

Melksham Town Council

Minutes of the Economic Development & Planning Committee

on Tuesday 3rd February 2026

PRESENT: Councillor S Rabey Chair and Town Mayor
Councillor P Alford
Councillor P Aves
Councillor E Calland
Councillor G Elson
Councillor A Griffin
Councillor C Stokes

IN ATTENDANCE

OFFICERS Dave Elms Amenities Manager
Andrew Meacham Committee Clerk

PUBLIC One member of the public was present and one member of the public was present virtually

235/25 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor Cleary, who was substituted by Councillor Calland.

236/25 Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

237/25 Minutes

The minutes of 13th January 2026 having been previously circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair Councillor Rabey.

238/25 Public Participation

Representative of Wilts & Berks Canal. The Trust had entered into Memorandums of Understanding with several councils in Chippenham and Calne area and it was suggested at the planning meeting on Monday 3rd that Melksham Without Parish Council might also do so. Would Melksham Town Council like the representative to propose the same at the next meeting on the Trust?

Members discussed and asked questions. It was note that Councillor Griffin was the Town Council representative to the trust.

It was proposed by Councillor Rabey, seconded by Councillor Alford and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to ask the representative to bring the matter up at the Trust's next meeting.

239/25 Bus Shelters

The Amenities Manager spoke to the report.

It was proposed by Councillor Rabey, seconded by Councillor Elson and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to refer the following to Wiltshire Council to be considered for funding under the Local Authority Bus Grant

- A new bus shelter on Queensway
- Replacement/repairs to Avonside and Granville Road
- Alterations to the design or orientation of George Ward so that it actually provides some shelter
- Replacement of Perspex with safety glass in all shelters.

240/25 PL/2025/09561

It was proposed by Councillor Alford, seconded by Councillor Calland and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED not to object to the application.

241/25 PL/2026/00259

It was proposed by Councillor Elson, seconded by Councillor Stokes and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED not to object to the application.

242/25 PL/2026/00500

It was proposed by Councillor Aves, seconded by Councillor Alford and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED not to object to the application.

243/25 PL/2026/00501

It was proposed by Councillor Aves, seconded by Councillor Elson and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED not to object to the application.

244/25 PL/2025/09780

Councillor Rabey advised of the view taken by Melksham Without Parish Council at their meeting on Monday 2nd February.

The Committee Clerk read out Melksham Town Council's comments on the full application (PL/2024/10345) submitted in December.

It was proposed by Councillor Rabey, seconded by Councillor Stokes and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to repeat the comments submitted in December.

245/25 PL/2025/05841

The decision was noted.

246/25 PL/2025/09137

The decision was noted.

247/25 PL/2025/07875

The decision was noted.

248/25 PL/2025/09315

The decision was noted.

249/25 Parish Steward

Members noted the proposed reduction in funding.

Members noted that this would put considerable pressure town and parish councils if they have to “take up the slack”, and the effect on Parishes and smaller towns with less resources would be greater.

It was acknowledged that volunteer litter picking groups exist but they were limited by safety issues (cannot go into road, clear street gutters etc.)

Officers were asked to feed back to Wiltshire Council.

A request was made to consider an urgent question from the clerk of Melksham Without Parish Council relating to a s106 agreement. It was agreed it could be discussed so long as a vote wasn’t needed. Members discussed the matter and it was agreed that Councillor Alford would reply to the Clerk.

Meeting closed at: 19:45

Signed

Dated