

MINUTES OF THE TENBY TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING HELD 13^H JANUARY 2026

Present: Councillor Dai Morgan Mayor
Councillor James Phillips
Councillor Sam Skyrme-Blackhall by Zoom
Councillor Phil Spence
Councillor Tara Carmody
Councillor Jayne Badham
Councillor Anna Bolton

In attendance: Sharon Thompson Deputy Clerk

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158. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Cllrs Hallett, Lewis and Sloan.

159. TO DISCLOSE ANY PERSONAL ITEMS OF BUSINESS LISTED BELOW

Cllr Phillips declared his personal interest in Item 8.

160. TO AGREE ITEMS OF CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMITTEE MINUTES, EXCEPT THOSE MARKED PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL, BE GIVEN TO THE MEMBERS OF THE PRESS PRESENT

Proposed by Cllr Skyrme-Blackhall, seconded by Cllr Phillips and

RESOLVED

That items of correspondence and committee minutes, except those marked private and confidential, be given to the members of the press present.

161. TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD 9TH DECEMBER 2025

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Tenby Town Council held 9th December 2025 be amended at Page 63 Item 148 'accounts be accepted' then confirmed and signed as accurate.

162. TO CONSIDER ANY MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Page 64 Item 150b - Boxing Day Swim: A fantastic turn out and thanks to the Mayor and all who supported.

163. TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING ITEMS OF CORRESPONDENCE AND AGREED ACTION IN RESPONSE:

a. Gumfreston Flooding

The letter was noted. Further discussions will take place when Cllr Dale is present. Proposed by the Mayor and seconded by Cllr Blackhall. All were in agreement.

164. TO RECEIVE THE ACCOUNTS FOR DECEMBER (INCLUDING SCHEDULED PAYMENTS, UNPRESENTED CHEQUES, RECEIPTS, ACCOUNT BALANCES, BUDGET MONITORING TO DATE AND BANK RECONCILIATIONS) AND CONSIDER ANY ISSUES ARISING

Cllr proposed Cllr Phillips, Cllr Spence seconded that the accounts be accepted.

RESOLVED

That the accounts for December (including scheduled payments for approval, unpresented cheques, receipts, account balances, budget monitoring to date and bank reconciliations) be approved.

165. TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING REQUESTS FOR GRANT FUNDING AND AGREE ACTION:

a. **Tenby Surf Lifesaving Club – Training and Equipment expenses**

Cllr Phillips withdrew from this part of the meeting.

It was suggested that Club members speak to TTC's CEO and look to PAVS and other grant streams available.

Cllr Skyrme-Blackhall has worked with PCC Officer through Sports Forum, there may be grant opportunities here. She was in favour of supporting Club especially with our environment.

Members also suggested they talk to Round table, Lions and Rotary who all give very generously to local Clubs. Local businesses could also be approached for support.

The Mayor proposed that TTC commit 50% of the total requested once Club has attempted to secure funding from different funding streams. Cllr Blackhall seconded. All in favour.

166. TO CONFIRM TENBY TOWN COUNCIL'S BUDGET FOR 2026/2027 AND SET THE PRECEPT

It was noted that the PCC decision to reduce the second homes tax premium reduction had a knock-on effect to Tenby Town Council's precept income.

This means that next year, second homeowners will be paying less and permanent residents will pay more.

The budget presented reduces expenditure overall.

It is proposed to take £50k from reserves to balance the budget. This is a reduction in reserves by around 16%.

Going forward, we need to look at increasing income especially from external grants.

Whilst Council has been advised that it is prudent to hold a certain amount in reserves to cover operational costs for business interruption purposes members felt it was the right time to have a look at reserves and produce a detailed reserve policy. Members also felt it was not time to conduct a deeper examination of all our income and expenditure.

There was a discussion about restricted and unrestricted reserves and this was explained.

It was explained that the budget proposes setting up new reserves with clearer and specific purposes. New funding is proposed to provide match funding for future grant applications to De Valence, Augustus Place, New Cemetery and gardens. The targeting around priorities, makes more coherent explanation of holding reserves.

We propose to encourage applications to be made and spend the money that we are committed to spending.

TTC has done well by prudent management of finances but time to look at priorities going forward.

Cllr Spence asked for an explanation of funding to the De Valence and asked if accounts have been received from the CIC. It was explained that the support we provide is a core grant of £26k essentially to cover their operational costs. We jointly need to have a longer-term plan around building and support.

Accounts have been received and this is now an ongoing requirement.

It was agreed that it would be helpful for Cllr Sloan, as rep on the CIC, to have a discussion with CIC on creating a better set of grant conditions going forward. We need grant conditions that do not interfere with the operational independence of the CIC and support them to deliver a range of objectives.

It was noted that the De Valence supports entertainment and community activity and assists with the economic development of Tenby when major events on.

It was outlined that the challenge ahead is to do pieces of work around reserves, policies, scrutiny, grant conditions, that strengthened the accountability of our expenditure.

LB said that in May he would step down as Chair of Policy and Finance group but will remain a member and will assist and advise

Cllr Phillips suggested formally tasking P&F Committee to quarterly review of CIC accounts.

There was a question about the Ironman commitment made some years ago. This was explained that this is an ongoing commitment and may be subject to review.

It was explained that library and toilet costs are similar and we are committed to 4 years.

The Mayor proposed that we accept the outlined budget and agree the increase in the precept. Cllr Phillips seconded. All were in favour.

167. RECEIVE ANY UPDATES FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Cllr Skyrme-Blackhall thanked all that supported the Boxing Day Swim. A huge thanks to all the volunteers.

Cllr Blackhall attended Christmas school concerts of Hafan y Mor and Tenby VC School.

Cllr Carmody spent Christmas Day on a project in Milford Haven with the MH Town Council, Sea Cadets.

Cllr Bolton, Cllr Carmody, the Mayor and Cllr Skyrme-Blackhall took Father Christmas around town. Sion Brace provided the transport. Well received by all.

Thanks to Rhys Thomas and all those who helped with the Christmas Trees this year.

168. GUMFRESTON FLOODING – CLLR DALE

This item will carry forward due to Cllr Dale's absence.

169. ASSET UPDATE – CLL PHILLIPS

Councillors agreed the need to monitor UFS toilets.

170. ACCESSIBILITY IN TOWN CENTRE AND A-BOARDS – CLLR BLACKHALL

Cllr Blackhall said the issue of accessibility around town doesn't go away.

It is timely to arrange with TTC PCC officers and representatives of the Tenby Chamber of Trade, representatives of local businesses, to see if we can we have another look at

the number of boards that are out there. It was questioned whether there could be a voluntary code.

It was proposed to ask for discussion and to look at options.

Cllr Skyrme-Blackall is waiting to hear from Marc Owen, PCC Officer, who has just completed a new policy, there should then be more clarity.

It was proposed to hold off meeting until after Cllr Skyrme-Blackhall has had her meeting.

171. WELCOME TO TENBY SIGN – CLLR PHILLIPS

Councillors will investigate refurbishment of the sign. There are sufficient funds in the town maintenance budget.

172. TO CONSIDER ANY FINANCIAL OFFICER/CLERK'S ITEMS AND TO AGREE ACTION IN RESPONSE TO PROPOSALS:

a. Email received regarding Facebook delays

Noted.

b. Christmas Lighting Contract – this three-year contract is now at an end and will need to be advertised.

c. Sandy Bear Charity - the DC will forward a copy of an email received and asked that members reply with any ideas they may have.

173. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Planning Committee – Tuesday, 10th February 2026 at 7pm

Full Council – Tuesday, 10th February 2026 at 7.30pm

174. TO PROPOSE ANY ITEM FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Mayor Elect – The Mayor

175. TO RESOLVE TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC FROM THE MEETING DURING CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING ITEM(S) OF BUSINESS UNDER THE “PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT OF 1960”.