



LANGPORT TOWN COUNCIL
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LANGPORT TOWN COUNCIL – Council Minutes

Minutes of the Meeting of Langport Town Council held on Tuesday 18th November 2025 at 7.00pm in the first-floor meeting room, Langport Town Hall

Present Councillors:

M Crumb	S Peterkin
B Paterson	A Donald
S Glas	M MacNab
R Crumb	

In attendance was Gerard Tucker, Town Clerk, Morag Kelly, Deputy Clerk and 2 members of the public. There were no members of the press present.

Public Participation – Items raised included:
Nothing was raised

TC2025/83 To receive Apologies for Absence and to approve the reasons given (LGA 1972 s85 (1))

Apologies were received from Cllrs Dromgoole (holiday), Gherasim (work commitments) and Wilson (recovering from surgery) Somerset Councillor Richard Wilkins was absent due to attending meetings out of the county.

TC2025/84 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). Councillors Peterkin and Paterson declared an interest in item TC2025/90 as they are both trustees of Landmark Langport.

TC2025/85 To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Tuesday 21st October 2025 (LGA 1972 sch 12, para 41 (1))

The minutes of the meeting held on 21st October were considered a true record of that meeting and were duly signed by the Chair.

TC2025/86 Planning

Proposal: Install a porch to the front of the property.
Location: 51 Garden City Huish Episcopi Langport Somerset TA10 9SU
Applicant: Mr N Osborne
Application Type : Householder Application
Application Number: 25/02571/HOU

This application was presented to councillors. Having received the detail and comments from statutory organisations, unanimously supported the application.

TC2025/87 Town Clerk's Oral Report -

The Town Clerk reported that the Christmas lights were recently installed and thanked everyone who helped. North Street has yet to be done, due to the retirement of Mike Dandy who is unable to undertake the task any longer. The late night shopping in Langport is scheduled for 20th November and all of the stalls have been sold. The firework display and Christmas market on 6th December is underway and there was a call for volunteers to help on the day of the event.

The compost bin – at the cemetery is made from pallets and was falling apart. The Lengthsman has built a new structure to replace the old one. Two courses for the Lengthsman have been identified a) chainsaw operations & b) working at height. Attendance on both of these is anticipated over the winter period. Councillors were invited to forward any ideas for the work programme of the Lengthsman to the town clerk. Following the decision of the Joint Councils Committee (JCC) recommending that dogs are to be kept on leads whilst on Cocklemoor, signage has been purchased. For reasons not fully understood, Huish Episcopi Parish Council did not include the item on any agendas and therefore withdraw their support. This item is to be reconsidered at the January meeting of Langport Town Council.

The JCC Terms of Reference when discussed at a previous meeting identified a concern regarding reference to Standing Orders. A revised Terms of Reference will be presented to the January meeting of the JCC.

TC2025/88 To receive written or oral reports from meetings and training attended by councillors on behalf of the Council.

- i Local Community Network
 - a. Active Travel. At a recent meeting, reinstating the 80 mile South Somerset Cycleway was identified as a priority.
 - b. Curry Rivel PC are looking to create a Community Interest Organisation (CIO) and have invited representatives from town and parish councils locally to involve. A suggestion of £1.00 per elector contribution is likely to be submitted should Langport want to be involved.
- ii Huish and Langport Memorial Field
 - a. Two vacancies exist to represent the Town Council on the Memorial Field Committee. Cllrs Gherasim and Wilson were suggested. As neither were in attendance, the clerk will write and enquire if they are willing to represent the council.
- iii Car parking review – progress report. The Huish Episcopi clerk has identified a highways planning consultant who is prepared to advise on the suitability of land previously identified for potential car parking use. An expected cost of £1,000 per council has been identified. Councillors were prepared to support the idea, yet requested that a detailed description of what is to be included in the discussions is submitted before the commitment to engage with the consultant is made. The reason for this is to ensure that work already completed is not replicated.
- iv Enforcing 20mph speed limits. The clerk had contacted Somerset Highways and sought guidance on the enforcement of the 20mph speed restricted zone between Bow Street and North Street. Avon and Somerset Police would be the enforcing body and they will respond only when evidence of regular breaches of the speed limit can be demonstrated. Community speed watch is one method of obtaining evidence, or the installation of speed indicator devices (SID's). The clerk was asked to research the purchase of SID's and report to the January meeting of the council.

Cllr MacNab attended a meeting of the Edward Hex alms houses and had nothing to report. Cllrs MacNab, Paterson and R Crumb attended a Somerset Rivers Authority (SRA) presentation and workshop held at The Angel. The meeting was to engage with residents within the whole of the Parrett catchment area with the purpose of encouraging engagement and ownership of projects to alleviate flooding.

TC2025/89 To receive and adopt the revised, NALC approved Financial Regulations for Langport Town Council.

The draft Financial Regulations that were previously circulated to Councillors were presented. The clerk drew councillors attention to the main changes which are predominately around the procurement process and the amount permitted by different tiers of the authority. Cllr M Crumb proposed, seconded by Cllr Paterson and unanimously **RESOLVED** to adopt the Financial Regulations which had been drafted by NALC

TC2025/90 To receive, comment and if agreed, approve the draft Service Level Agreement (SLA) for Landmark Langport (Langport Area CIO).

Landmark Langport had agreed to enter in to a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with Langport Town Council. When setting the budget for the current financial year, a sum of £4,500 had been approved subject to a SLA being agreed between the two parties. The draft SLA had been previously circulated and councillors were invited to comment. In return for a payment of £4,500, Landmark Langport are to:-

- a) Have a minimum of six trustees, of which at least two will be nominated councillors from Langport Town Council.
- b) Landmark Langport to hold a minimum of six meetings per year plus the annual general meeting.
- c) Landmark Langport are to present to Langport Town Council an annual review and action plan, preferably in the autumn of each year.
- d) The annual audited accounts are to be made available to Langport Town Council on receipt.
- e) A financial statement is to be presented which will include a predicted profit and loss forecast.
- f) To enter into an annual review of working relations with Langport Town Council in March/April each year.

Cllr M Crumb proposed, seconded by Cllr R Crumb and unanimously **AGREED** to support the draft SLA, with no further amendments.

TC2025/91 To receive updates on council committees held since the last Full Council meeting.

- a. Finance and Personnel

Cllr M Crumb informed that grants had been awarded to the Memorial Field Committee for £2,000 towards general running costs. A request to enter in to discussions on the provision of a SLA to enable additional financial support has received no response. Transition Langport have been awarded £450 towards projection equipment and Huish Primary School £1,000 to enable all pupils to involve with out of school activities.

TC2025/92 Presentation of the draft budget for 2026/27

The draft budget had been previously discussed at the Finance and Personnel committee. The clerk had been asked to calculate the cost of employing a new clerk for three months (January – March 2027) for 30 hours per week. He had further been asked to include an amount to cover the additional costs of recruitment, training and equipment. This has been calculated at £13,424, for which HEPC will be expected to contribute half. The inclusion of this additional sum, based on the budget presented will require an increase in the precept of 7.25%

Huish Episcopi Parish Council has indicated that they may be prepared to financially support some items of expenditure normally paid by Langport TC. A request for £5,000 to cover the costs associated with the

pontoons, cemetery and Cocklemoor has been submitted. This request will be considered at the January meeting of the parish council. In the event that the funding is released, the precept will be raised by 3.5%. There is no further input required for the budget until the outcome of the request to HEPC is known. The clerk was thanked for his input in preparing the annual budget.

TC2025/93 Finance – Bank Account Balances -

to note the balances of the Council’s bank accounts as of 31/10/2025.

Nat West Current Account - £ 10,851.88

Nat West Business Reserve - £ 19,951.91

CCLA - £129,978.53

Langport Town Trust - £ 6,300.00

TC2025/94 Finance - Accounts for Payment and Income -

A paper detailing the expenditure and income for October had been previously circulated. There were no questions arising .

TC2025/95 To discuss warding of the proposed new merged parishes

In the absence of Cllr Dromgoole, the clerk informed the council on the outcome of discussions with Officers from Somerset Council on the subject of warding. Cllr M Crumb proposed, seconded by Cllr Paterson and unanimously **AGREED** that it is requested that there are now wards within the new council structure.

TC2025/96 Correspondence received to include:

- a. ABP grant applications encouraged. The clerk was encouraged to apply for the purchase of a chainsaw through the ABP grant application process.

TC2025/97 Chairman’s Report

Cllr Peterkin encouraged attendance at various events that are scheduled to take place soon. These included Great Expectations at All Saints, James Purefoy is hosting a Q & A session in the Town Hall. There are various events taking place at Eli’s

Meeting closed at 8.30pm

Signed

Date 20th January 2026