

SIDMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of Sidmouth Town Council
held at the Council Chamber, Woolcombe House, Sidmouth,
on Monday 6 July 2026 at 6.30pm

Ward	Councillors Present:
Sidmouth South	Paul Dodds (Vice Chair)
	Chris Lockyear
Primley	Hilary Nelson (Chair)
	Kevin Walker
Sidford	Mike Goodman
	Joanne Dodds
Salcombe Regis	Ian Barlow

Apologies: Francetta Bridle, Bernie Davis, Kelvin Dent, Edward Willis Fleming, Stuart Hughes, John Loudon and Rachel Perram.

The meeting started at 6.30pm and finished at 7.20pm.

38 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 1 June 2026 were signed as a true and accurate record.

39 Declarations of Interest

Name	Item / Reference	Type	Action Taken	Details of Interest
Cllr Ian Barlow	Festival of Flags	Personal	Remained in the Chamber and voted.	Trustee of Sidmouth School of Art

At this point, the meeting was adjourned for a fire drill.

40 Matters of Urgency or Report from the Chair

The Chair reported that Sidmouth in Bloom were having a clean up day on 9 July at 9am in Blackmore Gardens and any help would be greatly appreciated.

The Chair also updated Members on the occupation of Market Place. There was a small exhibition planned for the weekend to display posters of local groups and festivals and a chance for the public to view the building. The occupancy ideas put forward by the community were still being collated however, it had been put forward that delegated authority be given to the Strategic Tourism and Development Group to decide on who should occupy the building over the summer months.

RESOLVED: that Members agreed the Strategic Tourism and Development Group be given delegated responsibility to decide who will occupy the Market Place building for the summer months.

41 Public Open Question Time

There were no questions raised.

42 Police Advocate Report

Councillor Dodds reported that good links continued to be maintained with Devon and Cornwall Police as well as the local policing team. Members were advised that the most effective way of reporting a non-urgent crime was to log the details online via 101.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

43 Committee/Working Group Reports

43.1 Planning Committee Report

Councillor Nelson presented the report of the Planning Committee.

RESOLVED: That the Planning Committee report be noted and agreed.

43.2 Tourism, Economy, Arts and Culture Committee Report

Councillor Nelson presented the report of the Tourism and Economy Committee. Members were advised that the Town of Culture Bid had received huge traction on social media and some positive feedback had been received

RESOLVED that the Tourism and Economy Committee report be noted and agreed.

43.3 Environment Committee Report

Councillor Barlow presented the report of the Environment Committee.

RESOLVED: that the Environment Committee report be noted and agreed.

43.4 Youth Provision Committee

Councillor Dodds reported the Open Access Youth Club Sessions had reopened in June.

Members were further advised that the Get Involved Grant (GIG) had been promoted again at a recent Parents Evening at Sidmouth College.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

44 Reports from Members with Special Responsibilities

44.1 Finance Report

Councillor Chris Lockyear presented the May report.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

45 Change of Meeting Date

Members were asked to note a change of date for the next planning meeting from Wednesday 15 July to Wednesday 22 July 2026.

RESOLVED: That Members noted the change of date for the next planning meeting from Wednesday 15 July to Wednesday 22 July 2026.

46 Festival of Flags

Members were asked to give permission for the use of the Town Centre catenary wires for the Festival of Flags during the Summer season 2026.

RESOLVED: That Members agreed to give permission for the Festival of Flags to use the Town Centre Catenary wires from 14 July until the first week in September 2026.

PART 'B'

47 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.

48 Release of funds

Members were asked to consider a request from the Resources Working Group for the release of £5000 to be used for Concept Development work to help improve the Fisherman's Yard area and southern end of the Ham

RESOLVED: that Members agreed to release funds of up to £5010 to help improve the Fisherman's Yard.

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CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL