

LYME REGIS TOWN COUNCIL

TOWN MANAGEMENT AND HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 8 JANUARY 2025

Present

Chairman: Cllr M. Ellis

Members: Cllr C. Aldridge, Cllr S. Cockerell, Cllr M. Denney, Cllr P. Evans, Cllr S. Larcombe, Cllr P. May, Cllr G. Stammers, Cllr A. Wood, Cllr G. Turner

Officers: A. Mullins (support services manager), AK Mullins (property and projects assistant), A. Turner (operations manager)

24/54/TMH Public Forum

There were no members of the public who wished to speak.

24/55/TMH Apologies

Cllr G. Caddy – holiday
Cllr C. Reynolds

24/56/TMH Minutes

Proposed by Cllr C. Aldridge and seconded by Cllr G. Turner, the minutes of the previous meeting held on 6 November 2024 were **ADOPTED**.

24/57/TMH Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

There were none.

24/58/TMH Dispensations

There were none.

24/59/TMH Matters arising from the minutes of the Town Management and Highways Committee meeting held on 6 November 2025

Town Bus

As the deputy town clerk was not at the meeting, it was noted a full briefing about the town bus would be emailed to members.

24/60/TMH Update Report

Three Cups

It was noted scaffolding had gone up outside the building this week. It was also noted officers were trying to arrange a meeting with the Palmer family, rather than their property agent, to discuss the future of the building.

Installation of Communication Boards in Play Areas

It was noted the boards would be delivered on 10 January 2025.

24/61/TMH Town Management and Highways Committee – Objectives

Office project

There was some concern this project had slipped and a member asked the reasons for this.

The property and projects assistant said there had been several issues, including the museum not being able to vacate Unit 1 until this year and due to negotiations over the use of additional units and subsequent discussions with the architect to draw up revised plans.

Cllr G. Stammers arrived at 7.08pm.

24/62/TMH Memorial Benches

Members felt a 25-year lifespan on memorial benches was too long and 20 years was suggested.

It was also noted that people who bought benches paid a maintenance fee of £250 at the outset, but this charge had never been reviewed. Therefore, this would be included as part of the annual review of charges by the Strategy and Finance Committee.

Proposed by Cllr P. May and seconded by Cllr M. Denney, members agreed to **RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL** to introduce a 20-year lifespan on new and existing memorial benches on town council-owned land

24/63/TMH RNLI Lifeguard Monitoring Report and Beach Safety Assessment

Clarification was sought on the time period of the service level agreement between the council and the RNLI, as the covering report said the five-year agreement started in 2024 but the RNLI's report said they were looking for a service level agreement with the council from 2025.

The operations manager said he would clarify this and report back to members.

A member was concerned about the location of the lifeguard tower, as it had been pulled away from the beach wall, leaving a gap behind it which wasn't used, and felt the council needed to have more input into this.

The operations manager said he would discuss this with the RNLI.

24/64/TMH External Works' Budget Performance, 1 April – 31 October 2024

Members noted the report.

24/65/TMH Complaints, Incidents and Compliments

Members noted the report.

24/66/TMH Monmouth Beach Land Stabilisation Works

Proposed by Cllr M. Ellis and seconded by Cllr S. Larcombe, members **RESOLVED** that under Section 1, Paragraph 2 of The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for this item of business as it included confidential matters relating to relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person within the meaning of paragraphs 1 and 8 of schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (see Section 1 and Part 1 of Schedule 1 to the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985), as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006.

24/67/TMH Chalet and Day Hut Sites at Monmouth Beach

Proposed by Cllr M. Ellis and seconded by Cllr S. Larcombe, members **RESOLVED** that under Section 1, Paragraph 2 of The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for this item of business as it included confidential matters relating to relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person within the meaning of paragraphs 1 and 8 of schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (see Section 1 and Part 1 of Schedule 1 to the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985), as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006.

24/68/TMH Exempt Business

a) Monmouth Beach Land Stabilisation Works

Members noted two quotes had been received, which were very similar in price and both under the approved budget. The property and projects assistant said there were some technical points officers wanted to clarify with both contractors, regarding the movement of lorries and the clearing of the scrub at the site.

As officers wanted to be able to instruct a contractor within the next few days, it was suggested the final appointment was delegated to the town clerk, in consultation with the chairman of this committee and the mayor.

Proposed by Cllr P. May and seconded by Cllr G. Turner, members agreed to **RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL** to delegate authority to the town clerk, in consultation with the chairman of the Town Management and Highways Committee and the mayor, to appoint a contractor to carry out the removal of slipped material from the land above Ware Cliff at the town council-owned chalet and caravan park.

b) Chalet and Day Hut Sites at Monmouth Beach

Members were supportive of officers' actions to resolve ongoing issues with two sites at Monmouth Beach.

Proposed by Cllr P. May and seconded by Cllr P. Evans, members agreed to **RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL** to approve up to £6k of unbudgeted expenditure to provide a replacement day hut at 23 Monmouth Beach on a 'invest to earn' basis.

The meeting closed at 7.30pm.