

PRESENT: Mr J Mason (Chair) Mr B Rose Mrs K Woodward
Ms S Sturgeon (Vice Chair) Mr D Tarling Mr R Wakeford
Mr D Chandler Mrs G Madle Clerk /
Deputy Clerk
Mr M Lennard Mr R Parker

Residents from Warren Fruit Farm in attendance as new to the area, keen to meet local councillors and understand how the council works, and welcome members to visit the site, see their produce growing enterprise, and invited any suggestions on how the site could be improved. Cllr J Mason welcomed them to Winchcombe and thanked them for the kind invitation.

- Local Government Reorganisation (LGR)**

- Over 3,000 residents responded to the summer survey on unitary options and local services.
- A business case (for one or two unitary councils) will be debated at Full Council in November before submission to Government.
- The Government has made its position clearer:
 - Parish and town councils will not be expected to take on district council functions.
 - Government wants to strengthen engagement and community voice, with new “neighbourhood governance structures” led by unitary councillors.
 - Guidance on how these structures will work alongside parish and town councils will follow in due course (likely a year or so).

It is envisaged that Neighbourhood Area Committees will cover areas with populations of 20,000–50,000, particularly around market towns.

Further information: futuregloucestershire.org.uk

Grassroots Community Fund

Each county division will receive £20,000 over the next two years to support grassroots projects that improve health, wellbeing, and help tackle inequalities.

Roads & Transport

Fix My Street – Please continue to report highways issues using [FixMyStreet](https://www.fixmystreet.com/).

Community 20s & Safer Roads – Parishes and towns have been invited to express interest in:

1. Introducing 20mph limits in residential/vulnerable areas.
2. Reducing speed limits on other (currently higher speed) roads.

Feedback was requested by 19 September.

The Robin – Bookable Transport

Talks are ongoing to extend the Robin on-demand transport service to improve rural mobility.

E-bike Trial Scheme

The county is supporting an e-bike rental trial. Monthly rental fees are returned in the form of a voucher for local bike shops. If affordability is an issue, alternatives may be available—please get in touch for support. <https://www.pedal-power.bike/>

Early October 2025 (so far)

- The council's news pages show LGA (Local Government Association) training scheduled for 9 October, including sessions on electoral review and a primer in local government finance.
- The Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) consultation remains open until 19 October, so engagement is still ongoing.

5. TO CONSIDER A RECOMMENDATION TO REALLOCATE FUNDS FROM BOTH THE TOURISM, AND CEMETERY CONSTRUCTION EARMARKED RESERVES TO ENABLE IMPLEMENTATION OF A TODDLER PLAY SCHEME IN WINCHCOMBE PARK.

Cllr J Mason explained that facilities for youngsters would respond to community need and that funds are available in the aforementioned reserves.

Proposed Cllr R Parker, seconded Cllr G Madle, carried with one abstention.

6. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM WINCHCOMBE SPORTS HUB.

Cllr G Madle outlined actions:

- Accounts are currently with accountant, looks like there will be a small profit.
- Booking system upgrades, implementing online system, using Section 106 funding.
- Tractor for regular brushing of carpet being repaired to enable necessary weekly sweep.
- Balcarras Trust are engaged with solicitors regarding the proposed transfer of ownership of the building.
- Request for member of WTC to join the Sports Hub board who will ultimately replace Cllr G Madle.
- Ambitions to work with WYFC as a more formal partner – proposal will be brought to WTC in due course.
- Lease negotiations could also include land between pitch and Winchcombe Park – longer term possibility of access from park to be explored, as current access only from school grounds are limiting. WTC supportive of this approach, proposed Cllr D Chandler, seconded Cllr D Tarling, carried unanimously.

7. TO CONSIDER THE FUTURE OF BACK LANE PUBLIC TOILETS.

Cllr J Mason explained that the condition of the facilities continues to deteriorate, and the cost of refurbishing would be very high. The facilities did not feature as a priority in the recent community survey, but toilets are a benefit for visitors rather than residents. Options could include reducing the facility along with introduction of a Use Our Loo Scheme among local businesses. Further discussions to be had but the general feeling among councillors was to maintain a facility, albeit reduced, in order to provide significant cost savings. General Purposes Committee to explore options.

8. TO REVIEW AND ADOPT THE FOLLOWING POLICIES;

a) ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY. Proposed Cllr D Chandler, seconded Cllr R Parker, carried unanimously.

9. CIRCULARS AND CORRESPONDENCE.

NALC	Star Council Awards 2025/26 – Clerk of the Year Events newsletter 9 Sep Chief executive's bulletin - 4 September 2025 Chief executive's bulletin - 11 September 2025 Events newsletter 16 Sep Hi Leanne, we've opened nominations for our 2025 governance elections. Closing date 31 Oct Chief executive's bulletin - 18 September 2025 Events newsletter 23 Sep
TBC	Parish Matters 2025 issue 3 Reaching new heights: Tewkesbury Borough Council Business Voice - autumn event Small on waste, big on recycling – new slimmer waste bins to boost recycling Tewkesbury Borough Council puts residents first with its new Digital Strategy Councils commit up to an extra £20 million to support M5 Junction 10 Improvements Scheme The Tewkesbury Borough Council Warm Space fund is now open to application. Over the past three years Tewkesbury Borough Council has been able to fund community venues to offer warm spaces during the winter months to support people who are struggling with the cost of living and isolation. The feedback from this funding has shown the importance of these venues through the winter for both individuals and families' wellbeing. The council is inviting venues such as village halls, community centres and churches to provide warm spaces – free, welcoming, safe spaces where residents can go to socialise, eat or take part in activities. All the guidance related to this fund is available here. This year there are two application deadlines for grant panels: • Grants Panel 1 is on 16 October and decisions will be communicated to applicants on 23 October. All applications received between 17 September – 14 October will be reviewed at this panel. • Grants Panel 2 is on 24 November and decisions will be communicated to applicants on 3 December. All applications received between 15 October – 22 November will be reviewed at this panel.
GCC	Councils Connected: August 2025 Councils Connected: September 2025

GAPTC	GAPTC September 2025 Newsletter includes important updates: Local Government Reorganisation: What is going on Behind the Scenes? Public consultation on the draft Gloucestershire Local Nature Recovery Strategy has opened, 8 September 2025, and runs to 19 October 2025. There is some summary information available on https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/ecology-and-landscape/gloucestershire-local-nature-recovery-strategy/ This strategy will be a key resource in relation to the Biodiversity Duty on public authorities. It would be great to hear local knowledge from parish and town councils to help improve the strategy before publication. If you check the Gloucestershire Local Nature Recovery Strategy web-page you will find links to: • The live public consultation platform • The draft Local Habitat Map • Video tutorial on using the Local Habitat Map of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy • Online drop-in sessions to find out more.
Rural Services Network	The Rural Bulletin - 2 September 2025 RSN Rural Funding Digest - September 2025 Edition The Rural Bulletin - 9 September 2025 The Rural Bulletin - 16 September 2025 The Rural Bulletin - 23 September 2025 RMTG Roundup September 2025 Your Voice Matters: Delivering For All Survey At our National Rural Conference, we launched the Delivering for All Survey, a landmark research project capturing the realities of rural life across England. This national survey takes just 8–10 minutes and covers the issues that matter most: housing, healthcare, transport, digital connectivity, planning, and net zero priorities. Your responses will directly inform RSN's work with Government, MPs, and Select Committees as we push for fairer funding and better services for rural communities. The more people who take part, the stronger our collective voice becomes. That's why we're asking members to complete the survey and share it widely.
Your Community Alerts	Unknown offender(s) have stolen a Fuji X-100V camera from a vehicle while the owners were unloading property from the vehicle. High Street, Winchcombe. Between 19:15hrs and 19:45hrs on 28/08/2025. Incident 362 of 29/08/2025. If you have any further information about this incident, we'd like to hear from you. Please complete the following online form quoting Incident 362 of 29/08/2025. https://www.gloucestershire.police.uk/tua/tell-us-about/cor/tell-us-about-existing-case-report/September 2025 newsletter Officers are appealing for information after illegal metal detecting took place near Winchcombe. It was reported that unknown offenders had used a spade to dig eight holes into the ground in an attempt to steal items from a scheduled monument at the grounds of Hailes Abbey which is under the guardianship of English Heritage.

	The site is protected by law and therefore metal detecting of this nature, commonly known as nighthawking, is illegal. The term nighthawking refers to the illegal searching and removal of artefacts using metal detectors by people who don't have permission to be on the land. It is believed that the offence took place at some point between Wednesday 20 and Thursday 21 August. Investigating officers are asking anyone with information on those responsible to make contact. Information can provided to police online by completing the following form and quoting incident 386 of 22 August: https://www.gloucestershire.police.uk/tua/tell-us-about/cor/tell-us-about-existing-case-report/ Be heard! Trust and Confidence survey launched by Glos Police and Glos OPCC Are you concerned about crime in your area? Want to help make your community safer? We want to hear your thoughts on crime, safety and the police in Gloucestershire. That's why Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Gloucestershire and Gloucestershire Constabulary are launching the Trust and Confidence survey to give residents of Gloucestershire the opportunity to share their honest views on policing in the county. Complete the survey here: https://survey.yourcommunityalerts.co.uk/Survey/HASH/AEE25801DFB50001601A9A333CBBE8E5
SLCC	AGM 13 October 2025 mhtml:file:///C:/Users/user/AppData/Local/Microsoft/Windows/INetCache/Content.Outlook/M8F40CXG/email (002).mht News Bulletin - 5 September 2025 News Bulletin - 18 September 2025 - Correction
CPRE	Have your say for our countryside
Nicholsons	An Evening of Forestry Insight, Conversation and Celebration
Winchcombe Christmas Festival	This year's event to be held on Friday 28 th and Saturday 29 th November 2025.

10. ACCOUNTS FOR REPORTING AND SETTLEMENT.

Winchcombe Town Council

Accounts for Reporting 01-30/09/2025

Date	Description	Supplier	Total
INCOME			
09/09/2025	Bank Interest (Gross)	Lloyds Bank - Bus. Bank Instant	481.92
11/09/2025	Burial Fees	Alexander Burn	750.00
22/09/2025	Memorial Fees	Cleevely Memorials	20.00
23/09/2025	Burial Fees	Alexander Burn	125.00
23/09/2025	Burial Fees	Alexander Burn	150.00
25/09/2025	Burial Fees	Mason & Stokes Funeral Directors	250.00
25/09/2025	Burial Fees	Mason & Stokes Funeral Directors	1,000.00
26/09/2025	Precept	TBC - Tewkesbury Borough Council	139,000.00
EXPENDITURE			
01/09/2025	Burial Fees	Moonbeam (D M Jones)	-750.00
01/09/2025	Public Toilet Electricity	Scottish Power	-135.05
08/09/2025	Renewal - GPFA - Glos. Playing Fields Assoc	GPFA - Gloucestershire Playing Fields As	-50.00
08/09/2025	GAPTC Training	GAPTC - Gloucestershire Association of F	-50.00
08/09/2025	ReformIT Support	ReformIT	-590.52
08/09/2025	website maintenance	Peter Hampton	-70.00
08/09/2025	Scribe Cemetery Subscription (2024)	SCRIBE	-58.80
08/09/2025	Water Supply	Water Plus	-91.52
08/09/2025	HMRC - Tax and NI	HMRC - Tax and NI	-1,175.03
08/09/2025	AFCC Room Hire	AFCC - Abbey Fields Community Centre	-13.00
08/09/2025	Winchcombe Park Grounds Maintenance	Fairways Contracting Ltd., (Winchcombe	-1,111.50
10/09/2025	Burial Fees	Moonbeam (D M Jones)	-750.00
10/09/2025	NEST - WTC and Employees' Contributions	NEST Pension	-307.20
11/09/2025	Grounds Recharge	GCC (Gloucestershire County Council)	-152.51
11/09/2025	Staff Training	GAPTC - Gloucestershire Association of F	-45.00
12/09/2025	Telephone and Internet	Talk Talk (Office 'Phone & Broadband)	-77.06
12/09/2025	Bank Service Charge	Lloyds Bank - Main Bus.	-14.05
16/09/2025	Burial Fees	Moonbeam (D M Jones)	-80.00
18/09/2025	Winchcombe Park Electricity	British Gas	-145.28
18/09/2025	ReformIT Support	ReformIT	-1,812.00
18/09/2025	Photography	MCL - Midshire Communications Ltd.	-144.00
18/09/2025	Cleaning	Initial	-156.28
19/09/2025	Bank Service Charge	Lloyds Bank - Internet Bank Account	-8.50
23/09/2025	Supply install Football Goals	Sports Safe UK Ltd	-4,821.60
25/09/2025	Grave Digger Fees	Moonbeam (D M Jones)	-750.00
25/09/2025	PATA payroll	PATA	-81.51
26/09/2025	Staff Salaries		-3,571.35
29/09/2025	Cleaning	Donna Clarke - A Star Cleaning	-1,126.67
29/09/2025	HDMI cable 70.1	ReformIT	-30.79
29/09/2025	Audit Fees	PKF Littlejohn LLP	-2,064.00
29/09/2025	Winchcombe Park Pump Track	Mood Landscapes (Winchcombe Park De	-1,176.00
30/09/2025	Ian Humphries Work	Ian Humphries	-2,006.66

Proposed Cllr RP, seconded Cllr SS, carried unanimously that the accounts be settled and bank reconciliation signed off.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION. None.

11. SEPARATE BUSINESS. THE CHAIRMAN WILL MOVE THE ADOPTION OF THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION: UNDER SECTION 100(A)(4) LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972, THE PUBLIC BE EXCLUDED FOR THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ON THE GROUNDS THAT THEY INVOLVE THE LIKELY DISCLOSURE OF EXEMPT INFORMATION AS DEFINED IN PART 1 SCHEDULE 12A OF THE ACT.

12. TO RECEIVE A RECOMMENDATION FROM THE WINCHCOMBE PLAYGROUP WORKING GROUP TO AWARD A TENANCY AGREEMENT FOR PROVISION OF EARLY YEARS SERVICES.

Following review of the tender submissions, and subsequent in-person interviews held with the applicants, on behalf of the working group, Cllr J Mason, recommended Mini VIPs are offered the tenancy. Proposed Cllr R Parker, seconded Cllr S Sturgeon, carried with three abstentions.

13. TO RECEIVE A RECOMMENDATION FROM THE PLAYING FIELDS COMMITTEE TO APPOINT A CONTRACTOR TO INSTALL A TODDLER PLAY SCHEME IN WINCHCOMBE PARK.

Members of the Playing Fields Committee had reviewed a tender summary from Mood Landscape. Further information and revisions had been requested from the applicants, review of which has led to the committee recommending instructing Proludic to complete the toddler play area installation. Proposed Cllr R Wakeford, seconded Cllr D Chandler, carried unanimously.

Meeting closed 9.10pm.