

Minutes of a meeting of CREWKERNE TOWN COUNCIL held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Market Square, Crewkerne on Monday 10 August 2026.

PRESENT

Cllrs. S. Ashton, M. Best, R. Cosgrove, N. Draycott, D. Livesley, J. Morris, J. Nathan, C. Rawe and A. Samuel (Mayor).

In attendance: G. Hughes (Town Clerk), S. Syeda Bowen (Deputy Town Clerk), and six members of the public.

060 TO NOTE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
26/27

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors K. Head and P. Maxwell (personal reasons), and A. Stuart (unwell).

The reasons for absence were APPROVED.

061 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
26/27

Councillor Best declared an interest as a Director of Crewkerne Leisure Management, which operates the Crewkerne Aqua Centre. He remained in the meeting as agenda Item 071 26/27 was for noting only.

062 MINUTES
26/27 **To confirm the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 8 July 2026**

The minutes of the Extraordinary meeting of the Town Council held on 8 July 2026, and the minutes of the Full Town Council meeting held on 27 July 2026 were AGREED as a correct record.

063 PUBLIC OPEN FORUM
26/27

A member of the public asked whether a roundabout would be constructed near Wadham School as part of the Crewkerne Link Road (CLR) project and commented that she would like to see a reservoir built. Councillors advised that the current proposal was for a staggered traffic-light-controlled junction rather than a roundabout. Councillor Ashton commented that, in his understanding, there was no current need for an additional reservoir, as Wessex Water's reservoirs remained approximately 68% full.

A request for a zebra crossing on Kithill was also discussed. Councillor Samuel explained that she had requested a zebra crossing and that, in the meantime, the H-bar road marking should be used as a crossing point, as vehicles are not permitted to park across it.

A resident raised concerns about the coordination of bus services to nearby towns and asked whether the CLR would result in changes to existing bus routes and bus shelters.

Several residents and representatives of the Crewkerne Business Group raised concerns regarding the proposal for a central single bus stop on Market Street. Points raised included the potential loss of parking and impact on local businesses, visibility and accessibility for pedestrians and vehicles, potential obstruction of buses, and concerns regarding the consultation and decision-making process. Reference was made to a safety bus being located at the site in 2023, which was said to have demonstrated visibility issues at the pedestrian crossing and for vehicles exiting South Street. Concerns

were also raised regarding the role of ABCD in the process and the methodology used for the initial surveys.

The Clerk was asked to prepare a response to the concerns raised regarding the proposed Market Street bus stop.

Councillor Ashton left the meeting and did not return.

064 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM:

26/27 a. Somerset Councillors

Councillor Best reported that works at the Station Road junction were progressing and that, once completed, work would commence on the northern end of the site.

b. Local Community Network (LCN) representative

There had been no recent meetings.

c. Crewkerne Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT)

Councillors received a quarterly crime statistics report, which was compared with data from the same period in the previous year. The Clerk explained that a Police Officer had been invited to the meeting, but that none were available to attend.

065 CLERK'S PROGRESS REPORT

26/27

The Town Clerk reported that:

- The dead tree outside the Henhayes Centre is scheduled for removal by Somerset Council between 18 and 21 August.
- Station Road is closed from 11 to 14 August, between 7.00am and 7.00pm, for resurfacing works associated with the new junction.
- Church Street would have a one-lane closure from 17 to 21 August for Wales & West works.
- Hermitage Street would be closed on 19 August for Wales & West works.

066 PLANNING – NEW APPLICATIONS

26/27 To consider new planning applications

- a) **26/01594/S73A Winyard View Hewish Lane Crewkerne Somerset TA18 8RE**
S73A application to vary condition 02 (approved plans) to allow minor changes to elevations and garage plans, and discharge conditions 05 (septic tank), 07 (lighting), 10 (biodiversity) and 12 (landscaping), relating to planning application 21/03833/FUL for Change of use from agricultural to residential land, Erection of a detached dwelling, detached garage & formation of new access

Councillors noted that the changes were minor and resolved to SUPPORT the application.

- b) **26/01636/HOU 34 Furland Road Crewkerne Somerset TA18 8DD**
Removal of existing garage and utility and the erection of a two storey extension.

Councillors commented that they would like to ensure that the applicant complies with the required amount of parking. They resolved to SUPPORT the application.

067 PLANNING – DECISION NOTICES

26/27 To receive planning decision notices from Somerset Council

a) 26/01592/NMA Southern Phase Of Crewkerne Key Site Off Station Road Crewkerne Somerset

Non Material Amendment to approved Application 20/00149/REM to remove condition 5 as per the submitted letter from Martin Evans Solicitors at the request of Somerset Council.

DECIDED

b) 26/01591/NMA Crewkerne Key Site 1 Land East Of Crewkerne Between A30 And A356 Yeovil Road Crewkerne Somerset TA18 7HE

Non Material Amendment to approved Application 23/00006/REM to remove condition 5 as per the submitted letter from Martin Evans Solicitors at the request of Somerset Council.

DECIDED

068 TERMS OF REFERENCE

26/27 To adopt an updated Terms of Reference for the Youth Service Steering Group

Councillor Samuel thanked the Clerk for updating the Terms of Reference and requested that her thanks be recorded in the minutes.

Councillors AGREED to adopt the updated Terms of Reference.

069 SOMERSET CONNECTIVITY AND INTEGRATED TRANSPORT STRATEGY

26/27 To review the strategy and consider a response.

Councillors discussed Corridor 1 and noted that the route was used for travel to and from work, schools, shops, medical services, leisure activities and to visit family. The importance of connectivity between corridors was highlighted, including links to Ilminster and South Petherton. Councillors commented that the current services lacked a local substructure and that workable connections between corridors, together with coordinated timetable planning, were required. The lack of Sunday bus services was also highlighted, with concerns that this could cause difficulties for weekend workers and residents requiring access to hospital services.

Councillors noted the strategy and AGREED to delegate authority to the Town Clerk to submit a response based on the discussion regarding Corridor 1: Yeovil to Taunton (via Crewkerne and Chard).

070 GEORGE REYNOLDS CENTRE

26/27 To establish delegated authority for decisions relating to the use of the Premises Licence or a Temporary Event Notice for events.

Councillors noted the licensing experience of the Council Administrator, Anita Legg, and AGREED to delegate authority to her, in consultation with the Town Clerk, to determine whether individual events held at the George Reynolds Centre should operate under the Council's existing Premises Licence or whether a Temporary Event Notice (TEN) should be submitted.

It was further AGREED that this delegation applies only to routine operational licensing decisions and does not extend to submitting any application to vary, amend or transfer the Council's Premises Licence.

071 **CREWKERNE AQUA CENTRE**
26/27 **To note a request to clean the brickwork**

It was noted that the request to clean the brickwork had already been approved by Crewkerne Leisure Management and this was for information only.

072 **COUNCILLORS SURGERY**
26/27 **To review and agree the dates for October and November**

A new date was proposed for the November Councillors' Surgery to avoid a clash with the Christmas Market. It was RESOLVED to postpone the surgery by one week, with the new date being Saturday 5 December.

Councillors Head and Rawe volunteered to attend the October surgery, and Councillors Morris and Best volunteered to attend the December surgery. This was AGREED.

073 **TO RECEIVE MATTERS OF REPORT (for information only)**
26/27

Councillors discussed the following matters:

- Several highways issues were raised, including loose kerbs on Market Street, a sunken paving slab near the traffic lights and a dropped kerb being obstructed by a parked vehicle. These matters would be reported to Somerset Council.
- Anti-social behaviour at Severalls War Memorial Gardens was raised and it was noted that this had already been reported to the Police. Overgrown vegetation obstructing a pathway at Tower Hill Road was also reported, with clarification of the land ownership required.
- A new development of five properties at Henley Meadow was noted. The development falls within West Crewkerne Parish, and Councillors queried whether the Town Council should have been consulted as a neighbouring parish.
- Concerns were raised regarding HGVs entering Abbey Street. It was noted that the restriction sign is positioned on the right-hand side of the road and may not be clearly visible to drivers of foreign-registered vehicles driving on the left. It was acknowledged that, due to the nature of the street, there appeared to be limited alternative locations for the sign.
- It was reported that the main road sign at the Market Square/East Street roundabout had been pulled down.
- It was noted that vegetation on Gouldsbrook Terrace was obstructing the pavement.
- A builder's van parked on North Street for the duration of building works was reported to be causing an obstruction to traffic. The matter had been reported.
- It was reported that the lift at the Heritage Centre was broken and that the cost of repair was significant. The Heritage Centre was investigating potential grant funding towards the repair.

074 **NEXT MEETING**
26/27

Monday 21 September 2026, 18.45, Council Chamber, Town Hall, Market Square, Crewkerne.

It was AGREED that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted it was advisable that the public and press be excluded and were instructed to withdraw. No members of the public or press were present.

CONFIDENTIAL SESSION: EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC – Confidential Business Matters

075 **BANKING HUB**

26/27 To review a request relating to an existing agreement

It was AGREED to extend the existing agreement for a further six months.

076 **DRAFT LICENCE FOR SPORTS CLUBS**

26/27 To consider and adopt a draft licence agreement relating to the use of the Council's facilities

The draft licence agreements for Crewkerne Rugby Football Club and Crewkerne Rangers Football Club were AGREED.

077 **GEORGE REYNOLDS CENTRE**

26/27 To consider matters relating to community hire rates and delegated authority

It was AGREED to delegate authority to the GRC Manager, in consultation with the Town Clerk, to approve introductory discounts for new community and voluntary organisations, subject to the agreed conditions.

The meeting closed at 20.01

Signed:

Dated:

TC10August2026