officer), A Wilson, Representatives from Huish Episcopi Parish Council, Langport Area Business Group, Langport Information Centre lead volunteer and Market and Vintage Market Coordinators
- iii. Active Travel Group – R Crumb, S Glas, A Wilson and representatives from HEPC
- iv. Joint Parishes (Chairman S Dromgoole and Vice-Chairman S Peterkin) plus M Crumb and B Paterson

TC2025/11 To appoint Councillors as representatives to outside bodies and Councillor offices

The committees and organisations where Langport Town Council are represented is supported by the following list of Councillors.

Outside Body	Current Representative
Abattoir Liaison Group	S Dromgoole
Annie Tite Fund	R Crumb
Langport & Huish Episcopi Memorial Field	M Crumb & S Dromgoole
Sir Edward Hext Almshouses	I MacNab & A Donald
Langport Area Business Group	S Glas
Cocklemoor Community Trust CIO	I MacNab
Active Travel Group	R Crumb
Somerset Bus Partnership	I MacNab
Councillor Offices	
Joint Council	S Dromgoole, S Peterkin, B Paterson, M Crumb
Footpaths Liaison Officer	S Glas
Grit Bin Monitor	S Glas
Flood Warden	B Paterson
Climate Champion	I MacNab
Litter Pick Organiser	R Crumb
Landscape Recovery Programme	S Dromgoole & R Crumb

TC2025/12 Town Council Policies

to review and approve the following Town Council's Policies

- i Code of Conduct
- ii Risk Management scheme
- iii Website Policy
- iv Recording meetings Policy
- v Member relations Protocol
- vi Investment Policy

Policies i – v are reviewed every four years, the opportunity was provided for any changes or amendments to be raised and considered. There being no requirements for changes requested, the policies were received on-bloc.

Item vi – Investment Policy is a new policy as is being presented due to the instruction to seek a better return on the councils investments. Cllr M Crumb proposed the adoption of the Investment Policy, seconded by Cllr Wilson and unanimously **AGREED**. 8-0-0

TC2025/13 Assets Register

The town council's Asset Register was presented. Various items were considered to be missing from the register including:

- The Stuckey Cup
- Orb
- Historic chamber pot
- Mayoral chain of Office
- Gun
- Second Table Tennis Table

The town pump has been included, yet is considered to be an asset of Landmark Langport. The clerk is to seek clarification.

Councillors requested that a further column is added which identifies the insurance value of each item

TC2025/14 To consider a grant application (for less than £1,000)

An application has been submitted to the Town Council by Kate Lynch who has requested a contribution of £250 towards the cost of framing the 'Between the River and the Railway' artistic map of Langport. Cllr Peterkin having declared an interest in this item did not partake in any discussion nor decisions taken. Cllr M Crumb led this item. Cllr Glas proposed, seconded by Cllr Donald and unanimously **AGREED** 7-0-0

Having approved this application, £8,150 remains in the grants budget.

TC2025/15 Application to install a Paddleboard and Kayak rental solution on Cocklemoor

A request has been received from James Tuck to install a SUP and Kayak vending machine near the river on Cocklemoor. For a fee, users will be able to access Stand Up Paddleboards and kayaks. Mr Tuck presented his idea which in principal was supported by Councillors. Cllrs Wilson and R Crumb are to join with the Town Clerk when discussing the detail of location, safety, promotion, security, power supply etc.

TC2025/16 Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) membership

continued SLCC membership at a cost of £80 for the Town Clerk to remain a member of this organisation.

TC2025/17 Town Council Year 2025/26 Year to Date Budget -

The year to date budget was presented, yet being just one month in the new financial year, there were no comments arising from the report.

TC2025/18 Finance – Bank Account Balances -

to note the balances of the Council's bank accounts as of 30/04/2025.

Capital Reserve - £217,294.92

Current Account - £7,572.94

Town Trust Account - £6,603.79

TC2025/19 Finance - Accounts for Payment and Income -

A list of items of expenditure raised during April was presented. There were neither comments nor questions arising.

TC2025/20 Chairman's Report

Cllr Peterkin informed of the launch of the new map picture on 13th June at the Bridge Bakery between 5.00pm and 6.00pm

There is a temporary footpath closure of the bridge near Tesco to allow for repair

The annual Friendly Society walk will take place on Saturday 24th May

Meeting closed at 8:45pm

Signed

Date: