



WESTON-SUPER-MARE TOWN COUNCIL

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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 was the quietest quarter for the Youth Service due to summer holidays, extra school sessions, and some students struggling with the transition to secondary school.
- Challenges included maintaining town centre clubs and retaining only two home schoolers. The Wednesday Grove club started slowly but is growing (32 registered, 12 regulars). The link with Greggs was lost due to Community Response Team changes, and the YMCA is exploring ways to restore it.
- The Meet support group was very successful, helping over 40 people with CVs, application forms, and securing apprenticeships and jobs.
- The Youth Council has 12 active members with proactive meetings, but engagement outside meetings is difficult. One highly motivated member independently secured Sunday Times work experience, providing a strong news story. The Council also hosted Crewkerne Youth Council, learning that WSMTC provides strong support.
- South Ward is the most popular club; it experiences some antisocial behaviour, managed by staff and challenged by the young people. Issues with misogyny and fat shaming have also arisen. All clubs provide snacks as many young people arrive hungry.
- Bournville Seniors (established 18 months) has 59 registered and 27 regulars; the age range is 16–21. Members cook and eat together.
- The Home Ed group has 35 registered and 24 regulars who struggle with social skills; the biggest challenge is parents. Staff have been added to the Home Ed Facebook page, considered a major achievement.
- The YMCA continues to offer sexual health support through 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	<p>Budget setting considerations</p> <p>The report from the Director of Finance and Resources 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).</p> <p>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.</p> <p>RESOLVED: To approve in principal, the costs identified for grants schemes inclusion in the draft budget for 2026/2027 as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small and Voluntary £12,500 • Community Events (Wsm TC) £3,000 • Community Event Grant Scheme £60,000
196.1	<p>Super Culture Proposal</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Town Council were unfortunately not in a position to offer £25,000 and would accept individual applications for events going forward.</p>
197	<p>At this point in the meeting it was:</p> <p>PROPOSED BY: Councillor Hugh Malyan SECONDED BY: Councillor Mike Bell</p> <p><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></p>
198	<p>GRANTS</p> <p>The report of the Finance Administration Manager had been previously circulated.</p> <p>The council's annual budget for Community Event Grants was £12,500 with £4491 committed so far, leaving a £8,009 balance remaining.</p> <p>Copies of bank statements, the evaluation criteria and full applications for the following organisations were provided.</p>

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 for the year 2025 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 monies 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. Citizens Advice North Somerset (CANS) (£25,000)

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. Somewhere to Go (Homeless Support Fund Total=£50,000)

RESOLVED: Received and noted.

D. YMCA

RESOLVED: Received and noted.

199.2 Direct Service Level Agreements

E. South West Heritage (Curatorial Services=£85,537)

RESOLVED: Received and noted.

F. North Somerset Council Community Response (£51,500)

RESOLVED: Received and noted.

G. North Somerset Council CCTV Provision (£95,700)

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