

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF WINCHCOMBE TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT ABBEY FIELDS COMMUNITY CENTRE, BACK LANE, WINCHCOMBE AT 7.30 PM ON WEDNESDAY 6 NOVEMBER 2024.

PRESENT: Mr J Mason (Chair) Mr D Gray Mr W Marlow
 Ms S Sturgeon (Vice Chair) Mr M Lennard Mr R Parker
 Mr T Forrester Mrs G Madle Mr R Wakeford
 Ms L Gorton Mr S Maughan Clerk / Deputy Clerk

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PRIOR TO MEETING COMMENCING. None.

1. TO NOTE APOLOGIES. Cllrs D Chandler and H Clarke.
2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST. Cllr S Sturgeon declared on Items 7 and 10. Cllrs G Madle and M Lennard declared on Item 9.
3. TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS:
 - d) COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 2 OCTOBER 2024. Proposed Cllr S Sturgeon, seconded R Parker, carried unanimously.
 - d) FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 8 OCTOBER 2024. Proposed Cllr D Gray, seconded Cllr G Madle, carried unanimously.
 - d) PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 23 OCTOBER 2024. Proposed Cllr S Maughan, seconded Cllr R Wakeford, carried unanimously.
 - d) PLAYING FIELDS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 23 OCTOBER 2024. Proposed Cllr S Maughan, seconded Cllr R Parker, carried unanimously.

4. TO RECEIVE MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING.

Community Engagement	Consultant activity to date includes a test/trial campaign of social media, posters and flyers, with over 150 followers of the FB page and many expressions of interest in receiving future communications
Old Boys School	The public event to gather interest in potential uses for the building will be hosted by GCC on Wednesday 13 November, 3-5pm

5. TO RECEIVE A PRESENTATION ON WATER QUALITY IN THE RIVER ISBOURNE.
 Mr Geoff Sallis provided an overview of the work of the Safe Avon project. Mr Sallis asked if WTC could support Safe Avon through engaging with the group, sharing local concerns, being a community leadership voice for their work and with purchase of two testing kits to allow the group to start seasonal testing in the River Isbourne at either end of Winchcombe. Total funding request approx. £600. Members agreed to add the funding request to the December meeting agenda. Cllr D Gray expressed desire for WTC to take findings to MP in the future to drive change at government level.
6. TO CONSIDER AN OFFER FROM WINCHCOMBE ROTARY CLUB TO FUND A FULL-SIZE BOULES PITCH AND TWO BENCHES WITHIN WINCHCOMBE PARK.
 Mr Steve Wilkinson explained that the current pétanque area is not really fit for use for a professional match, so players use a space in Gotherington, but would like to be based in Winchcombe. The Rotary would be prepared to fund this and are requesting permission at this stage to explore what the project would entail, and to assess feasibility. Proposed Cllr R Wakeford, seconded Cllr R Parker, carried unanimously.

Cllr S Sturgeon left the table.

7. TO CONSIDER A REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO HOST A REGULAR CHILDREN’S EVENT AT ABBEY FIELDS COMMUNITY CENTRE.

Sarah Standing provided an overview of the club and expressed a desire longer term to consider a more structured approach, which could potentially be the case should the Old Boys School become a youth hub. In the meantime, a space is required to enable continuation of this free event. Cllr S Maughan proposed WTC support activities such these in the absence of a permanent youth centre, and provide funding for one year, with progress updates to be provided by the Club, seconded Cllr W Marlow, carried unanimously.
Cllr S Sturgeon rejoined the table.

8. TO CONSIDER A REQUEST FROM WINCHCOMBE YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB.

Representatives from the club expressed an interest in the installation of permanent goal posts on the kick around area they are currently using in Winchcombe Park and raised the issue of the condition of the playing area. As their membership is growing, now at over 200 children, they are eager to find a suitable base. Cllr S Maughan stated that permanent use for groups in designated areas of the park is something that he fully supports but it needs further discussion, and strategy. Cllr J Mason proposed that in the immediate term WYFC work with WTC to reseed the area, explore costs and suitable suppliers of goal posts, and contractors for required ground works, post installation and ongoing maintenance, seconded Cllr D Gray, carried unanimously.

A simple indoor space is also desired to conduct seated training, storage, first aid, shelter etc. Members agreed that WTC will work with and support WYFC in the long-term pursuit of this aim, ie development conditions, land purchase etc.

Cllrs G Madle and M Lennard left the table.

9. TO CONSIDER A FUNDING REQUEST FROM THE ORGANISERS OF PARTY IN THE PARK TO SUPPORT THE 2025 EVENT.

Following discussion of a proposal received from the event organisers, Cllr S Sturgeon proposed WTC offer funding to the value of £3,500.

As an amendment Cllr D Gray proposed £4,000, seconded Cllr S Maughan, with a condition that future funding will not exceed this sum.

Members were asked to cast votes, and Cllr D Gray's proposal received five votes, Cllr Sturgeon's proposal received four votes.

Therefore, WTC will grant £4000 to the Party in The Park event for 2025.

Cllrs G Madle and M Lennard rejoined the table.

Cllr S Sturgeon left the table.

10. TO CONSIDER AND DECIDE UPON NEXT STEPS FOR WINCHCOMBE SPORTS HUB LIMITED.

Cllr G Madle provided an update on the proposals for future management of the facility, the forecasted financial position over the next ten years, proposed contribution from the school and proposed transfer of ownership of the building to Winchcombe School, with associated amendments to the current lease to ensure continued access for pitch users to the changing room and toilet facilities. Proposed Cllr G Madle, seconded Cllr D Gray, carried unanimously.

Cllr S Sturgeon rejoined the table.

Due to the time, Cllr J Mason asked if members would agree to defer Items 11 and 12 to the next meeting. Proposed Cllr R Parker, seconded Cllr S Maughan, carried unanimously.

11. TO ADOPT THE FOLLOWING POLICIES, REVIEWED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE ON 8 OCTOBER 2024:

- d) FINANCIAL & NON-FINANCIAL RISK ASSESSMENT
- d) INTERNAL CONTROL ARRANGEMENTS
- d) FINANCIAL RESERVES POLICY
- d) ANNUAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY




Deferred to December meeting.

12. TO REVIEW AND ADOPT THE FOLLOWING POLICIES:

- d) WINTER ACTION PLAN
 - d) EMERGENCY PLAN
- Deferred to December meeting.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION. None.

13. CIRCULARS AND CORRESPONDENCE.

NALC	<p> CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S BULLETIN 26 Sep</p> <p> NALC WEBSITE 1 Oct new website update</p> <p> CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S BULLETIN 3 Oct</p> <p>Hey info, read our latest chief executive's bulletin 10 Oct</p> <p>Hi info, read our latest chief executive's bulletin 17 Oct</p> <p>Hi info, read our latest chief executive's bulletin 24 Oct</p> <p>Hi Enter name, read our special edition of the chief executive's bulletin 25 Oct</p> <p>Events:</p> <p>The quest for devolution in local governance 20 November 2024 — 12.00 – 13.15</p> <p>Empowering the young councillors of tomorrow 13 December 2024 — 12.00 – 13.15</p> <p>Navigating rural realities 29 January 2025 — 12.00 – 13.15</p> <p>Is the fight for standards a losing battle? 26 February 2025 — 12.00 – 13.15</p> <p>Breaking the mould of local councils 26 March 2025 — 12.00 – 13.15</p>																														
TBC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Planning team focused on tackling backlog as systems come back online • Support grants for community warm spaces 2024 to 2025 are now available. • Over £170,000 funding available to boost cultural and heritage institutions and energy efficiency of community buildings • New Tewkesbury Safe scheme launched to support local businesses • Parish Matters 2024 issue 4 • Free parking days in Tewkesbury and Winchcombe:- <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Tewkesbury</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Sunday 10th November</td> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">-</td> <td>Remembrance Sunday</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Sunday 24th November</td> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">-</td> <td>Xmas lights switch on</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Saturday 7th December</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Saturday 21st December</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Winchcombe</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Sunday 10th November</td> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">-</td> <td>Remembrance Sunday</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Saturday 7th December</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Saturday 14th December</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Saturday 21st December</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <hr style="border: 0.5px solid black; margin-top: 20px;"/> <p>Dear town/ parish councils,</p> <p>Thank you to all town and parish councils who took the time to take part in our recent name change consultation - your feedback and comments were an important consideration as part of the decision to change our name.</p>	Tewkesbury			Sunday 10th November	-	Remembrance Sunday	Sunday 24th November	-	Xmas lights switch on	Saturday 7th December			Saturday 21st December			Winchcombe			Sunday 10th November	-	Remembrance Sunday	Saturday 7th December			Saturday 14th December			Saturday 21st December		
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I'm sorry it's taken me longer than planned to communicate with you on this, due to our recent cyber incident we have been unable to access our systems until now. However, as we recover, I am delighted to share that on Tuesday, 3 September, our members voted in favor of changing our name to **North Gloucestershire Borough Council**.

This decision, which was made during an Extraordinary Council meeting, marks a significant step in enhancing our borough's identity and ensuring greater representation for all communities across our 160 square miles.

Our 10-week consultation, held from 17 May to 31 July 2024, gathered 1,608 responses, making it one of the most extensive consultations we have ever conducted. The results showed that 86% of respondents understood the rationale behind the proposed name change, and 58.6% expressed their support for the change.

A new logo, chosen during the public consultation, will be introduced as part of our rebranding efforts. The logo represents joining communities, building bridges and reflects our beautiful countryside and natural environment. You can find the new logo attached to this letter.

As a local council, you play an integral role in addressing issues that affect your area's residents and businesses. We ask for your support in thanking all who participated and ensuring your constituents are aware of our name change, which is set to go live from January 2025.

As a reminder, the decision to explore a name change originated from discussions on the new Council Plan, where concerns were raised about the outdated nature of our current logo and the confusion between Tewkesbury Town and the wider borough. The name 'North Gloucestershire Borough Council' was chosen as it more accurately represents the borough's geographic location and its diverse communities, avoiding the prioritisation of Tewkesbury Town over other areas. At a meeting of Council in May 2024, members were 'minded to' change our name, subject to a public consultation, so that stakeholders could provide feedback and raise any suggestions, as well as share views on logo options.

Our new name and striking logo will help us raise our profile both regionally and nationally, promoting economic development and attracting investment while maintaining our unique identity as a borough.

'North Gloucestershire Borough Council' also demonstrates our support for the entire borough and shows every resident that we are their council. Thank you for your continued support and cooperation. If you have any questions about the name change decision or using the new logo, please email: namechange.consultation@tewkesbury.gov.uk

Yours faithfully,



Cllr Richard Stanley
Leader of Tewkesbury Borough Council

GCC

- [Councils Connected - October 2024](#)
- [Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service: Community Risk Profile Engagement - Have your say!](#)

Rural Services Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read the latest roundup for the RSN Rural Market Town Group - Sept 2024 • The Rural Bulletin - 2 October 2024 • RSN Rural Funding Digest - October 2024 Edition • The Rural Bulletin - 8 October 2024 • The Rural Bulletin - 15 October 2024 • The Rural Bulletin - 22 October 2024 • The Rural Bulletin - 29 October 2024
Abbey Fields Community Centre	New Room For Hire!
Your Community Alerts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Perceptions of Crime Survey We want to hear your thoughts on crime, safety and the police in Gloucestershire. Each year, the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner runs a survey on people's perceptions of crime and safety in the county. We do this so that the public's voice and concerns are heard when it comes to policing their area. Complete the survey here: https://s-url.co/630WAA • Our News October 2024.pdf • Neighbourhood Alerts Survey https://survey.neighbourhoodalert.co.uk/Survey/HASH/97380371D1690B819C9F5A367723D90D <hr/> <p>Statement from our Chief Officer Group</p> <p>We understand that both the communities we serve, and our own workforce, will be concerned and unsettled following the suspension of Chief Constable Rod Hansen.</p> <p>We are continuing to provide the best service we can to our communities, and we would like to assure everyone that frontline policing will not stop, and we will continue to respond to calls from those who need us.</p> <p>We have dedicated and hardworking officers, police staff and volunteers who will continue to keep people safe from harm, pursue offenders and investigate crime.</p> <p>Chief Constable Rod Hansen was suspended by Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) Chris Nelson on Monday (7 October), following the launch of an investigation by the Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC).</p> <p>The IOPC confirmed it is investigating conduct allegations against Chief Constable Hansen relating to his handling of an allegation against a member of staff, and whether relevant policies and procedures were subsequently followed.</p> <p>Former Deputy Chief Constable Shaun West retired in June 2024, and he also remains subject to an IOPC investigation. He is under criminal investigation in relation to a number of serious allegations including assault and misconduct in public office. He was suspended by Chief Constable Hansen in January 2024 after the IOPC launched an investigation.</p> <p>The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) is working with His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) and the College of Policing to identify a temporary Chief Constable who can lead the Constabulary and provide consistency during this period.</p>

	<p>We are unable to comment further on the investigations as that is a matter for the IOPC. We want to reassure people the remaining members of the Chief Officer Group (COG) and the wider Executive Board will provide continuity of leadership until a temporary Chief Constable is in place, and senior leaders across the organisation met yesterday (Tuesday 8 October) to ensure our important work continues as normal.</p> <p>In Gloucestershire, we have three Assistant Chief Constables (ACCs), one of whom is temporary, and an Assistant Chief Officer (ACO), all of whom are highly experienced officers.</p> <p>While the situation is unusual, it isn't unprecedented, and we'd like to reassure our communities, staff and partner organisations we continue to operate as normal. As soon as there is any developments or changes to our leadership group we will provide a further update.</p> <hr/> <p>Crime Reports</p> <p>A blue Kawasaki motorcycle was reported stolen from a lay by in Winchcombe Way during the afternoon of the 13th October, Anyone with any information regarding this crime please quote incident number 244 - 13/10/24.</p> <p>An Audi A3 car was reported stolen from the Belas Knapp car park in Winchcombe between 1100 and 1315 hours on the 18th October. Anyone with any information regarding this crime please quote incident number 321-18/10/24.</p>
CPRE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Campaigns Update October 2024 {user_data~First Name~Friend}, read our response to the NPPF consultation • Our Awards Ceremony at Elmore Court • October newsletter • Our hedgerow volunteering days
Cleeve Common Trust	<p>Autumn news from Cleeve Common</p>

Winchcombe Town Council

Accounts for Reporting 01/10/2024 31/10/2024

Date	Description	Supplier	Total
INCOME			
03/10/2024	Memorial Fees	Cleevely Memorials	100.00
09/10/2024	Bank Interest (Gross)	Lloyds Bank - Bus. Bank Instant	581.62
09/10/2024	Burial Fees	Michael Parker	250.00
14/10/2024	Memorial Fees	Matthew Greaves	75.00
17/10/2024	Interment	Brian Hayward	250.00
18/10/2024	ERoB - Exclusive Rights of Burial	David Gould	250.00
18/10/2024	Memorial Fees	Cleevely Memorials	100.00
18/10/2024	Memorial Fees	Cleevely Memorials	100.00
28/10/2024	Memorial Fees	Cleevely Memorials	20.00
30/10/2024	Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)	TBC - Tewkesbury Borough Council	109,081.14
31/10/2024	Bank Interest (Gross)	Lloyds Bank Fixed Term Deposit Account	4,218.99
EXPENDITURE			
01/10/2024	Public Toilet Electricity	Scottish Power	-135.05
01/10/2024	ReformIT Support	ReformIT	-428.52
01/10/2024	Winchcombe Sports Hub Pitch Resurface	Bernhard's Sports Surfaces	-72,799.14
02/10/2024	Defibrillator Electrodes	Community Heartbeat	-7.14
02/10/2024	Scribe Cemetery Subscription (2024)	SCRIBE	-58.80
02/10/2024	website maintenance	Peter Hampton	-125.00
02/10/2024	Grounds Recharge	Fairways Contracting Ltd., (Winchcombe Park Development)	-1,079.10
02/10/2024	AFCC Room Hire	AFCC - Abbey Fields Community Centre	-6.00
02/10/2024	Defibrillator Electrodes	Community Heartbeat	-52.80
04/10/2024	Winchcombe Park Electricity	British Gas	-45.40
04/10/2024	ReformIT Support	ReformIT	-42.26
07/10/2024	Water Supply	Water Plus	-90.53
10/10/2024	HMRC - Tax and NI	HMRC - Tax and NI	-977.42
10/10/2024	NEST - WTC and Employees' Contributions	NEST Pension	-127.31
10/10/2024	NEST - WTC and Employees' Contributions	NEST Pension	-169.75
11/10/2024	Bank Service Charge	Lloyds Bank - Main Bus. Account	-11.60
14/10/2024	Grounds Recharge	GCC (Gloucestershire County Council)	-143.87
14/10/2024	AFCC Room Hire	AFCC - Abbey Fields Community Centre	-28.60
15/10/2024	Telephone and Internet	Talk Talk (Office 'Phone & Broadband)	-69.48
21/10/2024	Bank Service Charge	Lloyds Bank - Internet Bank Account	-7.00
21/10/2024	Greening Group	Winchcombe Greening Group	-15.00
21/10/2024	Greening Group	Winchcombe Greening Group	-76.49
21/10/2024	Winchcombe Sports Hub Pitch Resurface	Bernhard's Sports Surfaces	-5,382.00
25/10/2024	Staff Salary		-3,472.47
25/10/2024	Communication Consultancy	Lovit Group Ltd	-1,200.00
29/10/2024	Defibrillator Electrodes	Community Heartbeat	-7.14
29/10/2024	Defibrillator Electrodes	Community Heartbeat	-105.60
30/10/2024	Picnic Bench	Dig It Projects Franchising Ltd	-477.60
31/10/2024	Ian Humphries Work	Ian Humphries	-2,211.30
31/10/2024	Toilets maintenance	Donna Clarke - A Star Cleaning	-1,126.67

It was proposed by Cllr W Marlow and seconded by Cllr D Gray that the accounts be settled, and bank reconciliation signed off, carried unanimously.

Meeting closed 21.46pm.