

LYME REGIS TOWN COUNCIL

TOWN MANAGEMENT AND HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 25 FEBRUARY 2026

Present

Chairman: Cllr M. Ellis

Members: Cllr C. Aldridge, Cllr S. Cockerell, Cllr P. Evans, Cllr N. Hampton-Rumbold, Cllr D. Holland, Cllr S. Larcombe, Cllr C. Reynolds, Cllr G. Stammers, Cllr A. Wood

Officers: A. Mullins (assistant town clerk), S. O'Connell (operations manager)

25/52/TMH Public Forum

N. Ball

N. Ball raised the issue of dog bag dispensers. There had been no bags available in the dispensers since the autumn and if they were not going to be used, they should be taken down because they were getting rusty.

Cllr G. Stammers arrived at 7.01pm.

N. Ball said he looked forward to positive feedback to the offer of having the Sunbeam boat in the gardens. He also commented on the cemetery noticeboard, which was in a poor state because it could do with some maintenance on the outside but the information inside was also out-of-date. He said there were a lot of weeds in the Jane Austen Garden and on the steps next to SWiM, as well as brambles in the beds to the left of the cherry tree walk. N. Ball said he had still not been provided with figures for Party in the Park and under Freedom of Information, he would like to know this. He said Dorset Cleaning Services were doing a good job of the Marine Parade toilets, but the silicone around the basins needed some attention. He said the proposed dog signs on the seafront were a good idea. He also asked how much the council had to refund traders for overcharged seating arrangements because this might affect the council's balance sheet.

25/53/TMH Apologies

Cllr G. Caddy – personal commitment
Cllr P. May – holiday

25/54/TMH Minutes

Proposed by Cllr M. Ellis and seconded by Cllr A. Wood, the minutes of the previous meeting held on 12 November 2025 were **ADOPTED**.

25/55/TMH Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

Cllr G. Stammers declared a pecuniary interest in signs on the A35 related to the park and ride.

25/56/TMH Dispensations

There were none.

25/57/TMH Matters arising from the minutes of the Town Management and Highways Committee meeting held on 24 September 2025

The Three Cups

The operations manager said officers had tried again to get an update but nothing had been forthcoming and they would continue to pursue this.

25/58/TMH Update Report

Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance Clothing Banks

The operations manager confirmed that if the clothing bank created an obstruction when it was in place, it would be moved.

MUGA

It was noted some Lym Close residents had not received the consultation letter about the possibility of additional netting on that boundary of the football pitch and suggested this could be re-visited at some point.

It was noted the junior football teams were playing at other venues for this season but would hopefully be back at Anning Road next season, so netting was not required immediately.

20mph Speed Limit Proposals

A member asked if the town council would be consulted or involved in discussions before the scheme was implemented.

As the consultation period was over and Dorset Council (DC) had agreed to implement the scheme, it was suggested there would be no further consultation. It was also noted DC intended to implement the scheme by Easter.

Joint works to the Lynch

The operations manager said at a meeting of riparian owners, the Environment Agency (EA) agreed it would work with DC and continue to be involved, but discussions would continue with DC.

Bell Cliff Steps

A member asked if the town council should be doing this work, given the situation with Marine Parade, which had now been confirmed as a highway.

The operations manager said it was believed this area was not a highway but this needed to be confirmed. In the meantime, the council would continue with the works unless told otherwise.

25/59/TMH Town Management and Highways Committee – Objectives

Members noted the report.

25/60/TMH Proposal to Repurpose Sunbeam as a Floral Display in Langmoor Gardens

Members were generally in support of repurposing Sunbeam as a floral display but were concerned about the maintenance it would require as the boat was made of wood and would rot.

The operations manager shared these concerns and said although it was a fantastic opportunity, the Langmoor Gardens might also not be the best location for it. If members wanted to take up the offer, he would need to go away and consider other suitable locations. He noted it would need to be on substantial hard-standing as it was a large boat, and would require a lot of ground works to make it secure. He added that it would be a cost to the council to establish the floral display and for its ongoing maintenance.

A member suggested it could be displayed in the roof space of the Boat Building Academy (BBA), as it would be under cover but still on display.

Members agreed every effort should be made to try and repurpose the boat, noting the challenges, and asked the operations manager to give further thought to a suitable location and detailed costs. It was also agreed he should speak to the BBA.

25/61/TMH Cadet Hut Demolition

The operations manager said once the demolition had taken place, shipping containers could be placed in the area temporarily until it was decided what to do with it in the long-term. The containers would not require planning permission, they were cost-effective and could be moved to another location when it was decided what to do with the site.

A member asked if there was likely to be some opposition from nearby residents to the shipping containers.

The operations manager said the exterior could be cladded to make them less imposing.

It was noted this was one of the areas where South West Water was putting in attenuation tanks, which might stabilise the area.

The operations manager said this was another reason why shipping containers were preferable as they could be removed if that work took place.

As there was asbestos in the building, a member asked if the potential contractors were competent in dealing with this.

The operations manager said an asbestos specialist had been consulted and would come in as a sub-contractor, which was included in the prices given.

Proposed by Cllr M. Ellis and seconded by Cllr D. Holland, members agreed to **RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL** to agree, in principle, to proceed with demolishing the unsafe cadet hut, to appoint Bagwells Ltd to carry out this work, and to authorise officers to obtain quotations for resecuring the boundary fence and installing suitable secure storage for the external works team's vehicles and equipment.

25/62/TMH No Dogs on the Beach Signs

Members agreed large 'no dogs on the beach' signs were needed at various locations around Front Beach and on the approaches to the beach, which could be put out during the exclusion period and taken down in the winter.

Cllr A. Wood had produced some mock-ups and suggested locations but clarified that he would not be involved in their production.

The mock-ups included the DC logo and it was noted DC would need to be consulted before the logo was used or it could be removed to avoid this.

Members discussed possible locations for the signs but it was agreed this could be finalised by officers, in consultation with the chairman of this committee and Cllr A. Wood.

Proposed by Cllr S. Larcombe and seconded by Cllr D. Holland, members agreed to **RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL** to improve the clarity and visibility of the current 'dogs on the beach' signage, ask officers to seek quotes for new signs, and to agree the final locations for the signs in consultation with Cllr M. Ellis and Cllr A. Wood.

25/63/TMH Tesco Delivery Arrangements – Request to Support Changes to Loading Restrictions on Broad Street

Members felt they didn't have enough details to make a decision on whether to support the request. Their concerns included how the changes would impact disabled parking and whether this would set a precedent if one business was given more flexibility.

It was also noted deliveries should be taking place early in the morning but Tesco deliveries were sometimes taking place later in the day, which would also result in a penalty notice.

Tesco had already indicated it could supply both existing and proposed layout plans so it was agreed officers should request this. Officers should also clarify how many penalty notices had been issued so members could have an idea of the scale of the issue.

It was agreed a further report would be brought to this committee with this information.

25/64/TMH Complaints, Incidents and Compliments

Members noted the report.

The meeting closed at 7.50pm.