

SIDMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of Sidmouth Town Council
held in the Council Chamber, Woolcombe House,
Woolcombe Lane, Sidmouth
on Monday 20 January 2025 at 6.30pm

Ward	Councillors Present:
Sidmouth South	Kelvin Dent Chris Lockyear (Chair) John Nicholson Rachel Perram
Sidmouth East	Lorraine Brown
Primley	Francetta Bridle Hilary Nelson (Vice Chair) Kevin Walker
Sidbury	John Loudoun
Sidford	Mike Goodman
Salcombe Regis	Edward Willis Fleming
Apologies:	Ian Barlow, Bernie Davis

The meeting started at 6.30pm and finished at 7.25pm.

PART 'A'

99 Declarations of Interest

Name	Item Number	Type	Action Taken	Details
Cllr Chris Lockyear	Sidmouth Science Festival	Personal	Remained in the meeting during discussion and voting	Trustee of Sidmouth Science Festival
Cllr Chris Lockyear	Sidmouth Biodiversity Group	Personal	Remained in the meeting during discussion and voting	Member of Sidmouth Biodiversity Group
Cllr Chris Lockyear	Sidmouth Folk Festival	Personal	Remained in the meeting during discussion and voting	Trustee of Sidmouth Folk Festival
Cllr Chris Lockyear	Sidmouth Arboretum Trust	Personal	Remained in the meeting during discussion and voting	Trustee of Sidmouth Arboretum Trust
Cllr Hilary Nelson	Sidmouth in Bloom	Personal	Remained in the meeting during discussion and voting	Council Representative for Sidmouth in Bloom
Cllr Francetta Bridle	Sidmouth in Bloom	Personal	Remained in the meeting during discussion and voting	Council Representative for Sidmouth in Bloom
Cllr Kelvin Dent	South West Museum Development	Personal	Remained in the meeting during discussion and voting	Council Representative for Sidmouth Museum
Cllr Kevin Walker	Sidmouth Community Food Forest	Personal	Remained in the meeting during discussion and voting	Member of Sidmouth Community Food Forest
Cllr Kevin Walker	Cherishing Sidmouth Cemeteries	Personal	Remained in the meeting during discussion and voting	Member of Cherishing Sidmouth Cemeteries
Cllr Kevin Walker	Sid Valley Biodiversity Group	Personal	Remained in the meeting during discussion and voting	Member of Sid Valley Biodiversity Group

Cllr Edward Willis Fleming	Sidmouth Jazz & Blues Festival	Personal	Remained in the meeting during discussion and voting	Sponsor of Sidmouth Jazz & Blues Festival
Cllr Mike Goodman	Sidmouth Rotary Club	Personal	Remained in the meeting during discussion and voting	Member of Sidmouth Rotary Club
Town Clerk, Christopher Holland	Sidmouth Town Band	Personal	Remained in the meeting during discussion and voting	Member of Sidmouth Town Band

100 Matters of Urgency or Report from the Chair

- The Chair read out a letter received from Sidmouth Folk Festival raising concerns over the lack of provision of toilets in The Ham area.

The Chair asked that District Council Members raise this issue at the District Council and Cllrs Goodman and Loudoun confirmed that they would do so.

The Chair and Town Clerk would also discuss with Sidmouth Folk Festival that, as they provided food and drink outlets, whether it would be sensible that they should also supply additional toilets outside the marquee area.

101 Exclusion of the Public

RESOLVED: that the classification given to the documents to be submitted to the Council be confirmed, and that the reports relating to exempt information, be dealt with under Part B.

102 Proposed Estimates 2025/2026

Councillor Lockyear presented the proposed estimates report for 2025/2026.

RESOLVED: That:

- the Town Council precept for 2025/2026 be set at £778,015 representing £105.91 Parish Tax at Council Tax Band 'D'.
- the breakdown of estimates for 2025/2026 be agreed, as attached schedule.

103 Exclusion of the Public and Press

RESOLVED: That under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the public (including the press) be excluded from the meeting due to the confidential nature of its contents.

PART 'B'**104 Grant Applications**

Members were asked to consider Grant applications for the financial year 2025/2026.

RESOLVED: That:

- the total grant allocations to Festivals and Events be set at £56,700.
- the total grant allocations to Special Funding Support be set at £31,500.
- the total grant allocations to Community Small Grant be set at £19,030.
- 2025/2026 Grants, total of £107,230 be allocated to organisations, as the attached schedule.

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CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL

SIDMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL 2025-2026 BUDGETS LISTING**Council Services**

Youth Service Support	£54,000
Flower Beds, Planters & Watering	£20,000
Christmas Lighting & Events	£17,500
Donation to Christmas Lighting (Income)	-£1,750
Tourism Promotion	£50,000
Tourism Promotion (Income)	-£15,000
Verge Cutting, Town Maintenance & Weeding	£26,000
Verge Cutting DCC Grant (Income)	-£5,100
Street Furniture	£2,000
Sidmouth Information Centre	£44,000
Water Fountains & Defib Mtce	£3,000
Dog Hygiene Bins	£2,000
War Memorials	£500
	£197,150

Discretionary Expenditure

Festival and Events Grants	£56,700
Special Funding Support	£31,500
Community Small Grants	£19,030
Sidmouth Regatta	£22,000
Donation to Sidmouth Regatta (Income)	-£10,000
Environment Committee	£4,000
	£123,230

Woolcombe House

Services Gas/Water/Elec	£8,500
Woolcombe House Business Rate	£10,500
Woolcombe House (Loan Interest&Repayment)	£14,890
Woolcombe House General Maintenance	£10,000
	£43,890

Other Freehold Property

Alma Lane Field	£500
Youth Premises Provision	£62,000
Manstone Sports and Play Areas	£3,000
Long Park & Play Area	£3,000
Long Park Public Conveniences	£45,000
The Arches	£35,000
Arches Public Conveniences servicing	£20,000
The Arches East (Income)	-£28,000
Conservatory Maintenance	£2,000
Knowle Parkland & Amphitheatre	£15,000
Sidmouth Golf Club (Income)	-£5
Elec Pole Rent (Income)	-£40
	£157,455

Trust Property**The Ham**

The Ham Ground Mtce	£2,000
The Ham Other Mtce	£10,000
The Ham Play Equipment	£2,000
The Ham Utility Building	£20,000
The Ham 3Phase Power	£6,000
The Ham Rent (Income)	-£11,000

Manstone

Manstone Ground Mtce	£900
Manstone Other Maintenance	£1,600
Manstone Rent (Income)	-£1,640

Salcombe Regis

S.R. Recreation Field Rent (Income)	-£670
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£29,190

Members

Members/Chair's Allowances	£7,400
Chair's Expenses	£2,000
Members Expenses/Training	£1,000
Elections	£1,000
Civic & Hospitality	£1,000
Civic Regalia	£1,000

£13,400

Staff

Salaries	£160,000
Pensions	£32,500
Staff Eye Tests	£100
Training & Conferences	£500
Officers Expenses	£500

£193,600

Office Expenses

Postage	£500
Stationery	£1,500
Telephone	£5,500
Subscriptions	£3,000
Photocopier	£800
Internet, website and webcams	£6,000
I.T. Software Contracts	£4,500
I.T. Maintenance Contingency	£6,000
Advertisements	£1,000
Audit	£2,500
Insurance	£7,500
Sundry	£1,000
Bank Charges	£300
Bank Interest Received (Income)	-£20,000

£20,100

Expense Group Totals

Council Services	£197,150
Discretionary Expenditure	£123,230
Woolcombe House	£43,890
Other Freehold Property	£157,455
Trust Property	£29,190
Members	£13,400
Staff	£193,600
Office Expenses	£20,100
Total Estimated Precept	£778,015
Represents Parish Tax at Council Tax Band 'D'	£105.91

SIDMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL GRANTS 2025/2026

<u>FESTIVALS AND EVENTS</u>	<u>2025/2026</u>	<u>2026/2027</u> <i>(in principle)</i>	<u>2027/2028</u> <i>(in principle)</i>	<u>2028/2029</u> <i>(in principle)</i>
Sidmouth & East Devon Walking Festival	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
Sidmouth Carnival	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
Sidmouth Coastal Community Hub CIC (Seafest)	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500
Sidmouth Folk Festival	32,000	32,000	32,000	32,000
Sidmouth Jazz & Blues Festival	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
Sidmouth Science Festival	3,200	3,200	3,200	3,200
<u>SPECIAL FUNDING SUPPORT</u>				
Sid Valley HELP	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
Sidmouth in Bloom	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000
Sidmouth Town Band	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
<u>COMMUNITY SMALL GRANTS</u>				
Cherishing Sidmouth Cemeteries Volunteers	850			
East Devon Explorers	1,000			
East Devon Support Group (Parkinsons UK)	750			
Libraries Unlimited	970			
Oasis Drop in Café	1,040			
Pride of Sidmouth College Award Scheme	750			
Sid Defib	1,000			
Sid Vale Community Productions	650			
Sid Valley Biodiversity Group	1,200			
Sidmouth Amateur Radio Society	600			
Sidmouth Arboretum Trust	1,000			
Sidmouth Community Food Forest	1,250			
Sidmouth Methodist Church Community Peace Garden	1,000			
Sidmouth Parish Church (Clock)	190			
Sidmouth Parish Church (Patronage Fund)	100			
Sidmouth Rotary Club	750			
Sidmouth School of Art (Ham Wallspace)	1,560			
Sidmouth School of Art (Sensory Garden)	1,390			
Sidmouth Surf Lifesaving Club	860			
South West Academy of Fine & Applied Arts	950			
South West Museum Development	800			
Vision Group for Sidmouth	370			
TOTAL GRANT ALLOCATIONS	£107,230	£88,200	£88,200	£88,200