

**Minutes of the Strategy Committee Meeting of the Town Council held on
Wednesday 12th March 2025 at 6.00pm**

Present

St Michael's Ward

Cllr McCollum
Cllr R Sexton
Cllr L Wakefield
Cllr A Pearsall

St Paul's Ward

Cllr S Sexton

In attendance

Stephen Hill, Town Clerk

24/88/SC Apologies for Absence
Cllr Brown

24/89/SC Declarations of Interests
None

24/90/SC Dispensations
None

24/91/SC Public Question Time for items on the agenda
EDDC Cllr Roy Collins referred to Cllr R Seton's report (Honiton Festival) and highlighted previous music festival and an option to have a Full Council every 3 weeks.

24/92/SC Strategy Committee held on 12th February 2025
Members RESOLVED to approve for accuracy the minutes of the Strategy Committee meeting held on 12th February 2025.
Proposed by Cllr T McCollum and seconded by Cllr S Sexton
For 2, Against 0, Abstentions 3.

24/93/SC Youth Council
Committee **NOTED** meeting with HCC teacher responsible for Assemblies and discussion with DCC Youth Participation and plan to establish Youth Council in Honiton.

24/94/SC Council Surgeries
Following Full Council 10th March 2025, Committee **NOTED** progress towards Council Surgeries on Thursday 10th April and Saturday 9th August

2025. Cllr S Sexton highlighted that a Cllr can provide A-Board, vases, tablecloths and clipboards for Surgery 10th April 2025 at Mackarness Hall. A paper and electronic questionnaire is needed (to include free text question “what do you want Honiton to be?”); Cllr R Sexton will prepare a draft presentation; Q&A session and discussion. Aim for 4-5 Cllrs to attend each Surgery. Surgeries need to be promoted including on website/Facebook, A5 leaflets and schools’ newsletters and local papers. List of PIPs available and Infographics being prepared.

24/95/SC

Annual Awards

Committee **NOTED** nominations to date for Annual Awards 2025. Cllrs Turner, R Sexton and McCollum agreed at Full Council to judge Awards. Information to be distributed to Honiton Business Network 21st March 2025. To be reposted on website and Facebook. Shields will be purchased after 31st March 2025

24/96/SC

Honiton Festival Meeting

Following the meeting on 29th January 2025, Committee **NOTED** Cllr. R Sexton’s paper ([Honiton Festival](#)) and that a Honiton Pride is proposed for 2026. Committee **RESOLVED a one-day event 2026; with Plan B should weather be poor (eg marquees); and that the Surgeries questionnaire, in addition to a free text box, to include asking people 1) if they support a Honiton Festival, 2) what can the Town Council do to support Youth of Honiton and 3) are the Council’s priority projects supported. Sponsorship will be needed.**

Proposed by Cllr R Sexton and seconded by Cllr S Sexton
For 5, Against 0, Abstentions 0.

24/97/SC

Communications Strategy

Committee **NOTED** Cllr. R Sexton’s paper ([Communications Strategy](#)). Cllrs to distribute Bulletins and leaflets; an expectation that all Cllrs promote the Town Council. **RESOLVED to Recommend to Full Council May 2025 establishing a one-off Working Group (all Cllrs invited to join and Cllrs can email if attendance not possible; all Strategy Committee Councillors required to attend); Surgery questionnaire to ask “what people want from a Town Council website”.**

Proposed by Cllr T McCollum and seconded by Cllr S Sexton
For 5, Against 0, Abstentions 0.

24/98/SC

Streamlining Decision Making

Committee **NOTED** Cllr. R Sexton’s paper ([Streamlining Decision Making](#)) and the all Councillor briefing on Lead Councillor, Special responsibilities and

Rep. on Outside Bodies roles 19th March 25. **RESOLVED to Recommend to Full Council May 2025 that each Committee review/revise its Terms of Reference; that the Scheme of Delegation is reviewed/revised before May 25 Annual Council Meeting; and that Terms of Reference or Scheme of Delegation could be revised to include Delegation of Decisions between Committee meetings.**

Proposed by Cllr S Sexton and seconded by Cllr Wakefield
For 5, Against 0, Abstentions 0.

24/99/SC

Devon Local Government Reorganisation (LGR)

Committee is asked to **NOTE** the Government's English Devolution White Paper (December 2024) and Devon Councils' responses; EDDC will provide a briefing 18th March 25. **RESOLVED that Cllr R Sexton's draft paper be brought to Strategy Committee April 25.**

Proposed by Cllr S Sexton and seconded by Cllr Pearsall
For 5, Against 0, Abstentions 0.

24/100/SC

To close the meeting

The meeting was closed at 20:00.