

**Minutes of the Strategy Committee Meeting of the Town Council held on
Wednesday 9th April 2025 at 6.00pm**

Present

St Michael's Ward

Cllr McCollum
Cllr R Sexton
Cllr A Pearsall

St Paul's Ward

Cllr S Sexton

In attendance

Stephen Hill, Town Clerk
Cllr Sheen

24/101/SC Apologies for Absence
Cllr Brown and Cllr Wakefield

24/102/SC Declarations of Interests
Declarations of interests were received from Cllrs R and S Sexton with respect to 24/118/SC (Pecuniary) and from Cllr McCollum with respect to 24/106/SC (Personal)

24/103/SC Dispensations
A dispensation was granted to either Cllr R or S Sexton in relation to item 24/118/SC to stay in the room, contribute to the debate but not to Vote.

24/104/SC Public Question Time for items on the agenda
None

24/105/SC Strategy Committee held on 12th March 2025
Members RESOLVED to approve for accuracy the minutes of the Strategy Committee meeting held on 12th March 2025 as amended.
Proposed by Cllr Pearsall and seconded by Cllr S Sexton
For 4, Against 0, Abstentions 0.

24/106/SC Honiton Sports S106 Applications
Committee RESOLVED to Recommend to Full Council April 2025 that Full Council Recommends allocation of S106 funds to EDDC.
Proposed by Cllr Pearsall and seconded by Cllr McCollum
For 4, Against 0, Abstentions 0.

24/107/SC Youth Council

Committee **NOTED** no change, so will be deferred to next Committee meeting.

24/108/SC Council Surgeries

Committee **NOTED** Arrangements have been made for Council Surgery on Thursday 10th April 2025. Preparation of the Infographics was highlighted in particular as good. Committee noted the next Council Surgery Saturday 9th August 2025.

24/109/SC Annual Awards

Committee **NOTED** nominations 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 and Awards given at Annual Town meeting.

24/110/SC Honiton Festival Meeting

Committee **NOTED** that question was included in the Council survey.

24/111/SC Communications Strategy

Committee **NOTED** that question was included in the Council survey.

24/112/SC Streamlining Decision Making

Committee **NOTED** that the Scheme of Delegation will be considered by Annual Council meeting May 2025. Each Committee is reviewing its Terms of Reference.

24/113/SC Project Implementation Plans (PIPs)

Committee considered the draft PIP for Youth Support and noted that a Youth Worker could be employed by the Town Council 2026/27 (other organisations cannot be employer) as a resource shared with other organisations (eg activities/training/supervision) with some Council budget from Youth Support budget at say £20k pa (plus NI and Pension) for 20 hpw. Accommodation could be provided by each organisation. To support youth in Honiton area. Power to be found for Council to act.

Committee RESOLVED to approve the PIP for Youth Support..

Proposed by Cllr R Sexton and seconded by Cllr McCollum

For 4, Against 0, Abstentions 0.

Committee RESOLVED to approve the amended PIPS for Community Engagement and Quality Award.

Proposed by Cllr Pearsall and seconded by Cllr S Sexton
For 4, Against 0, Abstentions 0.

24/114/SC Devon Local Government Reorganisation (LGR)

Committee **NOTED** the Government's English Devolution White Paper (December 2024) and Devon Councils' responses and that the impact on the Town Council is unknown. Cllr R Sexton plans to prepare a strategic plan: Planning for Unitary (noting that the section on education needs input). DALC has asked all Devon's local councils questions and is seeking input. Cllr R Sexton's draft paper to be used as a basis of response to DALC, EDDC and DCC.

Committee RESOLVED to:

- a. **Strategy Committee 14.5.25 to focus on LGR and questions from DALC, noting that other Cllrs can contribute; and**
- b. **Delegate to Strategy Committee to complete Planning for Unitary paper.**

Proposed by Cllr S Sexton and seconded by Cllr Pearsall
For 4, Against 0, Abstentions 0.

Cllr S Sexton left the meeting at 7:05pm.

24/115/SC Coast to Country

Committee RESOLVED to invite Ignyte to an informal meeting with the Committee members 23-28 April 2025.

Proposed by Cllr McCollum and seconded by Cllr Pearsall
For 3, Against 0, Abstentions 0.

24/116/SC Economy and Tourism Working Group

Committee RESOLVED to Recommend to Full Council May 25 that the Economy & Tourism Working Group end and that Strategy Committee encompass Strategy, Tourism and Economy. Committee noted that Cllrs on the Economy & Tourism Working Group could join Strategy Committee.

Proposed by Cllr Pearsall and seconded by Cllr McCollum
For 3, Against 0, Abstentions 0.

24/117/SC [Strategy Committee, Terms of Reference](#)

Committee RESOLVED to approve its Terms of Reference as amended to include Delegation for Decisions between Meetings and Recommend to Full Council May 2025.

Proposed by Cllr R Sexton and seconded by Cllr Pearsall
For 3, Against 0, Abstentions 0.

24/118/SC [Beehive Dilapidations](#)

Committee RESOLVED to appoint Whitton Laing to advise the Council with respect to Beehive dilapidations.

Proposed by Cllr McCollum and seconded by Cllr Pearsall

For 2, Against 0, Abstentions 1.

24/119/SC **To close the meeting**

The meeting was closed at 19:22.