

## TIDWORTH TOWN COUNCIL OCTOBER 2025

Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2025 at Tidworth Civic Centre, Wylve Road at 7pm.

<b>Attended</b> Cllr's C Webb (CW) in the chair, H Jones (HJ), P Hedge (PH), S Musikvanhu (SM), R Mason (RM), C Daborn (CDB), C Danso (CD), O Flowers (OF)  C Lovell Town Clerk (CL) Cllr Allen – Tidworth North and West East/Ludgershall West WO1 Tomlinson F Galvin B Pratt 2 members of Men's Shed		<b>25/151 1. Consideration of Apologies for Absence</b> Cllr Edwards, Cllr Lumsden, WO1 Tomlinson, K King TLC  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 Act 1972, members present must decide whether the reason(s) for a member's absence are accepted.  <b>Absent – Cllr Kofitia, Cllr Anim</b>
Item	Agenda Item	Action by
25/152	<b>2. Declaration of Interest</b> (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012 (SI 2012/1464) (NB this does not preclude any later declarations).	
25/153	<b>3. Public Questions:</b> <b>In his absence K King provided the following report read by RM:</b> In general, the Centre performance is doing well with continued growth within the swim school and growing memberships. At the last meeting it was reported that issues regarding antisocial behaviour and vandalism had stopped, however since then there has been further escalating incidents. Just in one week the following incidents have occurred: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Forced external entry to rear sports hall fire doors then gaining entry and trashing the recently implemented soft play area which has been well received and use by our communities' young families and SEND groups.</li><li>Further unauthorised access to the centre and gaining access to the library causing disruption, discomfort to staff and customers. Again, the duty manager asked them to leave and was refused until the police were called.</li><li>The youth group closed the front main carpark gate causing customers being unable to get cars in or out of the carpark.</li></ul> This behaviour has the potential to affect the wellbeing of the staff and could start to see a decline in community use.	



	<p>He had sent an email to the Police raising his concerns but as of yet they had not responded. Cllr Allen has intervened to try and get some action. F Galvin asked for TTC let people know that they can contact him to arrange access to St Mary's Church. It will be posted on socials.</p>	
25/154	<p><b>4. Minutes of Previous Meeting:</b> Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2025 had been circulated. <b>RM proposed that they were a true and accurate record, seconded by SM, 1 abstention, carried.</b></p>	
25/155	<p><b>5. Wiltshire Councillors Report:</b> Cllr Allen reported that at the Wiltshire Council meeting he recently attended a motion had been passed for Blue Badge holders to have free parking. The County Lines briefing organised by WO1 Tomlinson had been very informative, all who attended were in agreement. At the Food Resilience meeting held at the Civic Centre the help that is already available needs to be made available to those who are struggling.</p>	
25/156	<p><b>6. Mayor's Report</b> Cllr Webb provided the following report: The whole month has been caught up with the time consumptive arrangements for Remembrance Day. The British Army Band are to march with the serving personnel and veterans on Sunday. A sad goodbye was said to Annie Nicholls who has retired as Services Admin Officer and TTC are recruiting her replacement. It was very sad to see Annie go after all the years she has made such a positive contribution to the Town Council and will be sorely missed. Unfortunately, the Anti-Social Behaviour prevalent in Tidworth and Ludgershall continues to be a problem, although the problems created by primarily comprising 3 very young children has dissipated to a great extent following police intervention. However as reported earlier there has been harassment and criminal damage at the Leisure Centre from a group of up to 35 slightly older young people. She has been working closely with the police, Wiltshire, and Ludgershall Councillors in an attempt to address what appears to be an escalating problem but hopefully it will lessen now the schools are back. The work continues to set up a programme of Detached Youth Work which will be managed by the Armed forces Equine Charity lead by their new CEO and Welbeing On 11th October there was a litter pick which was well attended with a large contingent from the Nepalese Community and supported by Tidworth's Wiltshire Councillors, 39 bags of rubbish were collected. Saturday 25th October saw the Halloween Party here at the Civic Centre. As usual the party was extremely popular and the limited 100 tickets were claimed at least 2 weeks before the event. Thanks was given to Carol Baxter and volunteers.</p>	



	<p>Along with Cllr Mason she attended church services to hear the choir of the Tidworth Methodist Assembly who have kindly agreed to sing on Remembrance Day.</p> <p>Friday 31st herself and Cllr Mason met with the St. James' Bell Captain at the Mortuary Chapel to start looking at what might be necessary to restore the bell and in fact make it safe.</p> <p>Also, on 31<sup>st</sup> October she met up with Joyce Bowyer Mayor of Ludgershall, to discuss the challenges which both councils currently face and to see what collaborations could be worked on.</p> <p>Dates for diaries the Christmas Fair on 6th December and in the interim the Exhibition of photographs from the Ukraine conflict which will be displayed in Tedworth Hall on 20th November.</p>	
25/157	<p><b>7. Committee Reports</b></p> <p><b>Community Services</b> PH reported on a meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> October 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 &amp; FM Update</b></p> <p>Extra sound boards have been received, and FM will put them in place. FM volunteered to paint the walls in Tedworth Hall.</p> <p><b>External Projector</b> PH proposed to pay AJK £425.65 + Vat to install the external projector, seconded by CDB and carried.</p> <p>Full planning permission is in the process of being completed, imminently. Investigating the ergonomics of a new stage, and one that will fold away.</p> <p><b>Grounds Maintenance</b></p> <p><b>PH proposed to pay GW Shelters £447.00, to repair the Pennings Road Bus Shelter by Trinity View Road, with glass, seconded by HJ, carried.</b></p> <p><b>Wiltshire Council - Local Highways &amp; Footpaths Improvement Group (LHFIG)</b></p> <p>Requests for the Parish Steward – Next Visit 17th &amp; 18th November 2025</p> <p>Next LHFIG 7th January 2026 - Footpath Repairs/Improvements</p> <p>Wellington Lions School – Request submitted to Wiltshire Council to consider safety precautions for children leaving the school. is exploring further options to achieve the desired result.</p> <p>Main Roundabout by Esso Garage – Directional Signs. In hand with the LHFIG.</p> <p>Taxi Rank conversion to Short Term Parking. LHFIG contacted the Taxi Licensing Dept within WC, who are conducting an internal review of required “ranks” across Wiltshire, including Tidworth.</p> <p>Double Yellow Lines – Pennings Road, junction with Coronation Road, complete.</p> <p>Station Road Bollards. WC will replace the bollards with reboundable ones as when they are damaged.</p> <p>Brick Column at the Top of Station Road. This is being processed by LHFIG</p> <p><b>Playparks</b></p> <p>Elite Playpark Quarterly Inspections due in November 2025.</p> <p><b>Christmas Lights – Lampposts and Tree</b></p> <p><b>Additional Lamp Posts Sockets installation</b></p> <p>Wiltshire Council Highways Officer has been having issues with their contractor getting work done to install 26 new lamp post sockets. This is to enable</p>	

	<p>Christmas motifs to be attached. He has been given approval to use another Wiltshire preferred contractor, who can carry out the work in the next few months.</p> <p><b>PH proposed to pay Epsilon Ltd £14352 inc Vat to install lamp post sockets, seconded by HJ, carried.</b></p> <p><b>Winter Preparations</b></p> <p>Grit bins checked and this will be reported back to Wiltshire Council for replenishment.</p> <p><b>Community Engagement</b> CDB reported on a meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> October 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 OL, carried.</b></p> <p>The October litter pick was another success, extremely well attended and great weather.</p> <p>Halloween 2025 Sat 25th October 3pm-5pm – was enjoyed by all who attended.</p> <p>Remembrance – 9th Nov 2025 10.20am</p> <p>10am – 11am SEND time for Father Christmas.</p> <p>11am – 3pm Christmas Fair</p> <p>Fees for stallholders discussed and it was agreed to charge £15 for 1 table and £10 for a second. Number of tables on the day to be determined once set up planning commences.</p> <p>Holy Trinity Church have kindly offered to do craft table at this year's event <b>PH proposed to provide a budget of £75 to be used to purchase items for the craft table to help cover costs. Seconded by OF, carried.</b></p> <p><b>CW proposed to purchase 50 Haribo cracker sweets at £1.75 each, for the Christmas Fair meeting Santa. Seconded by PH, carried.</b></p> <p>Indoor Christmas Tree Civic Centre – Installation Date 25 November</p> <p>Tidworth Town Festival – Saturday 25th July 2026</p> <p>Freedom of the Town – 2nd Dec, by Invite Only</p> <p>Community Awards discussed and concluded it was losing impact and to look at holding these bi-annually, therefore not hold them for 2026.</p>	
25/158	<p><b>8. Policies for Review</b></p> <p>All policies had been circulated</p> <p>Standing Orders – <b>Proposed by HJ, seconded by PH, carried.</b></p> <p>CW asked to defer the following due to not all members having reviewed them prior to the meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Financial Regulations</li> <li>• Financial Risk Assessment</li> </ul> <p>CL advised that it was imperative that they are adopted at December full town. Due to them being the new NALC 2025 model they were not adopted in May 2025.</p>	
25/159	<p><b>9. Co-Option</b></p> <p>None received</p>	
25/160	<p><b>10. S137 Grant</b></p>	



	<p>A grant request had been received from Men's Shed for the sum of £1625.00 as match funding for toilet facilities. They have been awarded £3750.00 from the Area board and LTC have approved the sum of £1625.00. Questions were asked regarding membership and projects they have completed.</p> <p><b>HJ proposed that a \$137 grant for the sum of £1625.00 is awarded to the Men's Shed, seconded by RM, carried.</b></p>	
25/161	<p><b>11. Correspondence and Updates</b></p> <p>HJ reported on the previous night's Area Board meeting, it was reported that Wiltshire has one of the highest Pension Credit percentages. The Family Wellbeing Hub had been promoted as a useful resource. There is an Op Lazurite briefing in Tedworth Hall 6<sup>th</sup> November 2025 6.30pm.</p>	
25/162	<p><b>12. Bills for Payment</b></p> <p>Bills for payment totalling £47,496.79 had been circulated. <b>HJ proposed Bills for Payment totalling £47,496.79 be paid, seconded by SM carried.</b></p> <p><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> <p>CL requested two councillors to carry out the quarterly bank reconciliation.</p>	
25/163	<p><b>13. Date of next meeting</b></p> <p>2<sup>nd</sup> December 2025</p> <p>Agenda items to be submitted to the Clerk 7 days before the meeting.</p>	

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was closed at 8.25pm.

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

Date: