

WINSFORD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the **External Committee** held in Room G1, Wyvern House on **Tuesday 10th March 2026**.

PRESENT

Councillors Fitzsimmons, Mault, Fletcher, and Newton (substitute for Cllr Mault).

IN ATTENDANCE:

Dr M Bailey (Town Clerk)

1	ELECTION OF CHAIR/DEPUTY CHAIR	Members considered the matter of electing a Chair for the Committee. It was agreed that Councillor Fletcher be elected Chair of the Committee. Cllr Fitzsimmons was elected as Deputy Chair.
2	APOLOGIES	Apologies were received from Cllrs Mault (substitute – Cllr Newton) and Welch.
3	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	No declarations of interest were received.
4	OPEN FORUM	There were no members of the public present at the meeting.
5	MINUTES – 19th JANUARY 2026	Members noted the minutes of the meeting held on 19 th January 2026, which had been ratified at the Town Council meeting held on 26 th January 2026.
6	MATTERS ARISING/ACTIONS	The Committee considered the above minutes and the action log, and the following items were raised: - • Recreation Grounds Re-surfacing – considered under Part B of the agenda. • CCTV Town Park –groundworks were complete and electrical works now need to be completed – waiting on the supplier. It was agreed to advertise work at local businesses. • Rilshaw Meadows - The planning consultant has been asked to submit a planning application on behalf of the Town Council. - The issue of a new boundary fence had been deferred to await the car park extension. - The new design for the Information Board was progressing. • Police Attendance – it was noted that a meeting will be held with the new Chief Inspector in March 2026. • Ways Green – Members noted that this would be

		addressed under Part B of the agenda. • Walk of Contribution/James Clarke Memorial Garden – the slabs for the Walk of Contribution were completed and will be installed as part of a ceremony. • Telephone Box – quotes had been received and defibrillators will be installed. • Townfields – it was reported that the footpath had been installed and benches/bins will be installed. • Padel Tennis – it was noted that there would be a site visit on 16th March 2026. • MUGA development - Wharton Recreation Ground – Members noted that a report was considered under Part B of this agenda. • Prairie Zone at Town Park – it was noted that a contractor had been appointed to spray the weeds, followed by the area being strimmed. It was noted that the salt stacks will be repaired. • Climate Action – it was noted that quotes for the solar panels work at Over/Wharton Recreation Grounds were to come to March 2026 Council. It was also agreed to progress the ‘mini forest’ idea. • Storage – it was agreed to recommend that shelving is installed in the new unit and transfer items from the other unit to allow the pavilions to be cleared. • Accessible Provision (Recreation Grounds) – it was noted that the CWAC Accessibility Officer will be assessing the facilities.
7	ISSUES TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE COMMITTEE	The following items were considered by the Committee. <i>Budget Update 2025/26</i> Members noted the current position. <i>Allotments</i> Members noted the current waiting list of approximately 173 people. It was agreed to review the list every three months and remove anyone who does not wish to remain on the list. <i>Signs</i> It was agreed that – at all parks/open spaces owned and managed by WTC – all dogs should be kept on a

		lead (with Leaf Lane having no dogs allowed).
8	ANY OTHER BUSINESS	The following matters were raised under this agenda item.
9	DATE OF NEXT MEETING	It was noted that the date of the next meeting would be agreed at the Annual Town Council meeting on 18 th May 2026.
10	EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS	Members RESOLVED that, due to its confidential nature, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following matters in accordance with section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.
11	WET POUR RESURFACING	Members noted the options for the work and agreed to await a quote from local contractors.
12	WHARTON MULTI-USE GAMES AREA	Members agreed to RECOMMEND option 3 to Council for approval.
13	LAND AT WAYS GREEN	Members agreed to approach contractors to draw up an enhancement scheme for the area.

CHAIR