

**Minutes of the Strategy, Economy & Tourism Committee Meeting of the Town
Council held on
Wednesday 8th October 2025 at 6.00pm**

Present

St Michael's Ward

Cllr Fowles
Cllr Sheen
Cllr Doran
Cllr R Sexton

St Paul's Ward

Cllr Pearsall

In attendance

Stephen Hill, Town Clerk

- 25/53/SC Apologies for absence**
Cllr Wakefield gave apologies.
- 25/54/SC Declarations of Interests**
None
- 25/55/SC Dispensations**
None
- 25/56/SC Public Question Time for items on the agenda**
None
- 25/57/SC Strategy Committee held on 10th September 2025**
Committee RESOLVED to approve for accuracy the minutes of the Strategy, Economy & Tourism Committee Meeting held on 10th September 2025 as published and circulated with the agenda.
Proposed by Cllr Pearsall and seconded by Cllr Fowles
For 4, Against 0, Abstentions 1.
- 25/58/SC Devon Local Government Reorganisation (LGR)**
The TC summarised the paper including possible transfer of net income generating and net cost services/assets. Committee discussed impact on Council budget 26/27 and also impact on service levels if the Council does not transfer. Assets should be in good condition upon transfer. HR and Legal services may be needed 26/27.

Committee RESOLVED a long list (including addition of the former TIC at Lace Walk) of services/assets for possible transfer from EDDC to the Honiton Town Council from earliest end 2026.

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

25/59/SC NALC Quality Award Scheme

Committee Noted suggested time for application for Silver level award in January 2026. Committee discussed the lifespan of the existing Foundation level award. Council representation on Outside Bodies demonstrates 2-way communication. Adding Cllr biographies is straightforward; Cllr RS will provide an example. Action Planning should be derived from planned “away day”. Demonstrating 2-way communication is more difficult and 12 months may be needed. TC to email all Cllrs asking for biographies and to highlight importance of learning.

25/60/SC Budget 26/27

Committee RESOLVED the following Recommendations to Finance & Policy Committee (October/November 25) on the 2026/27 budgets for which the Committee is responsible:

Code 4185 Councillor Strategy eg support to develop LGR strategy £5,000, currently £0

Code 4310 Newsletter retain at £1,000

Code 4320 Website to become £1,000 (post new website implementation); currently £5,500 for new website

Code 4338 Clapper Lane to be removed, currently £0

Code 4340 Tourism (£5k is currently spent to commission Ignyte)
Proposed to increase to £20,000

Code 4345 Health & Wellbeing, eg Health & Wellbeing ecology zone at Allhallows, scheme development say £2,000, currently £1,000

Code 4450 EDDC Rates Office business rates could reduce to £0 from £1,500

Code 4455 Beehive strategy reduce to £0 from £5,000

Code 4705 Youth Council retain at £5,000

Overall change from 25/26 budget: +£10,000

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

25/61/SC To close the meeting

The meeting was closed at 19:45.