LYME REGIS TOWN COUNCIL

TOURISM, COMMUNITY AND PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 22 APRIL 2026

Present

Chairman: Cllr P. Evans

Members: Cllr A. Wood, Cllr G. Caddy, Cllr M. Denney

Officers: A. Mullins (assistant town clerk), C. Austin (communications officer)

25/83/TCP Public Forum

There were no members of the public present who wished to speak.

25/84/TCP Apologies

Cllr M. Ellis – personal commitment
Cllr N. Hampton-Rumbold – work commitments
Cllr D. Holland – holiday
Cllr S. Larcombe – work commitments
Cllr C. Reynolds – illness
Cllr G. Turner – work commitments

25/85/TCP Minutes

Proposed by Cllr A. Wood and seconded by Cllr G. Caddy, the minutes of the meeting held on 4 March 2026 were **ADOPTED**.

25/86/TCP Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

Cllr A. Wood declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 10, Town Map Reprint.

25/87/TCP Dispensations

There were none.

25/88/TCP Matters arising from minutes of the previous meeting held on 4 March 2026

Free Parking Days

The assistant town clerk said she had contacted Dorset Council to request the date be changed from Saturday 5 December to Saturday 12 December, but the member of staff responsible was on leave and she was still awaiting a response.

25/89/TCP Update Report

Lyme in Bloom

The assistant town clerk said officers had contacted the Uplyme and Lyme Regis Horticultural Society and had secured two additional judges for the competition. She said there was now a total of three judges.

25/90/TCP Tourism, Community and Publicity Committee – Objectives

Members noted the report.

25/91/TCP To receive the minutes of the Party in the Park working group meeting held on 21 January 2026

Proposed by Cllr G. Caddy and seconded by Cllr M. Denney, the minutes of the Party in the Park working group meeting held on 21 January 2026 were **RECEIVED**.

25/92/TCP Town Map Reprint

Cllr A. Wood left the meeting at 7.07pm

The assistant town clerk said there had originally been money in the budget for the map, but it had somehow dropped out of the budget due to an administrative oversight that was not picked up until recently. She asked members to consider approving some unbudgeted expenditure because the map was popular and important for visitors to the town. She said that going forward the plan was to do much smaller print runs, which would leave money in the budget for adjustments to artwork if anything in the town changed between print runs. She said the suggested £3,000 is what would have been in the budget for this year.

Proposed by Cllr M. Denney and seconded by Cllr G. Caddy, members agreed to **RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL** to approve unbudgeted expenditure of up to £3,000 for the reprinting of the town map.

Cllr A. Wood returned to the meeting at 7.10pm

25/93/TCP Tourism Microsite Membership Packages

The assistant town clerk said normally this was brought to members at the beginning of the year, ready for the new advertising charges to be implemented on 1 April. However, Visit Dorset had only recently agreed the ongoing contract with Simpleview and had now provided some recommendations for advertising costs.

Members asked how many visits the website received.

The assistant town clerk said that in March there were 27,800 visits to the Visit Lyme Regis website. She explained there was a service level agreement in

place with Visit Dorset and the advertising income was not a big generator of income for the council. She said members had previously decided not to increase the charges.

Proposed Cllr M. Denney and seconded by Cllr a. Wood, members **RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL** to approve maintaining a free basic listing on the tourism website and not to increase the cost of an enhanced entry for 2026-27.

25/94/TCP Fundy Albert

The chairman stressed this request was not another twinning arrangement.

Proposed by Cllr P. Evans and seconded by Cllr M. Denney members agreed to **RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL** to instruct officers to arrange a video conference with members from Fundy Albert and, following that meeting, consider if the council should enter a sister-municipality arrangement with Fundy Albert.

25/95/TCP Lyme Regis Visitor Hub – The Year so Far

Members were concerned that council tax was payable on the building and asked whether evening events could be considered to make full use of the facilities.

The assistant town clerk said the council had entered into an agreement with The Visitor Hub for use of the building during between Easter and October but the council could consider using the building outside of this period.

25/96/TCP Sporting Lyme Update

The assistant town clerk asked members to attend from 11am to help with setting up the event.

25/97/TCP Linking of Regis Councils

Members agreed the linking of Regis councils in the country was a good initiative and encouraged the assistant town clerk to progress it.

25/98/TCP Grant Review, Bridport and District Citizens' Advice Bureau

Members noted the report.

25/99/TCP Grant Review, Lyme Regis Town Band

Members noted the report.

25/100/TCP Grant Review, Lyme Regis Town Band

Members noted the report.

25/101/TCP Grant Review, Lyme Regis Visitor Hub

Members noted the report.

25/102/TCP Managing Consultation Exercises

Members noted the report.

The meeting closed at 7.34pm.