

TENBURY TOWN COUNCIL 2025/26 MEETING T07

**Minutes of the meeting of TENBURY TOWN COUNCIL held on
Monday 8th September 2025 at 7.00 pm
in The Pump Rooms, off Teme Street, Tenbury Wells, WR15 8BA**

PRESENT: Cllrs S. Bowkett, L. Davies, M. Davies, D. Ingram
F. Knight, D. Patrick, R. Perrin (Chair), S. Russell and B. Smith.

IN ATTENDANCE: The Town Clerk, the Assistant to the Town Clerk, Malvern Hills District Councillors, Cllr. L. Bruton and Cllr. A. Wilmott, three representatives of the Safer Neighbourhood Team, The Police and Crime Commissioner, Mr John Campion, three Trustees of the Tenbury Community Pool and 4 members of the public.

C25.128 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Members received apologies for absence from Cllr. E. Bunting due to a work commitment, Cllr. R. Connolly due to a planned holiday and Cllr. A. Gould due to a personal commitment.

C25.129 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

A declaration of interest was made by Cllr. F. Knight, under the Code of Conduct pursuant to the Localism Act 2011 in respect of item **C25.150 REGAL** on the agenda.

C25.130 DISPENSATIONS

The Town Clerk stated that there had been no requests for dispensation.

C25.131 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

(i) Public Question Time – General

A member of public requested that an update on the skatepark project be added as an item on the next agenda.

(ii) Safer Neighbourhood Police Team

Appendix A

A report was received and circulated.

A representative of the team stated that the officers had been busy with community engagement, visiting businesses and attending local events, having scheduled visits from the community engagement van, conducting school visits and carrying out foot and bike patrols around town. The team are looking to introduce regular drop-in surgeries.

The officer highlighted that due to different circumstances the local team would be down on numbers of officers on active duty. The Police and Crime Commissioner suggested that the Town Council invite the local Sargeant and Inspector to a Council meeting to impress the necessity of filling the roles.

(iii) Worcestershire County Council

Appendix B

Cllr. Bowen sent apologies as he was unable to attend due to an emergency County Council meeting. Cllr. Bowen's report had been received and circulated.

(iv) Malvern Hills District Council

Appendix C & D

Cllr. Bruton and Cllr. Wilmott submitted reports, which had been circulated.

Cllr. Bruton stated that there is a planned drop-in support session for the 150 employees of Kerry's who are scheduled to be made redundant.



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C25.132 POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

Members received a presentation from the Police and Crime Commissioner, Mr John Campion. Mr Campion explained that Worcestershire and Herefordshire forces will work together in a bid to enhance services by removing boundaries. These changes should ensure that Tenbury benefits from an increase in the available officers.

Mr Campion stated that while all reported crimes are recorded, not all crimes are filtered to the local team, but he wishes to assure the public that action is taken on all reported crimes.

Mr Campion wished to stress that prevention is key and that there is a budget to provide educational events for issues such as vehicle crime, speeding and smart water.

A Member questioned with regards the reported £8 million shortfall in the policing budget, how it would affect the number of officers.

Mr Campion replied that the funding from Government has not kept pace with the wage increases, however it is a requirement to maintain officer numbers, so changes made include condensation of the incremental wage increases and cutbacks in civilian roles.

A Member asked whether the force could maintain sufficient new recruits.

Mr Campion replied that there are enough applications to fill every position several times over in West Mercia, however, due to funding, starting point salaries are not adequate to attract older, more experienced applicants.

A Member stated that the town is fortunate that crime numbers are relatively low, but that does not stop the elderly and vulnerable feeling frightened. Members are finding it difficult to choose three issues to highlight for the Police Contact Contract as it is felt that this is putting less importance on the other issues.

Mr Campion replied that all crimes are relevant, but it is important to have a framework of priority to work from. Mr Campion stated that the Neighbourhood Matters scheme is a great tool for giving and receiving information on what is occurring locally. However, any additional concerns may be raised with the Safer Neighbourhood Team.

A Member stated that she was surprised that the town did not receive all the crime statistics.

Mr Campion stated that the statistics are available, however, anything that could be identifiable is withheld.

A Member asked what the regulations were with regards dangerous dogs.

Mr Campion stated that this was a licensing issue.

The Chair thanked Mr Campion for his time.

The Police and Crime Commissioner and the three representatives of the Safer Neighbourhood Team left the meeting at 7.57 pm.

There now followed a change in the order of the agenda.

C25.145 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Members agreed the exclusion of Press and Public on the grounds that the consideration of the following items may involve the likely disclosure of confidential information Section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.



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C25.146 TENBURY COMMUNITY POOL

Members received an update from Tenbury Community Pool on their proposed development plans.

C25.147 LEASE OF LAND

Members considered the requests for the lease of land.

It was proposed by Cllr. D. Ingram seconded by Cllr. B. Smith and unanimously

RESOLVED:

Members agreed the requests for the relevant lease of land. The Town Clerk was requested to draft and send a letter to the relevant parties.

C25.151 RE-ADMISSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

There being no further confidential business, Members agreed a motion to readmit the press and public for the remainder of the meeting.

C25.133 MINUTES

To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting of Tenbury Town Council held on 26th August 2025.

It was proposed by Cllr. S. Russell seconded by Cllr. L. Davies and unanimously

RESOLVED:

The minutes of the meeting of Tenbury Town Council held on 26th August 2025 were confirmed as a true and accurate account of the meeting. The minutes were duly signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

C25.134 DRAFT MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Members received and noted the draft minutes of the following Committee meeting:

Finance & Staffing Committee – 1st September 2025

It was proposed by Cllr. B. Smith seconded by Cllr. D. Patrick and unanimously

RESOLVED:

Members noted the draft minutes of the following Committee meeting:

Finance & Staffing Committee – 1st September 2025

C25.135 REVIEW OF WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S RIGHT OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Members discussed the Worcestershire County Rights of Way Improvement Plan Parish Survey.

Members were requested to direct comments to the Town Clerk.

C25.136 WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S DRAFT NATURE RECOVERY STRATEGY

Members discussed the consultation on the Worcestershire Draft Local Nature Recovery Strategy and agreed to submit individual responses via the link.



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C25.137 HIGHWAYS

Members noted the condition of the hydrant in Teme Street and the report to Highways.

C25.138 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING

Members noted the reply from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government regarding the cessation of funding for Neighbourhood Planning.

C25.139 INSURANCE

Members received an update regarding the insurance flood cover position and the service from Previsico. A public statement to be prepared and circulated regarding the loss of storm and flood cover from 1st October 2025..

C25.140 THE PAVILION

Members considered the flood resilience measures report for The Pavilion. The Town Clerk stated that a report had been compiled, which suggested alternative materials for use in the Pavilion to ensure it is more flood resilient in the future. This has been forwarded for consideration to Ionic and the Loss Adjuster, with regards the renovation work required following last November's flood.

C25.141 CHANGING ROOMS

Members noted the update from the Loss Adjuster.

It was proposed by Cllr. B. Smith seconded by Cllr. L. Davies and

RESOLVED: (7 For, 2 Against)

To agree to a CCTV investigation to be undertaken to ascertain the cause and extent of the building subsidence with a view to calculate an insurance settlement, subject to payment of £1,000 policy excess.

C25.142 RIVERWALK

Members considered the quotation, and tree works on the Riverwalk.

It was proposed by Cllr. D. Ingram seconded by Cllr. B. Smith and unanimously

RESOLVED:

To agree the quotation of £120.00 for tree works on the Riverwalk.

C25.143 FLOODING ISSUES

- (i) The Town Clerk was requested to contact Highways to ensure the drains and gulleys in Teme Street, Market Street and Church Street were inspected and up to date with jetting.
- (ii) Members discussed a working group to prepare a contingency plan in the event of flooding. Cllr. D. Ingram, Cllr. L. Davies, Cllr. R. Perrin and the Town Clerk to liaise.



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C25.144 REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

To receive reports from the representatives on outside bodies:

- (i) **CALC Area Meeting** – Mayor & Deputy Mayor – No report
- (ii) **Regal Tenbury Trust Ltd** – Mayor & Town Clerk – Phase 1 of the roof works has been completed and the workmanship was excellent.
- (iii) **Tenbury Area Partnership** – Deputy Mayor – No report
- (iv) **Tenbury Museum** – Cllr Patrick – No report
- (v) **Chamber of Trade** – Mayor – No report
- (vi) **Philip Baylies Trust** – Cllr Ingram – No report
- (vii) **Tenbury French Twinning Association** – Cllr L. Davies – Very successful trip. Cllr Gould read a letter on behalf of the Mayor.
- (viii) **Tenbury Blooms** – No report
- (ix) **Malvern Hills District Youth Action Network** – Cllr F. Knight – No meeting
- (x) **Tenbury Flood Action Group** – Cllr B. Smith – Nothing to report
- (xi) **Wheeler Charity** – Mayor – No report

C25.145 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Members agreed the exclusion of Press and Public on the grounds that the consideration of the following items may involve the likely disclosure of confidential information Section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

C25.148 PAY AWARD

Members noted the Local Government Services Pay Agreement for 2025/2026.

C25.149 CODE OF CONDUCT

Members received an update on the Code of Conduct.

C25.150 REGAL

Members discussed the roof works at The Regal. It was highlighted that a window needed to be replaced and added to the work schedule.

It was proposed by Cllr. S. Russell seconded by Cllr. B. Smith and unanimously

RESOLVED:

To note and agree the final contract for Phase 1.

C25.151 RE-ADMISSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

There being no further confidential business, Members agreed a motion to readmit the press and public for the remainder of the meeting.



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C25.152 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

Cllr. Ingram – Still concerns over the condition of the bank roof.

C25.153 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 6th October 2025 at 7:00pm

Meeting closed at 9.32 pm

Signed

Date

