



WANTAGE TOWN COUNCIL

Council Office, The Beacon, Wantage, OX12 9BX

Town Clerk: Julia Evans 01235 763459

www.wantagetowncouncil.gov.uk

Minutes of Wantage Town Council meeting held on 22 September 2025 at 7.30pm in
The Beacon, Portway, Wantage, OX12 9BX
The minutes are draft until approved at the next meeting

Councillors Present:

C Walters (Chair), A Crawford, A Dunford, J Hannaby, E Johnson, P Kirby-Harris, A Menzies, K Morris, P O'Leary, S Third, V Wright

In attendance:

Town Clerk: Julia Evans

		ACTION
65	Apologies for Absence Cllrs Arnold, Cameron, Cunningham, Gilhome, Todd.	
66	Declarations of Interest None	
67	Statements & Questions from the Public Rules & Procedures None	
68	<p>To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 4 August 2025 and consider matters arising The minutes were approved and signed.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr O'Leary Seconded Cllr Third RESOLVED</p> <p>a) Meeting with KA's The meeting was to discuss Sweatbox funding. Clerk to contact the Head Teacher regarding a meeting. Cllr Kirby-Harris asked if the Council would adjudicate on year 9 speeches. This was agreed.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Kirby-Harris Seconded Cllr Dunford RESOLVED.</p> <p>b) Mayor's pendant and chain and Deputy Mayor's pendant Fattorini is working on this.</p> <p>c) World Peace Day It was a good event and Councillors who attended were thanked. It was hoped that this would become an annual event. CLOSED.</p> <p>d) Remembrance Parade A meeting with RBL was planned for 25th September.</p>	Clerk

		ACTION
69	<p>To receive and note the minutes of the following committees</p> <p>a) Planning – 1 September 2025 – Received and noted. b) Policy, Management & Finance – 8 September 2025 – Received and noted. c) Leisure & Amenities – 15 September – Received and noted.</p> <p>The minutes of the PC&E committee meeting held on 18th August, and the Climate Emergency committee meeting held on 1 September will be reviewed at the next meeting.</p>	
70	<p>To receive and sign the Financial Statements for August/September 2025</p> <p>The Income & Expenditure report was received and noted. The balance sheet was presented and signed.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Crawford Seconded Cllr Hannaby RESOLVED</p>	
71	<p>To approve expenditure for the civic visit from Seesen</p> <p>The visit had been postponed. Cllr Dunford requested that budget was allocated for future trips. A plan was to be developed. It was noted that there were funds in EMR for the current year.</p>	Dunford
72	<p>To approve the purchase of the Rialtas allotment module</p> <p>The cost is £1093.76 for the first year and £470 pa thereafter. Clerk to circulate to total annual cost for Rialtas. The purchase was approved.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Crawford Seconded Cllr Wright RESOLVED</p>	Clerk
73	<p>To receive and note the external audit report for 2024/25</p> <p>No issue raised the report was noted.</p>	
74	<p>To approve the notice board policy</p> <p>One typo had been noted. The policy was approved.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Johnson Seconded Cllr Dunford RESOLVED</p>	
75	<p>To receive an update on the S106 funding for the Learner Pool at Wantage Leisure Centre</p> <p>Cllr Hannaby had spoken to a cabinet member but did not get an answer. Clerk to ask the CEO for Leisure to attend a meeting to provide an update.</p>	Clerk
76	<p>To receive an update on the Town Survey</p> <p>The update had been circulated. It was suggested that the survey be sent schools especially 6th forms and to surrounding Parish Councils.</p>	Communications Officer
77	<p>To consider the 'phone tree' for use in the Town Council Emergency Plan</p> <p>It was pointed out that there was no role for District Councillors. To be updated to include this.</p>	Lynn Wignall

		ACTION
78	<p>To consider renaming the Policy, Management & Finance Committee</p> <p>It was noted that policies were no longer relevant to this committee and the Staffing Committee managed staff matters. It was agreed to rename the committee the Finance and Grants Committee.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Crawford Seconded Cllr Menzies RESOLVED</p>	
79	<p>To consider the campaign against pavement parking</p> <p>The aim was to reduce parking on pavements. It was felt that there was little that the Council could practically do. It was agreed to include a reminder about not parking in pavements in the next newsletter.</p>	Communications Officer
80	<p>District and County Council Reports</p> <p>a) District report</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Cllr Crawford had attended a decarbonisation event. ii. The Vale CEO had resigned. iii. There had been an extension to the waste contract. iv. There was a new waste depot at Great Milton <p>b) County report:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Contractors for Wantage Hospital would be on site in October. ii. Staff parking areas have been identified. iii. The County Hall building has been sold. iv. The County's Town Centre Plan has just been released. v. Railway policies due shortly 	
81	<p>Town Mayor's Communications</p> <p>There was a discussion about the recent spate of graffiti on the Town's roundabouts. It was noted that the roundabouts were the responsibility of the County Council, and it would be up to them to decide on what, if any, action was to be taken. It was agreed to work on developing positive support for diversity in the town.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Hannaby Seconded Cllr Walters RESOLVED</p>	Walters
64	Date of next meeting 3 November 2025	

The meeting closed at: 20.55pm

Signed: _____ Date: _____