

**Melksham Town Council**  
**Minutes of the Community Development Committee**  
**on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2025**

PRESENT                      Councillor J Westbrook (Chair)  
                                    Councillor S Rabey (Vice Chair)  
                                    Councillor P Aves  
                                    Councillor J Oatley  
                                    Councillor C Stokes  
                                    Councillor A Westbrook

IN ATTENDANCE

OFFICERS                      Christina Connor      Events & Community Development Officer  
                                    Andrew Meacham      Committee Clerk

PUBLIC: No members of the public or press were present

**209/24                      Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillor Griffin

**210/24                      Declaration of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**212/24                      Public Participation**

There was no public participation.

**213/24                      Minutes**

The minutes of Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2025, having been previously circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair Councillor J Westbrook.

**214/24                      Budget**

The budget was noted. Chair mentioned the overspend and requested officers investigate.

**215/24                      Report**

The report was noted and discussed

Congratulations were given to Bridie and Lauren for launching Doorstep Club

Thanks were expressed to the Deputy Clerk, the Events & Community Development Officer and all staff who contributed to the Mayors Reception.

The following requests were made:-

- Establish who empties bins at Awdry Avenue.
- Town Events – remove events from report once past.
- Could councillors be emailed when events such as Spring Market are coming up.
- Splashpad – councillors to take school holidays into account when considering opening hours in future years
- Park Yoga – Take account of Food & River Festival
- Shambles – Ensure grass cutting etc done ready for set up.
- Poppies – Consider time lapse and loaning to other towns.
- Proms in the Park – Find out costing for flags.
- Civil Awards – Community Development Committee to consider process by which winners decided and announced.
- Mayors Reception – Try to find a balance between civic dignitaries and sponsored tables. Revisit the decision to charge Melksham Town Council councillors and staff.

#### **216/24      Town Event**

It was proposed by Councillor J Westbrook, seconded by Councillor Oatley and

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to postpone the event until 2026 and earmark the funding for a week long Arts Festival. Delegated authority to officers start conversations with local schools and organisations.

It was suggested that contact be made with DOCA.

#### **217/24      Christmas**

Members were not willing to approve without additional information or other groups being given the opportunity to be considered. It was proposed that a task and finish group be formed to set the criteria for groups wishing to run the grotto.

#### **218/24      Pop Up Park and Buskers in the Market Place**

It was proposed by the Deputy Town Mayor Councillor Rabey, seconded by Councillor J Westbrook and

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to invite buskers and performers to use the Market Place as a performance space and to adopt the Wiltshire Council Buskers Code of Practice.

#### **219/24      Religious Statue**

It was proposed by Councillor A Westbrook, seconded by the Deputy Town Mayor Councillor Rabey and

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to return the statue to the Friends Garden.

Meeting closed at: 8.12pm

Signed .....

Dated .....