



LANGPORT TOWN COUNCIL
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LANGPORT TOWN COUNCIL – Council Minutes
Minutes of the Meeting of Langport Town Council
held on Tuesday 17th February 2026 at 7.00pm
in the first-floor meeting room, Langport Town Hall

Present Councillors:

A Wilson	S Peterkin
S Glas	I MacNab
R Crumb	M Crumb

In attendance was Gerard Tucker, Town Clerk, Morag Kelly, Deputy Clerk, Somerset Councillor Richard Wilkins and 15 members of the public. There were no members of the press present.

Public Participation – Items raised included: Proposed local transport hub. Numerous comments were raised by members of the public. Those in favour of the proposal identified the provision of a new bus shelter, real time information, opportunity to develop a wider network of public transport and security for the 54 bus route. Those opposed identified the relocation of disabled parking, the over capacity of existing parking and the impact on retailers in the precinct as concerns. The chair allowed the public participation to extend to 30 minutes to ensure that everyone who wished to speak had an opportunity. A question was raised about the town clock which is currently not working. Cllr Wilkins (Somerset Council) apologised for the late notice for the resurfacing of Bow Street which caused issues on the day of the works being implemented.

TC2025/114 To receive Apologies for Absence and to approve the reasons given (LGA 1972 s85 (1))

Apologies have been received from Cllrs Dromgoole, Donald & Paterson – Holiday, Cllr Gherasim - working out of the county.

TC2025/115 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

TC2025/116 To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Tuesday 20th January 2026 (LGA 1972 sch 12, para 41 (1))

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 20th January were considered accurate and were duly signed by the Chair.

TC2025/117 Town Clerk's Oral Report -

The memorial for Deborah Speed has been completed and installed at the entrance from the town garden to Common Moor. Cllr MacNab was thanked for his input in project managing this tribute. Councillors would like to organise an opening ceremony in April, where Deborah's family would be invited to attend.

Cocklemoor – Backwater Rhyne clearance has been delayed due to the excessive wet weather

Hanging Baskets have been ordered for the Town Hall (four) and the island (six). These will compliment the existing barrel tubs which should make a wonderful display.

Fencing between Cricket Ground and Eastover has been reinstated by the Lengthsman. Concern was expressed about the impact that a development known as Walnut Ground may have on the cricket club. The clerk was asked to contact Collier Planning to request a site meeting to discuss.

Action - Clerk

The Walter Bagehot information board in the Town Garden has been refreshed. The Lengthsman assisted with the installation.

The clerk recently attended a course entitled Artificial Intelligence awareness training, delivered by SALC.

Correspondence has been received from the Memorial Field committee requesting that Langport Town Council endorses a request to Somerset Council for the release of S106 funding in support of an application to upgrade the football pitch. Cllr Glas proposed, seconded by Cllr R Crumb that the request was supported, which was unanimously supported.

Correspondence has been received from the Environment Agency informing that responsibilities for clearing Rhyne's and Rivers is with the riparian owners. Langport has an interest in the River Parrett, Backwater, Common Moor and Northmoor. Concern has been shared with the EA about the enormity of the task to ensure the river is kept clear. The EA were asked who is to enforce the clearing of vegetation upstream and what penalty is to be applied for riparian owners who fail to comply? The enormity of this work is of concern to the Town Council and the clerk has arranged to meet with the MP Sarah Dyke to raise these concerns at a meeting to be held on 27th February.

TC2025/118 To receive written or oral reports from meetings and training attended by councillors on behalf of the Council.

- i Huish Episcopi and Langport Flood Group.
In his absence, a report prepared by Cllr Paterson was presented. Key points were the continued concerns of flooding at Westover, residential flooding at Huish (one so far reported), ABP access and having to shutdown for one day due to sewerage capacity being reached.
- ii Abattoir Liaison Group. Key points from the recent meeting include: Access issues on the Muchelney Road has required access through Tanyard Lane, which whilst not ideal, allowed the abattoir operations to continue. High Ham PC have formally requested that the designated HGV route is redirected through Pibsbury and not Picts Hill and Tengore Lane. Consideration is being given to a permanent noise barrier solution.
- iii Planning consideration for an application in Bowdens (discussion held with HEPC). Councillors from both councils met and recommended approval of the application which appears to be retrospective.

TC2025/119 To receive updates on council committees held since the last Full Council meeting.

There have been no council committee meetings since the last full council meeting.

TC2025/120 A summary of the Local Transport Hub consultation held recently in the Town Hall.

The clerk had previously distributed all correspondence received on the subject of the Transport Hub. (7 emails in support of the proposal and 1 email opposed). Cllrs Donald and Dromgoole whilst unable to be present at the meeting had shared their thoughts in support of the project, which were shared with the meeting. In summary the Chair summarised the advantages of the proposed Transport Hub which included:

- Buses no longer parked on Bow Street
- Real Time Information (the first in rural Somerset)
- A covered waiting area
- Protection for the 54 bus service
- Opportunity to expand the bus hub to parishes
- Encourages the use of public transport
- Additional EV charging points
- Improved cycle facilities

After discussion and clarification on the points of concern raised Cllrs unanimously **AGREED** to support the introduction of a Transport Hub in Langport.

A response to various questions raised has been responded to by the Somerset Council officer. The detail of the response received is detailed below.

Disabled Parking

Several comments were made regarding the move of two disabled bays adjacent to the shops relocating to the area outside the library.

Comments were made that the loss of 20-minute parking spaces outside the shops and the impact on business.

Comments were made on buses “parking” outside the shops and blocking access to the shops.

Response

Following a review with the design team we have reinstated one disabled parking bay in the current location. The remainder of the space is needed to accommodate the bus cage. Attached is a revised drawing.

Th relocation of the 20-minute waiting spaces, in the design these are relocated to the area outside the library. It was recently agreed by the Town Council to designate these spaces as 20 minutes.

Buses will not be parking outside the shops but will dwell for a few minutes for passengers to alight and board. The 16 service, which is a smaller bus, may dwell for a little longer.

Shelters

The current design shows two small bus shelters. Comments were made that this could block access to the shops, and that the canopy acts as a shelter.

Questions were raised as to why shelters could not be provided on Bow Street.

Response

The design team will review the need for shelters in the next design review.

In an earlier design phase shelters several options were considered for Bow Street but could not be accommodated due to the constricted nature of the street and also Heritage constraints on the highway on the opposite side to Parrett Close.

Provision of the bus stops by the library

Questions were asked why the buses could not stop outside the library?

Response

The design team have considered if this could be achieved, we are unable to accommodate this option as it would require the loss of all the parking spaces outside the library and the relocation of the disabled bays. It would also require the removal of several trees.

Market Stalls and Green areas

At the meeting 5th Feb the organiser of the market stalls raised some concern regarding any impact on the market stalls, particularly in relation to the proposed green areas. They were asked to provide a map of the stalls.

Response

The design team have mapped the market stalls onto the current plan and where any of the green areas impact on the market stalls these will be revised.

TC2025/121 To inform that the IT and telephone systems which may need additional expenditure.

The deputy clerk informed that Windows 10 our operating system is no longer supported by our IT provider. Quotes are currently being obtained for both upgraded telephony and IT systems and a full report will be presented to the next meeting of the Finance and Personnel committee on 11th March.

TC2025/122 Calendar of Meetings for 2026/27

The revised calendar of meetings was presented to the meeting. Additional for this year is the Joint Council Committee meetings to be held every two months.

TC2025/123 Finance – Bank Account Balances and Budget monitoring

The balances of the Council's bank accounts and budget monitoring as of 31/01/2026 are:

CCLA	£103,000
Nat West Reserve	£ 17,511.41
Nat West Current	£ 15,284.13
Langport Town Trust	£ 6,730.93

Each of these accounts have been reconciled

TC2025/124 Finance - Accounts for Payment and Income -

A list of the expenditure and income for January had previously been circulated. There were no questions arising.

TC2025/125 Chairman's Report

A suggested date to formally receive the memorial for Deborah Speed was proposed as Friday 10th April.

The Annual Town meeting will be held on either 14th or 20th April, depending on the availability of Huish Primary School.

End of Agenda

Meeting closed at 8.40pm

Signed Date 17th March 2026