TIDWORTH TOWN COUNCIL

Community Engagements Committee October 2026

Minutes of the Community Engagement Committee meeting held on 20th October at the Tidworth Civic Centre

Cllrs O Flower (OF), C Webb (CW), L Sarjant (LS), S. Musikavanhu (SM), A Connolly (AC), C Danso (CD) H Jones (HJ), P Hedge (PH), **C. Baxter – admin** **Guests:**

Item	Agenda Item	Action By
26/184E	**1. Apologies: K Allen (KA)** **Absent: M Anim (MA),** *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*	All
26/185E	**2. Declaration of Interest** *(Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012 (SI 2012/1464) (NB this does not preclude any later declarations).* None Declared.	All
26/186E	**3. Minutes of Previous Meeting** Minutes of the September Meeting were ratified at the Full Town Council meeting in October 2026. No matters arising.	All
26/187E	**4. Recent Event Feedback** The Mortuary Chapel Open Day took place on the 19th September. A wonderful turnout with approximately 110 people attending including Deputy Lord Lieutenant Polly Nichols DL and Revd. Peter. The newly refurbished bell rang beautifully on the day with many residents being able to ring the bell. The weather was good with only a little rain and the event as a whole received very positive feedback.	All
26/188E	**5. Halloween 2025 Sat 24th October 2026 2pm-4pm** All preparations are completed. The Hall is to be decorated on Friday 0930 onwards, all help appreciated.	All
26/189E	**6. Remembrance – 8th Nov 2026 10.30am** Rehearsal on the 28th October 0900 at St Michael's and from 1030 at the Civic Centre. Lamp post poppies are to go up on 26th October onwards weather dependent. Order of service has been ordered. Downloadable PDF one will be distributed online. **CW proposed that a budget be given for biscuits and cakes of £50 Seconded by HJ, carried**	OF
26/190E	**7. *A Christmas Carol* :Theatre Production – Tues 24th November 2026 7pm - 8.30pm** All arrangements are complete and tickets have been allocated. Very quick uptake from locals all 100 tickets gone in under 36 hours of advertising. 19 families in Tidworth, 6 in Ludgershall, 1 or 2 families from surrounding villages such as	

	Netheravon, Shipton, Upavon overall. If Cllrs are plannning to attend in the evening, names must be given in advance to CB so they can be allocated on the door.	ALL
26/191E	**8. Christmas Fair 5th December 2026, 10am-11am SEND Santa visit, 11am – 3pm Fair** CB to investigate music and PA options on the day and will liaise with AC as well as look into how the TV in the hall can be used. Volunteers are needed on the day. Gifts from Santa discussed. **CW proposed the 320 selection boxes be purchased at a cost of up to £1.50 per box and that 50 Haribo crackers be purchased at a cost of up to £1.75 per box as a vegan alternative. Totaling £567.50. Seconded by CD, carried.**	CB ALL
26/192E	**9. Santa Sleigh Visit – 15th and 21st December** Stonehenge Chamber has allocated 2 dates for Tidworth, the 15th December and the 21st December due to being unable to fit the route into one evening. Due to rising costs of running the sleigh **OF proposed we pay the requested £50 contribution fee to The Stonehenge Chamber. Seconded by SM, carried.**	CB
26/193E	**10. Community Awards – 4th March 1800-2000** Cllrs have been asked to think about category options, preferences on how to choose winners, set up etc. so that planning can commence next month.	All
26/194E	**11. Tidworth Festival** 2027 Date Discussed. **CW proposed that the 24th July 2027, 12pm-10pm for the Festival with AJ Mayhew returning as the Event Coordinator. Seconded by AC, carried.**	CB
26/195E	**12. Eat:Tidworth - Tidworth Food Festival – September 2027** Deferred	
26/196E	**13. Youth Engagement** LS has been investigating potential funding options and the requirements for establishing a Youth Club. It was noted that Swindon Youth Action is already active in the area, with funding previously provided by Wiltshire Council, Tidworth Town Council and Ludgershall Town Council to support its establishment. LS was asked to gather further information and develop a specific proposal outlining the requirements, costs and potential funding needed. It was emphasised that the Council would require full details before any meaningful discussions could take place. It was also noted that securing additional funding may be challenging, as the available funding opportunities are open to many organisations across a vast area with limited funds being available.	LS
26/197E	**14. Community Family Passes** Current profit = £1830 CB has approached the Arcade in Andover to see if they would offer a pass option. No response as of yet. CB to chase.	CB
26/198E	**15. 'Our Tidworth' Calendar Competition.** Advertisement has begun and the competition will be active from November.	ALL
26/199E	**16. Parish Magazine** Input suggestions asked to be emailed through CB for future issues.	ALL
26/200E	**17. Budget** The budget was distributed to the councillors.	CL
26/201E	**18. Correspondence, Website & Social Media Updates.** HJ reported The Engagement and Partnerships Team at Wiltshire Council has launched, or is in the process of launching, several new schemes, including potential funding opportunities for town and parish councils, community groups and initiatives to recognise and reward volunteers. An online information session on the 12th Nov 1830-1930 is offered to councillors, clerks, voluntary and community sector groups, volunteers and charities within the Tidworth and Westbury Community Areas. The session will provide further information	ALL

	on the schemes available, potential funding opportunities and the application process. Attendees were also encouraged to share the invitation with other relevant local groups and organisations. CB to email all Cllrs the link should it be of interest.	
26/202E	**19. Date of Next Meeting: 17th November 2026** **All agenda items to be with the Town Clerk 7 working days prior to the meeting**	ALL

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting closed at 8.05pm.