

TIDWORTH TOWN COUNCIL AUGUST 2025

Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> August 2025 at Tidworth Civic Centre, Wylve Road at 7pm.

<p><b>Attended</b>  Cllr's C Webb (CW) in the chair, H Jones (HJ) C Danso (CD), P Hedge (PH), A Edwards (AE), S Musikvanhu (SM), R Mason (RM), O Flower (OL), D Ahern (DA), C Daborn (CDB)</p> <p>C Lovell Town Clerk (CL)  Cllr Allen – Tidworth North and West  Cllr Lumsden -Wiltshire Tidworth East/Ludgershall West  F Galvin.  Two representatives from Esso (Amanda and Kinga).  Three representatives from Lidl (Kelly, Nicki &amp; Mark)</p>		<p><b>25/101 1. Consideration of Apologies for Absence</b>  Police  Schedule 12 of the Local Government Act 1972 requires a record to be kept of the members present and that this record form part of the minutes of the meeting. Members who cannot attend a meeting should tender apologies to the Town Clerk as it is usual for the grounds upon which apologies are tendered also to be recorded. Under Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act1972, members present must decide whether the reason(s) for a member's absence are accepted.  Cllr Kofitia, Cllr Anim</p>
Item	Agenda Item	Action by
25/102	<p><b>2. Declaration of Interest</b>  (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012 (SI 2012/1464) (NB this does not preclude any later declarations).  Cllr Mason – Correspondence/Updates – Tidworth Leisure Centre</p>	
25/103	<p><b>3. Public Questions:</b>  F Galvin was asked if he was still willing to open St Mary's church on the same day as the Mortuary Chapel open day. Due to a family emergency, he had been unable to in 2024.  He was reluctant to commit as he feels that TTC have not promoted the church. It was explained to him that the event has not yet been advertised hence the reason for asking him if he is available so that it can be included in the poster etc.  He requested a donation and was advised that there was no legislation that could allow this.  After speaking with Cllr Allen representatives from the Esso Garage and Lidl's attended the meeting, primarily to speak to the Police who were absent but to also raise concerns via TTC regarding anti-social behaviour (ASB) and thefts. This is also an issue for Tesco and the Spar.  Despite going through the correct channels, they are not getting any response from the Police and are extremely vulnerable. It is also believed that the increased complaints about broken glass in the town is a result of this.  The Town Clerk will contact Insp Brewster to make him aware of the situation and request a meeting.</p>	CL
25/104	<p><b>4. Minutes of Previous Meeting:</b>  Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2025 had been circulated.</p>	

	<p><i>Amendment – RM noted that Miss Hall at the meeting had asked AE about his eligibility to be a Cllr, but it was not included in the minutes.</i></p> <p><i>July 2025 minutes will be updated accordingly.</i></p> <p><b>PH proposed that with the amendment they were a true and accurate record, seconded by HJ carried.</b></p>	
25/105	<p><b>5. Wiltshire Councillors Report</b></p> <p>Cllr Lumsden and Cllr Allen reported the following:</p> <p>Both thanked TTC for a wonderful festival and for bringing the community together.</p> <p>The Co-part application has been called into committee on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2025. The parking issue on Wylve Road has been discussed by LHFIG and an application will be submitted after Cllr Lumsden has spoken with PC Kinge. Wiltshire Council are in the process of drafting the Local Plan. There will be a meeting for residents at TLC 12 Aug 10am-12pm.</p> <p>Cllr Lumsden has been engaging with local stakeholders, particularly Castle Practice regarding the strain on the local infrastructure arising from Test Valleys proposed building in Ludgershall.</p> <p>Cllr Allen will be putting up the bunting for VJ day on Thursday.</p>	
25/106	<p><b>6. Mayors Report</b></p> <p>CW reported the following:</p> <p>Reverend Tim and his wife have had a baby daughter, congratulations to them. July unfortunately proved to be a tragic month for Tidworth with Sgt Alex Cairnie losing his life on 8th July, and there was a tragic accident the following day when Michael James Stoker passed away in the carpark adjacent to his home. Before the music started at the festival there was a minute's silence to reflect on the sad loss of those young lives and also the passing of Jakob Fairclough nearly 2 years ago in another tragic accident.</p> <p>There was lots of hard work throughout the month to deliver the Festival on Saturday 26th July. There were significant issues with the site which had to be overcome.</p> <p>21st July - there was a meeting with the partners in the Tidworth and Ludgershall Youth Project. Representatives from Wiltshire Council, and from Ludgershall Council attended and Jamie Balls the CEO of the Armed forces Equine Charity, who is to run the project attended via Teams. The meeting was very productive, and it was reassuring that progress was being made.</p> <p>Therefore, surprisingly only 10 days later Jamie announced his resignation as CEO of the charity. The Trustees are now looking for a replacement. The Area Board has already paid its £5,000 initial contribution but both Ludgershall and Tidworth were not to make their agreed contributions until staff had been appointed and were ready for training.</p> <p>The festival was a great success with an estimated 3,500 people visiting the site during the day.</p> <p>The festival ran from 12pm noon until 10pm with the Skatepark Jam running from 12pm until 4pm alongside displays, exhibitions and activities in the central arena with live music from 4pm until close. All the activities were offered free of charge to the public save for the adult fairground rides and of course refreshments.</p>	



	<p>This was effectively a new event at a new venue for the Council and for that reason there was some concern about the uptake, but it was very popular and with word of mouth if TTC decide to put the event on again next year it is likely to be even more popular.</p> <p>She addressed the members to say that at the beginning of the Council year they all readily agreed that they would be able to attend at least 2 council meetings each month and would support all events. She was very disappointed that at the end of the event it fell again to the same 3 people and OF to do all the physical hard work of bringing down the apparatus, clearing the site and pushing the very full industrial bins the length of the site ready for collection, all in the pitch black using head torches.</p> <p>Luckily, there was the support of Martin aka Wally of Low-cost Rentals in Marlborough who collected the apparatus from the Civic Centre early doors on the day and towed the generator onto site from its safe storage the day before at the Garrison theatre. Linzi Coleman was also extremely supportive gave up a lot of her time, before, during and after the event.</p> <p>Wally then came back at 11pm on the day to move everything back to the Garrison Theatre and again at 11am the following morning to move the barriers to the cemetery and the other apparatus to the Civic Centre.</p> <p>She thanked everyone who helped out the days before the event, on the day, and on the day after. Most members assisted as much as they were able, but it cannot be left to the same few as it is physically demanding.</p> <p>Therefore, she asked that if the vote is passed to have the festival again Cllrs make themselves available.</p> <p>The Corporate passes for residents to enjoy at theme parks and leisure facilities have been a huge success.</p> <p>The final thing noted was a post on Facebook which only popped up on Facebook at midday on 2nd August from MP Danny Kruger giving notice of an open meeting about ARAP (Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy) that day. Unfortunately, it was received too late and the link to join had expired. She was appalled that a meeting which concerns the residents of this town was only sent by Facebook and the towns involved, or at least Tidworth, were not contacted directly. Given that Tidworth are currently hosting 122 Afghans more than the other military towns, TTC should have had representation at the meeting.</p>	
25/107	<p><b>7. Committee Reports</b></p> <p><b>Community Services</b> PH reported on a meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2025, minutes had been circulated. <b>PH proposed that they were a true and accurate record, seconded by HJ carried.</b></p> <p><b>Civic Centre</b></p> <p>One security issue took place whilst FM was on leave with a fire door left open. External Notice Board- All present were in favour of fitting the notice board previously stored in the cemetery, near the main entrance to the Civic Centre.</p> <p><b>Perham A&amp;B Display Cable</b></p> <p><b>HJ proposed to pay RCH Builders Ltd £704.36 + Vat to supply and fit display wire, seconded by PH, carried.</b></p>	

	<p><b>Sliding Door for Hatch in Perham B</b>  <b>PH proposed to pay RCH £1980 + Vat to supply, fit and prime mahogany-faced panels, seconded by HJ, carried.</b></p> <p><b>External Vertical Ladder</b>  <b>HJ proposed to pay TDF Metalwork £5594.00 + Vat to supply/fabricate and install two roof access ladders, seconded by SM, 1 abstention, carried.</b></p> <p><b>Wiltshire Council - Local Highways &amp; Footpaths Improvement Group (LHFIG)</b>  Next LHFIG 30 July 2025 - Footpath Repairs/Improvements  Taxi Rank conversion to Short Term Parking. Legals are being investigated Wiltshire Council. KA stated there is a county review of all taxi ranks being carried out.  Wylve Rd Day Care Centre footpath to the Rd – still with landowners' legal team.  Waiting restrictions requests- Double yellow lines for the junction of Zouch Farm Road with Merrington Way is with Wiltshire Council.</p> <p><b>Playparks</b>  <b>Beech Hill Road</b> – The bin appears to be filling up more regularly.  <b>HJ proposed to pay Gavin Jones for an extra bin collection, seconded by PH, carried.</b>  PH reported the cemetery is looking very good as is the Mortuary Chapel.</p> <p><b>Emergency Contact Hub – Community Resilience.</b>  There will be three hubs in Tidworth: the Civic Centre, the Leisure Centre and Holy Trinity Church.</p> <p><b>Defibrillator</b>  A defibrillator has been installed at the Spar Shop on Pennings Road and is now "Emergency Ready".  Permission has been given by the Manager, and a licence has been granted by DIO to install a defibrillator on the Poppies Day Care Centre in Perham Down.</p> <p><b>Flagpole</b> – an email had been circulated asking the members when they would prefer the flag to be raised.  The members are in agreement that the Deputy Lord Lieutenant will be asked to raise the flag at the beginning of the VJ Day event.  <b>CW proposed that the Deputy Lord Lieutenant be commissioned to raise the flag on VJ Day, seconded by RM, carried.</b></p> <p><b>Community Engagement</b> CDB reported on a meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2025, minutes had been circulated and taken as read. There were no questions. <b>CDB proposed that they were a true and accurate record, seconded by PH, carried.</b></p> <p><b>Litter Pick</b>  The following additional equipment to be purchased:  6 x 4packs of grabbers to be purchased from Amazon at a cost of £9.99 each, total Cost £59.94.  15 x Hoops be purchased from IdVerde at a cost of £7.46 per hoop S, total cost £111.90.  20 Pairs of mixed sizes of the Garden Gloves be purchased at £1 each, total cost £20.  1 box of M and 1 box of L disposable gloves to be purchased  <b>PH proposed the purchase of additional Litter Picking equipment, seconded</b></p>	
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	<p><b>by HJ, carried.</b></p> <p><b>Tidworth Town Festival &amp; Skatepark Jan – 26th July</b> CDB echoed all of the previous comments and thanks given.</p> <p><b>VJ Day – Friday 15th August 2025 – 7.30pm onwards</b> The Wiltshire Caledonian Pipers and band will be in attendance.</p> <p><b>CW proposed that an up to £200 budget to be set for the purchase of Tesco meal deals and sweets. Seconded by PH, carried.</b></p> <p><b>CW proposed that a £10 amazon gift card be purchased to present to the competition winner. Seconded by SM, carried</b></p> <p>Deputy Lord Lieutenant Michael Hodges is confirmed to attend to light the Beacon at 8.30pm</p> <p>Mr R Gregory has kindly agreed to make the beacon collar for VJ Day.</p> <p><b>Mortuary Chapel Open Day 20th September 2pm-4pm</b> Additional flasks have been purchased for the event, so no generator required. Budget set of £100 for the purchase of metal pin badges in June's meeting Cllrs decided by inviting the brownies and scouts that more pins will be needed.</p> <p><b>PH proposed that to increase the budget by an additional £50 so the new budget to be £150, seconded by AE, SM and CW abstained, carried.</b></p> <p><b>Halloween 2025 Sat 25th October 3pm-5pm</b> Costume competition. Children's entertainer Mad Pete is confirmed. Budget – £300 initial budget for entertainer and craft items voted for in April Craft table items to be purchased closer to date Goodie Bags discussed and quotes distributed to Cllrs</p> <p><b>CDB proposed that up to £200 budget be set for items to be bought for goodie bags and lucky dip. Seconded by OF, carried.</b></p> <p><b>CW proposed that a £50 budget be set for snacks and sweets. Seconded by HJ, carried</b></p> <p><b>Remembrance – 9th Nov 2025 10.30am</b> N Read Photography confirmed. Military March. Road closure has been applied for through Wiltshire Council. It will be approximately September time before we will know if approved. Road Closure Signage quote received</p> <p><b>CDB proposed that £878 be paid to Chevron Traffic Management for road closure signage should the Military March be approved. Seconded by RM, carried.</b></p> <p><b>Christmas Fair 6th Dec, 10am-11am SEND, then 11am – 3pm Fair</b> 10am – 11am SEND time for Father Christmas. 11am – 3pm Christmas Fair RM volunteered to be Father Christmas for the event Quote distributed to the Cllrs for the purchase of a Father Christmas Costume.</p> <p><b>CW proposed that up to £500 budget be given so costumes can be ordered from amazon and <a href="http://www.santasuitstore.co.uk">www.santasuitstore.co.uk</a> so they can be compared and returned for a refund if not good quality. Seconded by CDB, carried</b></p> <p>Rosy Cheeks face painting booked 2 artists 11am-3pm. Jollypop entertainment: The Grinch and Cinderella booked. Reindeer are already rebooked.</p>	
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	<p>Photographer Nathan Read Photography confirmed 11am-3pm. Outdoor Rides - booked WI have been invited to run a cake and drink stand and have accepted. <b>Indoor Christmas Tree Civic Centre</b> <b>HJ proposed that £750 + VAT be paid to PHS Greenleaf for a 10ft artificial tree from their standard range in the colours red and gold. Seconded by SM, 1 abstention, carried.</b> Should PHS not be available it was agreed to book through simply plants at a cost of £700 + VAT <b>Freedom of the Town</b> -The Committee agreed to defer until January onwards.</p>	
25/108	<p><b>8. Co-Options</b> None received.</p>	
25/109	<p><b>9.S137 Grants</b> None received.</p>	
25/098	<p><b>10. Correspondence and Updates</b> RM reported that he had been invited to sit on the Management Committee at the TLC. It is a good opportunity for TTC to interact with the TLC. He provided the following update: Memberships – 745 members (14 below highest ever) Swimming – 1117 currently in swimming lesson programme. Facility Development – in the last year TLC has installed electrical pool hoist, virtual classroom and soft play area. Facilities Management – Broken aircon, fitness equipment maintenance and tiered lockers. OL raised concerns about safeguarding now that the changing rooms are mixed, RM will raise this. PH reported that he recently attended a meeting at Salisbury Hospital and reported that there is a proposed merge of Salisbury, Bath and West and Swindon hospitals. HJ provided an update on the most recent LHFIG meeting – minutes had been circulated. CL advised that planning permission had been granted for the demolition of the old Naafi shop on Sidbury Circular.</p>	
25/099	<p><b>11. Bills for Payment</b> Bills for payment totalling £119,595.55 had been circulated. <b>HJ proposed Bills for Payment totalling £119,595.55 be paid, seconded by AE carried.</b> <a href="https://tidworthtowncouncil.gov.uk/town-council/minutes-agendas-and-finance/monthly-expenditure-and-finance">https://tidworthtowncouncil.gov.uk/town-council/minutes-agendas-and-finance/monthly-expenditure-and-finance</a></p>	
25/100	<p><b>12. Date of next meeting</b> <b>2<sup>nd</sup> September 2025</b> <b>Agenda items to be submitted to the Clerk 7 days before the meeting.</b></p>	

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was closed at 8.40pm.

Agreed as a true record.....  C Webb, Chair

Date: