



MALMESBURY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting

Held in Malmesbury Town Hall on Tuesday 13th January 2026 at 7.00pm.

Present; Cllrs James, Crawford-Price, Grant, M Akhtar, J Akhtar, O Wallis, Hughes, Paget, RP Jones, Power, Exton, Sanderson, Drake & D'Arcy.

Also present: Claire Mann (Town Clerk)

MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cllr James stated that since the last Full Council routine meeting he had attended the following events and meetings; HEALS Christmas Lunch
Malmesbury Choir Carols by Candlelight in the Abbey
The Druid Winter Solstice ceremony to bless the River Avon
Nine Lessons and Carols in the Abbey

Visted residents and staff at Athelstan House and Stainsbridge House on Christmas Day

FC/26/01 To receive declarations of interest.

None received.

FC/26/02 To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies received from Cllrs I Wallis & W Jones.

FC/26/03 Public participation on items of business included on the agenda.

None received.

FC/26/04 To receive an update from the Town Clerk on correspondence in the last month.

The Town Clerk reported that there was a Town & Parish Clerk's Meeting on the 20th November which focussed on winter resilience and the Town of Culture. Both presentations had been sent to members on the 25th November.

The SLCC Branch meeting in Amesbury received a presentation from Scribe, this will be forwarded once received.

FC/26/05 To receive and adopt the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on the 17th December 2025

It was noted that there is a minor typo at FC/25/145 xi (the, not then). The minutes were approved and signed as a correct record.

FC/26/06 To receive and note the minutes of the Policy & Resources meeting held on the 2nd December 2025.

The minutes were noted.

FC/26/07 To receive and note the minutes of the Town Hall & Facilities meeting held on the 6th November 2025

The minutes were noted.

FC/26/08 To consider purchase of defibrillator externally at the Town Hall in the region of £995.00

It was agreed to purchase the defibrillator, noting that there is also a charge for delivery. Cllr Sanderson was also asked to conduct a review of the remaining defibrillators and when it would be necessary to replace them.

FC/26/09 To approve meeting dates for 2026/27

Subject to two minor amendments, the proposed dates were agreed and will be published and circulated to all.

FC/26/10 To approve proposed budget from Policy & Resources Committee and precept request 2026/27.

Following discussion the budget was agreed, the required precept for 2026/27 is £601,253.00

FC/26/11 To receive an update from representatives of Malmesbury Town Council on the following organisations;

- i. **Wiltshire Association of Local Councils & Society of Local Council Clerks**
The Town Clerk had mentioned recent meetings during her correspondence update and that there will be an SLCC branch meeting this coming Friday.
- ii. **Malmesbury Conservation Group**
Nothing to report.
- iii. **Malmesbury Town Team**
Noting to report.
- iv. **Malmesbury & District Twinning Association**
Cllr Exton made members aware of the annual twinning quiz on the 6th February, the incoming Niebull visit is taking place on the 23rd – 28th July and Heinz-Jorge Kretschmer from Bad Hersfeld is holding an exhibition in the John Bowen Gallery in 2027.
- v. **Operational Flood Group**
Cllr D’Arcy stated that Cllr Sanderson is now the representative on the Operational Flood Group.
- vi. **Local Highways & Footpaths Improvements Group**
Cllr Exton reported that that the next meeting will be held on the 27th January.
- vii. **Local Youth Network Management Group**
Cllr Akhtar stated that the date for next meeting is awaited.
- viii. **Movies @ Malmesbury.**
Cllr D’Arcy reported that, following several incidents of mess, food and drink has been banned from the seats for children’s films.
- ix. **Bus Service improvement**
Cllr Exton reported that there is no update other than the Bus Shelter Review that was mentioned at the last meeting.
- x. **Health & Well-being Forum.**
Cllr Power stated that there has not been a meeting recently but that she is working with the Primary Care Centre.
- xi. **Community Safety Forum**
No meeting has been planned yet.
- xii. **Joint Neighbourhood Plan**
No update.

xiii. **Cotswolds National Landscape Board.**

Cllr Sanderson has been asked by the group to request space on the MTC website detailing work carried out by the CNLB and will forward an email to the Town Clerk.

xiv. **Athelstan Statue**

Cllr Sanderson had forwarded an update from the group and requested that any concerns are sent to him to be passed on to the group.

FC/26/12

To receive an update from Wiltshire Councillors. This may include urgent actions to be considered by the Council.

- Cllr Grant will shortly be attending a meeting at the Primary School to discuss the proposed Footpath from Backbridge which is anticipated to be positive. A consultation will also be undertaken with residents of Backbridge.
- The examination of the Local Plan has raised a few issues. A plan by WC has been requested by the 31st January as to how WC will address those issues which includes inappropriateness of backdating of housing numbers, spurious large scale development between Salisbury and Amesbury and reserved sites are not appropriate.
- A measure to reduce the cost related to the multi storey car park in Trowbridge had been defeated resulting in additional long term cost to Wiltshire Council.
- WC budget papers will be published shortly.
- Dates for the next LYN and Community Safety Forum meetings will be set and circulated soon.

Meeting closed at 8pm