

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LEISURE & TOURISM COMMITTEE OF WINCHCOMBE TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT ABBEY FIELDS COMMUNITY CENTRE, BACK LANE, WINCHCOMBE AT 7.30PM ON WEDNESDAY 17 SEPTEMBER 2025.

PRESENT: Mrs G Madle (Chair) Mrs S Sturgeon
 Mr J Mason The Clerk

1. TO NOTE APOLOGIES. Cllr R Wakeford, non-attendance recorded for Cllr L Gorton.
2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST. None.
3. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING. None.
4. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE STAKEHOLDERS GROUP TO INCLUDE:
 - a) CONSIDERING A FUNDING REQUEST FROM THE ORGANISERS OF THE CHRISTMAS FAIR
2025. Organisers have requested £1000 towards the costs of promotional materials. Cllr G Madle proposed that WTC provide funds from the L&T budget subject to receiving a detailed breakdown of the costs, seconded Cllr J Mason, carried unanimously. Cllr G Madle will follow up.
 - b) TO RECEIVE THE RESULTS OF THE RECENT RESEARCH CONDUCTED BY GLOUCESTER UNIVERSITY. Cllr G Madle had shared the results with members in advance but has spoken with Rebecca Clay of TBC as the data was not specific to Winchcombe, it included Tewkesbury too and no summary had been presented. Members discussed the possibility of conducting a community survey, as use of shops and needs was also a key theme in the recent survey conducted by WTC, which members agreed was an area to dig deeper into. Cllr G Madle suggested that as the budget is still healthy, WTC could commission professional research which also encompasses visitors to the town as well as results. Cllr G Madle to follow up with TBC and Cotswolds Tourism, Clerk to follow up with GRCC and GMTF to ascertain if other councils have conducted similar research and if so with whom. Stakeholders group to be asked if they would like to be involved/share costs, Cllr G Madle to action.
5. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON BROWN TOURIST SIGNS.
Cllr G Madle has been in touch with Jacob Cotterill, GCC Highways regards WTC application. However, the application process is very burdensome, and mountains of supporting evidence is required. Cllr G Madle is trying to discuss in person with Jacob Cotterill in the hope that the process can be simplified. Cllr R Wakeford had been in touch with the highways team regarding confirming the locations for the signs, but this cannot be done until the application has been submitted. Cllr G Madle to follow up.
6. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE 2025-26 LEISURE & TOURISM BUDGET.
Cllr G Madle to follow up with Andy Sanders as WTC have not received any feedback on the queries raised on the final Tourist Information Centre invoice.
Cllr G Madle proposed that £50,000 is made available for the Playing Fields Committee to contribute toward a toddler play scheme, seconded Cllr J Mason, carried unanimously. Cllr J Mason also proposed £10,000 be relocated from the Cemetery Construction Reserve to contribute to the toddler play costs, which will enable the project to go ahead. To be recommended to Full Council in October.

Meeting closed 8.37pm.