

Stronger Communities Committee Meeting of Witney Town Council



Monday, 24th March, 2025 at 6.00 pm

To members of the Stronger Communities Committee - R Smith, G Meadows, O Collins, T Ashby, A Bailey, S Simpson, J Aitman and D Temple (and all other Town Councillors for information).

You are hereby summonsed to the above meeting to be held in the **Gallery Room, The Corn Exchange, Witney** for the transaction of the business stated in the agenda below.

Admission to Meetings

All Council meetings are open to the public and press unless otherwise stated.

Numbers of the public will be limited, with priority given to those who have registered to speak on an item on the agenda. Any member of the public wishing to attend the meeting should contact the Committee Clerk derek.mackenzie@witney-tc.gov.uk in advance.

Recording of Meetings

Under the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 the council's public meetings may be recorded, which includes filming, audio-recording as well as photography.

As a matter of courtesy, if you intend to record any part of the proceedings, please let the Deputy Town Clerk or Committee Clerk know before the start of the meeting.

Agenda

1. Apologies for absence

To consider apologies and reasons for absence.

Committee members who are unable to attend the meeting should notify the Committee Clerk derek.mackenzie@witney-tc.gov.uk **prior to the meeting**, stating the reason for absence.

Standing Order 30(d)(v) permits the appointment of substitute Councillors to a Committee whose role is to replace ordinary Councillors at a meeting of a Committee if ordinary Councillors of the Committee have confirmed to the Proper Officer **before** the meeting that they are unable to attend.

2. Declarations of Interest

Members are reminded to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests in any items under consideration at this meeting in accordance with the Town Council's Code of Conduct.

3. Minutes (Pages 4 - 10)

- a) To adopt and sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 27 January 2025.
- b) Matters arising from the minutes not covered elsewhere on the agenda. (Questions on the progress of any item).

4. Public Participation

The meeting will adjourn for this item.

Members of the public may speak for a maximum of **five minutes** each during the period of public participation, in line with Standing Order 42. Matters raised shall relate to the following items on the agenda.

5. **Finance Report** (Pages 11 - 17)

To receive and consider the report of the R.F.O concerning the financial position of items under the remit of this Committee in 2024/25 and the upcoming 2025/26 period.

Communications & Community Engagement

6. **Communications Report** (Pages 18 - 20)

To receive and consider the report of the Communications & Community Engagement Officer.

7. **Community Engagement Report** (Pages 21 - 26)

To receive and consider the report of the Communications & Community Engagement Officer.

a) **VE & VJ Day 80th Anniversary Task & Finish Group Notes** (Pages 27 - 28)

To receive the notes of the Task & Finish Group meeting held on 13 March 2025.

b) **Witney Forum Minutes** (Pages 29 - 32)

To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Witney Forum held on 28 January 2025.

8. **Youth Services** (Pages 33 - 42)

To receive and consider the report of the Deputy Town Clerk.

9. **Youth Council Minutes** (Pages 43 - 46)

To receive the minutes of the Youth Council meeting held on 10th March 2025.

10. **Witney Central Community Insight Profile Report** (Pages 47 - 61)

To receive notice that the Witney Central Community Insight Profile has now been published. The profile includes three reports:

- Witney Central Community Insight Report (Produced by Community First Oxfordshire) and related appendices
- Witney Central Data Profile
- Witney Central Community Profile Summary of Findings

The last of these reports is included in the agenda pack for information. The other two reports are viewable on this link under Witney <https://data.oxfordshire.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/community-insight-profiles/>

11. **Town Centre Issues raised by the Chamber of Commerce: Wayfinding, Mapping, Visitors, Public Realm and Traffic Flows** (Pages 62 - 64)

The attached document was presented to the Full Council on 17 February 2025 as a summary of a meeting attended by Officers and the Chamber of Commerce.

While the council may not have direct control over some of the issues raised, most of the items in the summary fall within this Committee's jurisdiction for further discussion, enabling communication and lobbying higher tiers of authority.

Street Furniture & Infrastructure

12. **Amenity Land Areas Mis-use - Installation of Bollards** (Pages 65 - 67)

To receive and consider the report of the Operations Manager.

13. **Queen Emma's Dyke Community Garden** (Pages 68 - 70)

To receive and consider the report of the Operations Manager.

Events

14. **Exclusion of Press and Public**

To consider and if appropriate, to pass the following resolution:

That in accordance with section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, and as extended by Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, the public, including the press, be excluded from the meeting because of the confidential nature of the following business to be transacted.

15. **Third Party Events - Wilsons Funfair Letting Agreement**

To receive and consider the confidential verbal update of the Town Clerk/CEO.



Town Clerk