



WESTON-SUPER-MARE TOWN COUNCIL

**WESTON-SUPER-MARE TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE GRANTS AND GOVERNANCE SUB COMMITTEE
HELD AT 32 WATERLOO STREET
THURSDAY 23rd October 2025**

Meeting Commenced: 10.00 am

Meeting Concluded: 11.10 am

PRESENT: Councillors Hugh Malyan (C), Mike Bell, Peter Crew and Alan Peak, James Clayton and John Standfield.

ALSO, IN ATTENDANCE: Councillor Marcia Pepperall, Sarah Pearse (Chief Executive Officer/Town Clerk), Samantha Bishop (Democratic Services Manager), Fiona Gardner (Finance Administration Manager), Molly Matthews (Senior Development Officer) and Alison Garner (Democratic Services Officer), Alli Waller (YMCA)

192	Apologies for Absence and Notification of Substitutes Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Joe Bambridge with no substitution. It was noted that Councillor Marcia Pepperall was in attendance and not a substitution.
193	Declarations of Interest There were none received at this point in the meeting.
194	To agree the accuracy of the previous SPECIAL Grants and Governance Sub Committee Minutes held on 24th July 2025 The minutes from the previous meeting had been previously circulated. PROPOSED BY: Councillor Mike Bell SECONDED BY: Councillor Alan Peak A vote was taken and accordingly it was carried . RESOLVED: That the minutes of the SPECIAL Grants and Governance Sub Committee Minutes held on 24 th July 2025 be approved and signed by the Chair.
195	At this point in meeting the Chair brought forward agenda item 7.1D and invited Alli Waller to present to the meeting.

7.1D Alli Waller YMCA

- It had been the quietest quarter for the Youth Service due to the summer holidays, extra school sessions and some students struggling to cope with transition to secondary school.
- Challenges - maintaining the town center clubs, only retaining two home schoolers. The Wednesday Grove youth club had started slow but was growing with 32 registered and 12 regulars. Due to changes in the Community Response Team the link with Greggs had been lost and the YMCA were looking at ways to re-establish this.
- The meet support group had been very well received helping over 40 people with writing CVs, applications forms and securing apprenticeships and jobs.
- The Youth Council had 12 active members whos' meetings were very proactive however, it was difficult to keep members engaged and focused outside of meetings. There was one extremely motivated member who had secured work experience with the Sunday Times independently, which was a great achievement and news story. The YC hosted a visit from Crewkerne Youth Council which was a great experience where they learned that the Youth Council was lucky to be well supported by the WSM Town Council.
- South Ward was the most popular club, which did experience anti-social behaviour but this was managed by staff and also challenged by the young people themselves. They had also experienced issues with misogyny and fat shaming. All the clubs provided snacks as lots of young people go in starving.
- The Bournville Seniors was established 18 months ago with 59 registered and 27 regulars. It was confirmed that the age range for this group was 16-21. They cooked and sat and eat together.
- The Home Ed group had 35 registered and 24 regulars who struggled with social skills, and the biggest challenge was the parents, however they have been invited on the Home Ed Facebook page which was considered a big achievement.
- The YMCA continue to offer sexual health support on the C-Card scheme and the Grace Project for young girls.

Ali informed that she would be more than happy to come back later on in the year to give a verbal report on a busier quarter.

10.18am Councillor James Clayton joined the meeting.

In response the provision of Youth Clubs in Worle to help target the ASB and in particular vandalism. Alli reported they did not have the current resources at this time however would consider this in future provision planning.

It was noted that the potential use of the Castle Batch Children's Centre should be considered with Devolution.

The Chair thanked Alli Waller for the report, *who left the meeting at 10.21am*

At this point in the meeting the Chair reverted back to item 4

Committee Forward Plan for the year 2025/2026

The forward plan had been previously circulated.

The CEO/Town Clerk advised that all committees/sub committee's had been supplied with a Plan disk to help focus and encourage forward thinking.

The committee were encouraged to suggest ideas they would like to see on future agendas.

	RESOLVED: That the Committee Forward Plan for the year 2025/2026 was noted.
196	Budget setting considerations The report from the Director of Finance and Resources had been previously circulated. The report of the Director of Finance and Resources/Responsible Financial Officer had been previously circulated which informed that a review of the budget setting process was taken to the Finance & General Purposes on 18th August 2025, whereby it was recommended that during September and October each year that Committees and Sub Committees were to provide recommendations/considerations to budget areas in line with set strategic aims of the council only (having regard for the councils Medium Term Financial Plan). (Available on the council's website). Discussion ensued regarding Grant budget levels and the Town Clerk confirmed that the Community Events Grants budget (2024/2025) was utilised via the BID for a summer events programme. RESOLVED: To approve in principal, the costs identified for inclusion in the draft budget for 2026/2027 and that the direction for budget setting from the committee was that the budget presentation in December 2025 for the year 2026/2027 should be representative of a standstill budget (against 2025/26) with only a CPI increase applied.
196.1	Super Culture Proposal Members were requested to consider the proposal for inclusion within next year's budget (2026/2027) and recommend if this should be a standalone item or within the existing Events Grants Budget allocation for the Finance & General Purpose Committee to consider formally. Discussion ensued regarding the amount of financial assistance required and that giving perpetual support makes events repetitive. It was suggested to accept individual applications events going forward, to retain control. RESOLVED: That the Town Council were not in a position to offer £25,000 and would accept individual applications for events going forward.
197	At this point in the meeting it was: PROPOSED BY: Councillor Hugh Malyan SECONDED BY: Councillor Mike Bell <i>To resolve under the Public Bodies (Admissions of Meeting) Act 1960 to exclude the public and press for the following item by reasons of the confidential nature of the business.</i>
198	GRANTS The report of the Finance Administration Manager had been previously circulated. The council's annual budget for Community Event Grants was £12,500 with £4491 committed so far, leaving a £8,009 balance remaining. Copies of bank statements, the evaluation criteria and full applications for the

following organisations were provided.

198.1 Small and Voluntary Grant Applications

198.1.1 Great Western Air Ambulance Charity (GWAAC) **Under the General Power of Competence (LA 2011 s1(1))**

GWAAC were a charity that attended to patients for critical care purposes and were seeking financial assistance of £1000 to help towards the cost of a life saving mission, which would cost on average £2,200.

The subcommittee felt that although the work done by Great Western Air Ambulance was considered important and had supported grants previously, the grants were usually given to smaller groups with less funds available.

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Hugh Malyan
SECONDED BY: Councillor John Standfield

A vote was taken and **carried**. Accordingly, it was:

RESOLVED: To decline this application based on the sub committee's above comments.

198.1.2 Wellspring Counselling **Under the General Power of Competence (LA 2011 s1(1))**

Wellspring Counselling was a local charity aimed at providing low cost 1:1 counselling sessions for anyone in North Somerset aged 11 and over in a timely manner. They were seeking financial assistance of £1000 which would provide up to 30 counselling sessions to Weston residents in need of mental health support.

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Mike Bell
SECONDED BY: Councillor James Clayton

A vote was taken and **carried**. Accordingly, it was:

RESOLVED: To award £1000 from the Small and Voluntary Grants budget.

198.2 Community Event Grant Applications

The report of the Senior Development Officer had been previously circulated.

The council's annual budget for Community Event Grants was £60,000, with £25,000 for Weston Wallz preapproved within the budget setting process, leaving a remaining budget of £35,000. Of this £35,000 budget, £17,000 had been awarded so far this year, with £18,000 remaining to allocate.

198.2.1 In Between Time £8,475

We Are Warriors is an immersive sound and light installation for Weston, co-created with underserved communities through workshops and performance, offering sanctuary, reflection and local employment opportunities.

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Peter Crew
SECONDED BY: Councillor Hugh Malyan

A vote was taken and **carried**. Accordingly, it was:

RESOLVED: To award £8,475 from the Community Event Grants budget.

198.2.2 Weston Artspace £3,438

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Peter Crew

SECONDED BY: Councillor Hugh Malyan

A vote was taken and **carried**. Accordingly, it was:

RESOLVED: To award £3,438 from the Community Event Grants budget.

198.2.3 Super Culture

Super Culture were previously awarded a £10,000 grant for Glow, following their application for £23,000. The subcommittee awarded a lower value than the request in an effort to ensure the grant funding was available for more organisations to engage. In recent correspondence (14th October), they confirmed that due to a national issue with access to Arts Council England funding, they would not be holding GLOW in 2026.

Discussion ensued and it was suggested that the funding roll over to fund the 2027 GLOW event.

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Mike Bell

SECONDED BY: Councillor Peter Crew

A vote was taken and **carried**. Accordingly, it was:

RESOLVED: That Super Culture be advised to roll over the £10,000 grant to fund the 2027 GLOW event, holding retention until after the event.

Evaluation of previously awarded Community Events Grants

Reset Awarded £3,000 – Retention £300

A vote was taken and **carried**. Accordingly, it was:

RESOLVED: To receive the evaluation report and release the £300 retention funding to RESET.

199

GOVERNANCE

Service Level Agreements

To receive quarterly KPI reports and monitor the Council's Service Level Agreements (SLA'S).

Councillor James Clayton declared a pecuniary interest as an employee of The Town Centre Partnership BID.

199.1 Community Service Level Agreements;

Members noted the councils current SLA's with the following organisations, with budget provision values as follows;

A. Weston Town Centre Partnership (£19,999)

	RESOLVED: Received and noted. B. <u>Citizens Advice North Somerset (CANS) (£25,000)</u> Discussion ensued regarding the disappointment that the Worle provision was being closed and that there was a possibility it could have linked in with Big Worle. The Town Clerk confirmed that every effort was made to keep CANS in Worle, however due to premises and affordability it was not possible. The door remained open for CANS to revisit this in future. It was suggested that the Children’s Centre could be a potential premises as part of the Devolution process. RESOLVED: Received and noted. C. <u>Somewhere to Go (Homeless Support Fund Total=£50,000)</u> RESOLVED: Received and noted. D. <u>YMCA</u> RESOLVED: Received and noted.
	199.2 Direct Service Level Agreements E. <u>South West Heritage (Curatorial Services=£85,537)</u> RESOLVED: Received and noted. F. <u>North Somerset Council Community Response (£51,500)</u> RESOLVED: Received and noted. G. <u>North Somerset Council CCTV Provision (£95,700)</u> Councillors discussed how well the relocation of the service to 32, Waterloo Street was working. RESOLVED: Received and noted.
	There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 11.10am Signed.....Dated Chair of the Grants and Governance Sub Committee