



LANGPORT TOWN COUNCIL
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LANGPORT TOWN COUNCIL – Council Minutes
Minutes of the Meeting of Langport Town Council
held on Tuesday 20th January 2026 at 7.00pm
in the first-floor meeting room, Langport Town Hall

Present Councillors:

A Wilson
B Paterson
S Glas
R Crumb

S Peterkin
A Donald
I MacNab
S Dromgoole

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

Public Participation – Items raised included: The deteriorating state of Bow Street, parking and anticipated review of parking charges.

TC2025/101 To receive Apologies for Absence and to approve the reasons given (LGA 1972 s85 (1))

Apologies were received from Cllr Gherasim (working out of the county) and Cllr M Crumb, recovering from surgery.

TC2025/102 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.

There were no declarations of interest

TC2025/103 To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Tuesday 18th November 2025 and 7th January 2026 (LGA 1972 sch 12, para 41 (1))

The minutes of the November Full Council meeting and a planning meeting held in January were considered accurate and were signed by the Chair.

TC2025/104 Town Clerk's Oral Report -

- The clerk thanked those who were able to involve with taking down the festive lights recently.
- The Lengthsman is attending a chainsaw course this week which will be an asset to the council on completion.
- Cocklemoor – Backwater Rhyne clearance has been awarded to Bernard Perry. When water levels permit, clearance and dredging the Rhyne will be completed

- Northmoor path improvements will initially commence with the removal of a hawthorn tree at Poolmead Rhyne. This work will commence when conditions allow.
- The damaged bollard on the Precinct junction with Bow Street will be replaced at no cost to the council

TC2025/105 To receive written or oral reports from meetings and training attended by councillors on behalf of the Council.

- Local Community Network. Cllr Dromgoole informed of the content of the most recent Levels and Moors LCN, which included:
A presentation on fraud and the various methods used to try and extract funds from people.
An update on the loneliness project and a call for people to use the information presented to address loneliness.
The use of drones to assist with wildlife monitoring on the Somerset Levels.
The introduction of five pilot projects to explore the merits of introducing Green Lanes in Somerset
- Car parking review – The outcome of meeting with Highways Consultant is awaited. It is expected that the preferred site will be Westover (Garage) site, although this has yet to be confirmed.
- Transport Hub – A recent meeting with Mark Stanistreet provided an update on the introduction of a Transport Hub in the centre of Langport. Following concerns that some people had not had the opportunity to engage with the programme, further consultation is planned for Thursday 5th February between 4.00pm and 6.00pm
- Cllr Peterkin informed that she had attended a SALC course on how to communicate effectively,

TC2025/106 To receive updates on council committees held since the last Full Council meeting.

- Finance and Personnel
 - Grant funding has been approved for the Octagon Theatre (£250) and Langport Runners (£150).
- Joint Council Committee. Information on the recommendation to form the following Working Groups was agreed:
 - Finance (to include SLA's and grants) Cllrs M Crumb and S Dromgoole.
 - Planning (to include Neighbourhood Plans) Cllrs B Paterson and R Crumb
 - Communication Cllr S Peterkin and A Donald
 - Governance. It was considered that any requirement on governance was to be dealt with by the Joint Council Committee.

The recommendation to introduce a Task and Finish Group to consider personnel matters was endorsed.

TC2025/107 To receive a report and recommendation from the Joint Council Committee regarding dogs on leads whilst using Cocklemoor.

The previously approved recommendation to request that dogs are kept on leads on Cocklemoor met with some concerns raised by users. A proposal to introduce a change to the original approval, that of requesting that dogs be kept on leads between 1st April and 30th September was unanimously endorsed by Council.

TC2025/108 To receive a report and recommendation on the Town Councils telephone system.

The current analogue system is to become redundant at the end of 2026. A small rise in the monthly charge will not resolve the problem of how best to provide telephony in the future. A virtual phone has been suggested, although this and other options requires further response. A

report is to be compiled and presented to the next meeting of the Finance and Personnel committee.

TC2025/109 Presentation of the proposed budget for 2026/27

The clerk presented a revised budget, showing some areas of improved income and areas of the budget where additional costs are anticipated. Cllr Peterkin proposed, seconded by Cllr Paterson and unanimously **AGREED** that the budget presented be accepted by the council. 8-0-0

TC2025/110 To Consider and agree the Precept for the year 2026/27

Having agreed the budget, the amount of precept required has risen by 3.5% to £128,982. Proposed by Cllr Paterson , seconded by Cllr Donald and unanimously **AGREED**. 8-0-0.

TC2025/111 Finance – Bank Account Balances

To note the balances of the Council’s bank accounts as of 31/12/2025.

CCLA	£118,000.00
Nat West Reserve	£ 13,111.41
Nat West Current	£ 7,486.47
Nat West – Town Trust	£ 22,674.60

TC2025/112 Finance - Accounts for Payment and Income - to note items of expenditure and income for December

TC2025/113 Chairman’s Report

The Chairman informed that he has been speaking to Huish colleagues regarding the anticipation of producing a Neighbourhood Plan covering the Huish and Langport area. This will require additional work prior to being submitted as a proposal.

He and two people interested in having a skatepark in Langport visited the Mayor of Wells who is keen to introduce something similar there. The levels of enthusiasm have risen enormously following that visit.

Meeting closed at 8.30pm

Signed

Date 16th February 2026