



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 15 December 2025 at 7.30pm in
The Beacon, Portway, Wantage, OX12 9BX
The minutes are draft until approved at the next meeting

Councillors Present: I Cameron (Chair), A Crawford, S Cunningham, A Dunford, J Hannaby, E Johnson, P Kirby-Harris, A Menzies, K Morris, S Third, L Todd, C Walters

In attendance:

Town Clerk: Julia Evans

		ACTION
106	Apologies for Absence Cllrs Gilhome and Wright	
107	Declarations of Interest None	
108	Statements and questions from the public None	
109	To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 3 November 2025 and consider matters arising The minutes were approved and signed. The Flag policy to come to the next meeting. Proposed Cllr Johnson Seconded Cllr Walters RESOLVED	
110	To receive and note the minutes of the following committees: a) Climate Emergency – 10 November – presented and noted b) PC&E – 17 November – presented and noted c) Planning – 3 November and 24 November – presented and noted d) Finance & Grants – 1 December – presented and noted	

111	<p>To consider any proposals from the above committees</p> <p>a) To confirm whether businesses are eligible for Great Big Green Week Grants Climate Emergency min. ref.32</p> <p>It was agreed that the Climate Emergency Committee should have delegated authority to determine which Big Green Week grant applications should be supported and to temporarily suspend the Grants Policy if necessary.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Cameron Seconded Cllr Johnson RESOLVED</p>	
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112	<p>To approve a request from the Deputy Lieutenant of Oxfordshire for Cllr Walters to be involved with that Office's focus on Music in 2026/27 Approved.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Dunford Seconded Cllr Cameron RESOLVED</p>	
113	<p>To finalise the budget and agree the Precept for 2026/27</p> <p>The draft budget had been circulated. The Council was asked to consider the deficit amount. Discussions on future housebuilding, event costs and the newsletter followed. It was agreed to increase the precept by the RPI which was 4.3%.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Crawford Seconded Cllr Cunningham Agreed unanimously RESOLVED.</p> <p>It was agreed that the newsletter should remain at 4 pages in 2026/27 and the budget reduced accordingly.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Hannaby Seconded Cllr Johnson. Agreed unanimously. RESOLVED</p> <p>The budget was approved subject to the above changes and the with objective that costs would be kept down over the year.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Cameron Seconded Cllr Dunford Agreed unanimously. RESOLVED</p>	

114	<p>District and County Council Reports</p> <p>a) District report The Local plan may be going back to the inspector given changes to the government's rules on duty to cooperate. The budget was being worked on. No cuts to services expected. The implications of LGR were not yet known. Clerk to ask the head of department to specify details of the learner pool and invite him to the next council meeting.</p> <p>b) County report LCWIP had been passed. The rail strategy had been agreed. The One Oxfordshire proposal had been submitted. A new model for fire & rescue was being developed and there was a consultation out on this. Details of the consultation to go into the next enewsletter. Budgets are also being considered.</p>	Communications Officer
115	<p>Town Mayor's Communications</p> <p>A question had been received from a resident about allotment costs. Clerk to reply.</p>	Clerk

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		ACTION
	Most of the communications have been about the flags in the Town Centre. He had also had communication with the local Police Constable.	
	<p>It was agreed to enter into confidential session.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Cameron Seconded Cllr Dunford</p> <p>A statement had been circulated which was discussed and agreed. It was to be published as soon as possible.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Dunford Seconded Cllr Walters. RESOLVED</p> <p>Further discussion followed. It was agreed that there would be no changes to St George's day plans.</p>	Clerk
116	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>26 January 2026</p>	

The meeting closed at: pm 9.20pm

Signed: _____ Date: _____

