



DURRINGTON TOWN COUNCIL
COUNCIL OFFICE, VILLAGE HALL, HIGH STREET, DURRINGTON, SP4 8AD
Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Town Council held on Tuesday 28th July 2026
at 7p.m. in the Robinson Room, Village Hall, Durrington, SP4 8AD.

Present

Members

- Cllr G Wright – Chair
- Cllr S Smith – Vice Chair
- Cllr P Paul
- Cllr R Lock
- Cllr S Paines
- Cllr S Rennie
- Cllr S Botham
- Cllr K Johnson
- Cllr G Eydmann
- Cllr C Butler
- Cllr A Hatt
- Cllr J Todd

Officers (Absent – minutes taken by Cllr S Smith)
This meeting did not have an audio recording

Public Participation

1 member of the public was in attendance – P Maher offered to remove the Skate park free of charge as a donation to the community. He stated he has all the required insurances and meets statutory guidance for this removal. He was warmly thanked by the Chair and gave his details to Cllr Smith. He will contact the Clerk to arrange the necessary checks and arrangements.

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29/26 ACCEPTANCE OF APOLOGIES –

- Cllr Stafford, Cllr Galan Banfield - apologies accepted.
- The Chair explained the Clerk is absent through ill health and the meeting would be minuted by Cllr Smith

30/26 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

Cllr Todd declared an interest as a regular hirer of the Recreation Ground – his interest was noted.

31/26 TO RECEIVE AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 30th OF JUNE 2026 (PREVIOUSLY CIRCULATED AND PLACED ON THE WEBSITE) LGA 1972 SCH 12 PARA 41(1)

Agreed as accurate and accepted. Chair signed.

32/26 MINUTES OF MEETINGS FOR INFORMATION

Minutes of the Facilities and Amenities Committee from the 19th of May 2026 noted.

33/26 INTERVIEW OF CO-OPTION CANDIDATES AND VOTE

John Painter explained his background and desire to contribute to the community. He was voted onto the council. He will be voted on to a committee at a future date.

34/26 ACCOUNTS to review and approve the following:

- (a) The cheques and debits for June 2026 – All approved
- (b) The bank reconciliation for the current account for June 2026.

35/26 PROPOSALS

The Council resolved to :-

- (a) To consider and note that the new internal auditor, WGW online, is independent and the council has considered this in making its appointment.

Proposed Cllr Paines, Seconded Cllr Johnson – All agreed

- (b) To approve the CIL report for 2025/26.

There were discussions about the amount of CIL being used for the Pump Track.

Cllr Smith proposed moving this item to FHR committee. Seconded Cllr Wright – All Agreed

- (c) The new Recreation Ground Hire Policy was deferred for further consideration and amendments. Cllr Todd declared an interest as a regular hirer of this Recreation ground. There was lengthy discussion regarding liability by hirer and that the council should be explicit regarding liability in any policy regarding hirings. Discussion also took place regarding the importance and adoption of Martin's Law and how this should be worded

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correctly in any policy. Cllrs Hatt, Rennie and Johnson will contact the Clerk with proposals.

As a consequence of this discussion regarding the hiring of the Recreation ground the Fair was discussed regarding how the policy could be implemented by them. **It was agreed that the usage of the Recreation Ground by the Fair needed to be a separate discussion point at the September meeting due to H & S concerns raised by councillors.**

(d) The consideration of a new compound was deferred having resulted in a discussion about the costs, the need for such a compound, the alternatives such as padlocking the goalposts. Cllr Johnson recalled the football club were supposed to provide pictorial evidence of the compound they had in mind.

It was agreed to defer this matter to the September meeting when details of costs and explicit requirements could be discussed.

(e) Decommissioning and disposal of Skate Equipment Asset

It was agreed the Skate Park equipment has no commercial value and must be cleared to allow the pump track installation and should be removed and scrapped as soon as possible in the appropriate manner.

Proposed Cllr Wright, Seconded Cllr Johnson - All agreed.

(f) To consider and approve the proposed survey for Larkhill residents.

Cllr Eydmann explained he felt Larkhill had very few facilities and wanted to survey the residents of Larkhill for their input.

Proposed Cllr Botham, Seconded Cllr Paul – Agreed.

(g) To consider a request from the River Park Path contractor.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the request from the River Park contractor. It was subsequently agreed that while vandalism to the contractor's equipment was very disappointing it was a matter for the contractor's Insurance company.

There was a discussion as to whether any financial payment should be made to the contractor due to the additional work he had undertaken due to the vandalism to his equipment and the work he had already carried out.

After lengthy debate Cllr Wright proposed that the contractor be advised damage to his equipment was a matter for his insurance company but the additional costs to the council for additional work undertaken would be paid once a guarantee for the work carried out was received by the council. Seconded Cllr Botham – 8 Votes agreed.

(h) To note the ECIR reports and the remedial work required.

There was a lengthy discussion as to the nature of the electrical faults. Cllr Rennie queried why these faults existed when previous surveys had not highlighted these faults.

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It was agreed to bring this item to the September 2026 meeting when the Clerk would be available for a fuller understanding.

(i) The Health and Safety Audit and recommendations were deferred.

Cllr Botham queried why the risk assessments didn't contain Low, Medium, High-risk allocations.

It was agreed to bring this item forward to the September 2026 meeting when the Clerk could explain the item in more detail.

(j) To note the movement of the football pitch and its new dimensions.

Proposed Cllr Wright, Seconded Cllr Johnson – All agreed.

(k) To note the cost of the proposed white lines on Church Street.

Cllr Paul raised a Point of Order stating the white lines on Church Street had never been discussed at council. Cllr Wright disagreed and drew Cllr Paul's attention to the meeting when Cllr Blair Pilling Smith discussed the road safety in that area.

After a lengthy discussion it was Proposed by Cllr Paul that Hackthorn Road only would have the white lines and that Cllr Paul would contact Wiltshire council to advise them of this instruction, Seconded Cllr Rennie – Agreed.

(l) To undertake the annual review of the following policies:

- i. Committee Terms of Reference
- ii. Complaints Policy
- iii. Document Retention
- iv. Health and Safety Policy
- v. Privacy Policy
- vi. Scheme of Delegation
- vii. Working Party Policy
- viii. Safeguarding Policy

Proposed Cllr Wright, Seconded Cllr Botham – All Agreed.

(m) To note the report from the Chairman for July 2026.

Cllr Wright confirmed he did not send a report.

(n) To note the report from the Wiltshire Councillor.

Cllr Wright thought he had emailed his report but there was consensus that council had not had sight of it. Cllr Wright apologised and confirmed he would email to all councillors the report that evening. He explained there had been a minor reduction in the average speed from the 'Prior to Yellow lines' speed check, but 51% of drivers were exceeding the 20mph speed limit.

(p) To note the first quarters vat return refund of £6,546.73.

Proposed Cllr Wright, Seconded Cllr Johnson – All Agreed.

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36/26 PLANNING –

Cllr Wright confirmed no applications have been brought to the attention of the Clerk by Councillors for consideration at this meeting.

37/26 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING – Training meeting 25th August for members only -

Cllr Wright reminded councillors of this training session set up for them and encouraged all councillors to attend.

The next Full Council Meeting 29th September 2026.

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