

TIDWORTH TOWN COUNCIL APRIL 2026

Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on Tuesday 7th April 2026 at Tidworth Civic Centre, Wylve Road at 7pm.

<p>Attended Cllr's H Jones (HJ in the Chair, P Hedge (PH), S Sella (SS), C Danzo (CD), D Kofitia (DK), S Musikvanhu (SM). Cllr Allen – Tidworth North and West B Pratt F Galvin T Smith-Turner A Smith-Turner</p>	<p>26/037 1. Consideration of Apologies for Absence Cllr Webb, Cllr Mason, Cllr Daborn, Cllr Flower, Cllr Edwards, Cllr Anim Cllr Lumsden East/Ludgershall West WO1 Tomlinson Kevin King – Tidworth Leisure Centre (TLC) Tina Edwards – Church Insp Brewster 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.</p>	
<p>Item</p>	<p>Agenda Item</p>	<p>Action by</p>
<p>26/038</p>	<p>2. Declaration of Interest (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012 (SI 2012/1464) (NB this does not preclude any later declarations). None</p>	
<p>26/039</p>	<p>3. Public Questions: Mr Galvin raised the following issues: Bins/rubbish on Daunch Close. The Clerk advised him that she had received a letter from Wiltshire Council regarding this issue, Cllr Allen was aware of it and had spoken to the GSM, the Clerk will follow this up. He also asked about the tree at Hampshire Cross he was informed that this was in hand. He brought to the attention of the members that there had been off duty soldiers at the Plantation building fire pits, and leaving rubbish etc. He was advised that this Salisbury Plain Training Area (SPTA) and to report it to the Range Warden. Mrs Smith-Turner echoed that the area had a lot of dog poo, rubbish etc.</p>	



26/040	<p>4. Minutes of Previous Meeting: Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 03 March 2026 had been circulated. PH proposed that they were a true and accurate record, seconded by DK, carried. No matters arising.</p>	
26/0041	<p>5. Wiltshire Councillors Report: Cllr Allen reported that he was in talks regarding the condition of St Andrews Road. He will be taking signage requests to the next LHFIG meeting.</p>	
26/042	<p>6. Mayors Report In her absence Cllr Webb provided the following report: I apologise that I cannot attend tonight, but I leave you in the capable hands of my Deputy Humph Jones. On 5th March I was invited to give an interview to BFBS on our Family Community Passes. The passes offer a family of usually up to 5 to attend local attractions at a total cost of either £5 or £10 when the commercial cost can be up to around £80 for 2 adults and 3 children. Facebook comments show that residents of other councils are very jealous of our scheme which is not available. On 9th and 23rd March I attended meetings with our partners to discuss a detached Youth Work scheme. Keith Allen is an active proponent of this scheme, now Armed Forces Equine Association are firmly on board it looks like they will now be actively recruiting youth workers to be trained to reach out to the youth of Tidworth and Ludgershall on the streets where they hang out. On 15th March Cllr. Mason and I were honoured to represent Tidworth at the Sheriff of Wiltshire's Rule of Law Service in Devises when we processed with the Sheriff, Judiciary, Lord Lieutenant and other dignitaries from the Town Hall to St. Johns Church. On the 19th March the Town Clerk and I were invited by the Mayor of Ludgershall to a meeting of the chairs and clerks of adjacent towns to create better community cohesion. It is unfortunate that this worthy initiative had to be cancelled as only ourselves and Ludgershall accepted the invitation. On the 20th March I formally opened Tidworth Town Council's allotments on Humber Lane. Congratulations to the members for seeing this to conclusion and particularly our Town Clerk for all her hard work. 21st March saw our Community Litter Pick and around 100 volunteers from Toddlers to our most senior residents collected around 90 bags of rubbish. Then on the 24th March Cllr. Mason assisted our professional bell hanger to rehang the bell at the Mortuary Chapel. It is due to C'llr Mason's tenacity and physical hard work being the bellhanger's 'mate' that the bell has been restored. When the bell was retrieved it was aged by the foundation to around 1450 which predates the siting of the Mortuary Chapel by more than 300 years; the clapper proved to be original from the same date but only attached to the bell so loosely that it was waiting to fall.</p>	
26/043	<p>7. Committee Reports Community Services PH reported on a meeting held on 10th March 2026, minutes had been circulated and taken as read. PH proposed that they were a true and accurate record seconded by DK, carried.</p>	



Civic Centre & FM Update

Playpark – HJ Proposed TTC pay Gavin Jones to reinstate and reseed the ground in and around the new play park, including the grassed area down to the fence line at a cost of £567.91, seconded by PH, carried.

Room Charges review. – The possibility of charging extra for out of working hrs hire was talked about. The councillors decided to revisit this at the next meeting.

New CCTV camera – HJ proposed TTC pay Sovereign £1358.27 to install a new CCTV board to add an extra camera in the kitchen area, seconded by RM, carried.

New Standing Post for the outside projector – PH proposed TTC pay AJK £3,500-£4,000 for the installation of and electrics for a new post for the outside projector, seconded by SM, carried.

Projector screen – DK to investigate pricing for a large TV style screen.

Grounds Maintenance

Trees at Hampshire Cross - HJ proposed TTC pay Josh Harris Landscapes £1000 for the removal of the fallen tree (to include stump removal) and the cutting back of overhanging branches, seconded by DK

Wiltshire Council - Local Highways & Footpaths Improvement Group (LHFIG)
Requests for the Parish Steward – Visits are on hold whilst pothole work is being carried out.

New requests -A request was made by a resident that an upgrade to Primary Destination be investigated for Tidworth with this to include a review of signage on the A338/A342 corridor.

A request for repair and replacement of damaged signs on Sidbury Circular and Zouch Farm.

A request was made for “Children playing” signs to be put up at the entrance to Forest Drive.

These requests will be taken to the LHFIG meeting in May by Councillor Allen.

River Bourne Corridor Update -Water levels are lower, but some flooding of pathways remains. The swales water levels are still quite high.

Playparks - Elite Playpark Quarterly Inspections distributed.

Cemetery – Pricing review - It was agreed that the pricing would remain as is. Cllr Allen confirmed that he and his wife would do some seasonal planting around the pergola area

Mortuary Chapel – HJ proposed TTC pay Graeme Barclay £200-£250 for fitting the pipe to accommodate the bell rope, seconded by PH, carried.

Allotments - A meeting of the Allotments Committee was held on the 9th March The tenants were happy with the proposed £40 per year fee and were all given a copy of the allotments tenancy agreement to look over.

Community Engagement PH reported on a meeting held on 17th March 2026, minutes had been circulated and taken as read. There were no questions. **PH proposed that they were a true and accurate record, seconded by SS, carried.**

Litter Pick – Saturday 21st March 2026 – Well attended, thanks given to all participants.

Easter Party – Saturday 4th April 2026 – Enjoyed by all who attended, thank

	<p>you to Stonehenge Chamber of Commerce for bringing the Easter Bunny along and Garrison for the crème eggs.</p> <p>Mortuary Chapel Open Day - Saturday 26th September 2026</p> <p>Halloween Party - Saturday 24th October 2026</p> <p>PH proposed that £100 budget to be set to buy Halloween decorations. Seconded by DK, carried.</p> <p>Remembrance – Sunday 8th November 2026</p> <p>PH proposed that, subject to regulations permitting, funding be allocated for the minute gun at a cost of £90. Seconded by SS, carried.</p> <p>Christmas Fair – Saturday 5th December 2026.</p> <p>Future Events -SS proposed to book ‘Christmas Carol’ on 24th November at a cost of £1500 + VAT Seconded by PH, carried.</p> <p>Community Family Passes – HJ proposed to repurchase Cholderton Farm in April in line with the current pass expiring at a cost of up to £350. Seconded by PH, carried.</p>	
26/044	<p>8. Co-Option Mrs T Smith Turner introduced herself. She has been a life long resident of Tidworth and is passionate about bringing Tidworth alive. All members of the public were asked to leave the room and a short discussion took place.</p> <p>It was agreed unanimously to co-opt Mrs Smith-Turner onto TTC, the members of the public returned to the room and Mrs Smith-Turner was invited to sit at the table.</p>	
26/045	<p>9. S137 Grant</p> <p>None Received</p>	
26/046	<p>10. Correspondence and Updates</p> <p>The new Facilities Manager Bill Heyes had started. Bill popped into the room to introduce himself.</p> <p>HJ let the members know that the build of the external store would be commencing the following week.</p>	
26/047	<p>11. Bills for Payment</p> <p>Bills for payment totalling £38,270.99 had been circulated. HJ proposed Bills for Payment totalling, £55,598.65 be paid, seconded by DK, carried.</p> <p>https://tidworthtowncouncil.gov.uk/town-council/minutes-agendas-and-finance/monthly-expenditure-and-finance</p>	
26/048	<p>12. Date of next meeting</p> <p>05 May 2026</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 8.00pm.

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

Date:

5/5/2026