

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY COMMITTEE OF WINCHCOMBE TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT ABBEY FIELDS COMMUNITY CENTRE, BACK LANE, WINCHCOMBE AT 6.30PM ON WEDNESDAY 25 FEBRUARY 2026.

PRESENT:

Mrs G Madle	Mr R Stone	Mr R Wakeford
Mr J Mason	Ms S Sturgeon	The Clerk
Mr B Rose	Mr D Tarling	

1. TO NOMINATE A CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR. Cllr S Sturgeon and R Wakeford nominated.
2. TO NOTE APOLOGIES. Cllrs D Chandler and D Gray. Nonattendance recorded for Cllr M Lennard.
3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST. None.
4. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING. None.
5. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE TOURISM STAKEHOLDERS GROUP.

- Student research project – Glos Uni tourism students, results not as focussed on Winchcombe, lessons to take in advance of future projects
- Brown signs update – application submitted to Gloucestershire County Council December 2025, payment needs to be made to have application considered. Cllr R Wakeford to follow up with Community Committee to review at next meeting.
- Tewkesbury application to be submitted for a Town of Culture award/grant.
- Cllr G Madle liaising with Katie Power from Tewkesbury Borough County on potentially useful data from Strategic Local Plan work regards high street use.
- Hedgehog Trail in progress - to link Sudeley Castle and town to mutual benefit.
- Winchcombe Pottery celebrating centenary.

6. TO CONSIDER SETTING UP A WORKING GROUP TO DELIVER THE BACK LANE TOILETS UPGRADE AND AGREE ACTIONS. Cllrs J Mason, R Wakeford and S Sturgeon volunteered.

Initial actions:

- To find members of the community with architectural/construction experience to join the group.
- To develop a proposal to present to full council for consideration.
- Promote group via website and social media. Clerk to action.

7. TO CONSIDER IMPLEMENTING A COMMUNITY CONSULTATION ON SPEED RESTRICTIONS.

Cllr D Tarling presented on behalf on the Highways Working Group who had met in February to consider actions to address speeding around the town.

WTC to conduct a community consultation to present the proposals suggested by the Highways Working Group. This will culminate in proposals to Gloucestershire County Council, also in conjunction with the 20s Plenty campaign.

Cllr D Tarling happy to support setting up/delivering a consultation. Members agreed that a consultation could include:

- Public meeting
- Website, newsletter

Cllr R Stone suggested Gretton Parish be approached for advice. Highways Working Group to follow up.

8. TO DISCUSS SETTING UP REGULAR MEET YOUR COUNCILLOR SESSIONS.

Outreach proposed as a more effective approach, with councillors attending community events and group meetings already happening.

Clerk to gather list of events and group meetings from whole council members and a calendar to be created.

9. TO DISCUSS SETTING UP VOLUNTEERING GROUPS FOR THE PHONE BOX AND A TIDY TOWN TASKFORCE.

Phone Box - Local resident suggested phone box is themed to promote events of the Winchcombe Players, and other groups could 'take it over' at various times to promote their own activities. Kelly would be happy to lead for groups across the town to take turns in using. Clerk to follow up with Kelly – first step to gauge interest.

Tidy Town Taskforce - Do WTC want to set up a group, or refer people to Tewkesbury Borough Council litter picking volunteer scheme? Members agreed the issue was wider than only litter picking, also including areas around the town where weeds are a problem, and therefore WTC should consider setting up a scheme.

Clerk shared example of successful programme run by Aylesbury council.

Cllr S Sturgeon a Friends of Winchcombe Group, and Cllr B Rose suggested it could be a great opportunity to involve young people. Other local groups could be interested in taking part. Organise a coffee after events to help connect and thank.

Members agreed in the first instance to liaise with Walkers Are Welcome group re the clean-up day organisation in May. Cllr J Mason to action.

10. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON 2025-26 BUDGETS TO DATE.

Clerk shared budget summaries to date.

Meeting closed 7.47pm.