Kington Town Council

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Minutes of the Full Council Meeting

Monday 19 October 2026
6.00pm
at the Old Police Station, Market Hall Street, Kington.
HR5 3DP

PRESENT
Cllr. M. Woolford – Chair
Cllr. M. Blackaller
Cllr. N. Cornish
Cllr. R. Morgan
Cllr. L. Timmins
Cllr. R. Widdowson

IN ATTENDANCE

Ruth Robinson – Assistant Clerk

3 members of the public
1 member of the press

Agenda item	Minute	
1	FC 139-26	**Apologies, Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensation** Apologies were accepted from Cllr. E. Banks, Cllr. R. Banks, Cllr. B. Bishop, Cllr. P. Conrad, Cllr. J. Gardner, Cllr. E. Rolls, and Cllr. P. Sell. There were no requests for dispensation.
2	FC 140-26	To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 21st September 2026 **RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 21st September 2026 be approved and the Chair was authorised to sign the Minutes as a true record of proceedings.**
3	FC 141-26	**Public Participation:** **a) Police matters:** There were no matters arising from the police. **b) To receive the ward councillors report:** Ward Councillor T. James provided his apologies for the meeting. **Noted.**

To receive matters raised by members of the public present:

c) Public

There were no matters arising from members of the public.

d) To receive a report from Kington Chamber of Trade:

The Chamber of Trade reported that due to the building works being carried out on the Market Hall, the annual food festival had been cancelled this year, and that the Christmas Lights event will be scaled down.

The Remembrance Service will take place at St Marys Church at 10am on Sunday 8th November 2026, followed by a procession down to the War Memorial for 11am.

4 FC 142-26 **Mayor's Report**

The Mayor's Report, as attached, was noted.

Cllr. M. Woolford also reported that he had completed the Police and Crime Commissioner Survey on the Council's behalf.

5 FC 143-26 **Clerk's Report**

The Clerk's report, as attached, was noted.

Councillors also requested that the clerk write to West Mercia Police to clarify what they mean by 'dangerous routes'.

6 FC 144- 26 **Financial Matters:**

a) To approve payments as now due:

Payments totalling £3,011.29 (inclusive of VAT where applicable) as attached to the Minutes were approved

RESOLVED: That the payments totalling £3,011.29 be approved.

b) To note receipts, if any, since the last meeting

Note receipt of £86,500.00 for the precept from Herefordshire Council

c) To consider and approve the Detailed Receipts and Payments to 30.09.2026

RESOLVED: That the Detailed Receipts and Payments to 30.09.2026 be approved

d) To consider and approve the Bank Reconciliations

Item 6d Current Account 8517 30.09.2026

Item 6d Kington Remembers 5108 30.09.2026

Item 6d Savings Account 4143 30.09.2026

RESOLVED: That the Bank Reconciliations 30.09.2026 be approved

7 **FC 145-26** To receive and note the minutes of the following meetings and approve any recommendations:

a) Planning & Environment Committee held on 5th October 2026

Noted.

8 **FC 146-26** To consider and decide on correspondence from Herefordshire Wildlife Trust

RESOLVED: That Cllr. R. Widdowson would respond on Council's behalf in support, and subsequently Crooked Well Meadow would be suggested as a possible location.

9 **FC 147-26** To consider and decide on retaining legal advice in relation to Mill Street Toilet acquisition

RESOLVED: That legal advice be retained in relation to Mill Street Toilet acquisition.

To consider and decide on Mill Street Toilet acquisition

RESOLVED: That decision be carried over pending receipt of legal advice and further information from Herefordshire Council.

10 **FC 148-26** To consider and decide on a grant to Kington Recreation Ground Trust

RESOLVED: That the grant to Kington Recreation Ground Trust request £5,000 be approved.

11 **FC 149-26** To consider and decide on joining Herefordshire Association of Local Councils

RESOLVED: That Kington Town Council does not join Herefordshire Association of Local Councils

12 **FC 150-26** To consider councillor representation onto the following committees

- Planning & Environment Committee
- Finance, Personnel & General Purposes Committee
- Scrutiny Committee

RESOLVED: That Councillors be appointed to the following committees:

- **Planning & Environment Committee**
  Cllr. M Blackaller

- **Finance, Personnel & General Purposes Committee**
  Cllr. M Blackaller, Cllr. L. Timmins

- **Scrutiny Committee**
  Cllr. L. Timmins

13 **FC 151- 26** Information only item: Reports from councillors
There were no reports from councillors.

14 **FC 152-26** Items for the next agenda and date and time of next meeting
There were no items for the next agenda.

Monday 16th November 2026 – 6pm at The Old Police Station, Market Hall Street, Kington HR5 3DP

KINGTON TOWN COUNCIL
Meeting held on Monday 19 October 2026
Agenda item 5: Clerk's Report

This report identifies activities of the Clerk since the last meeting other than those addressed elsewhere on the agenda or addressed by other Members as part of their report and includes some items which are for information only.

1. Notice of Vacancy

A vacancy has arisen for a town councillor role due to the non-attendance of meetings from former councillor Mr Tom Bounds.
Subject to criteria, if no request for an election is received by Friday 16th October 2026, then an individual can be co-opted to the council.

If a Co-option Notice is provided it would be that an individual could be co-opted to the council in November 2026.

2. West Mercia Police - Police Priorities

West Merica Police has received the response to the priorities.
A query was asked by councillors regarding the implementation of priorities.

The initial police comments are that the actual approach will not change – the police are still committed to the three priorities –

- speed enforcement along dangerous routes,
- tackling ASB when it is present and
- supporting victims of rural crime.

The priorities form the basis for their monthly reports whether they are in person at meetings or an email report.

These reports will detail:

- the speed enforcement they have carried out,
- any ASB occurring and
- what they have done / are doing to tackle it,
- and any thefts or burglaries to make you aware of.

3. Locality Steward

We have contacted the Rory Edwards, Locality Steward, inviting him to a council meeting. His core working hours are 0730 to 1530 so unfortunately, he will be unable attend an evening meeting.

He has a couple of meetings planned over the coming weeks but will be happy to meet us during those hours at the council's convenience.

Are council members still seeking to meet him and what day/time?
It would be appropriate for a councillor to co-ordinate the date and time, especially if it involves a walk around the town.

4. Herefordshire Youth Strategy

The Herefordshire Youth Strategy will be launched at the start of November.
Herefordshire Council have provided an initial date (tbc)

- Tuesday 17th November 13:00 - 15:00 in for a Kington engagement event.

Lindsay MacHardy and Will Lindesay DL, hvoss (Herefordshire Voluntary Organisations Support Service) are developing the plans.

5. Precept - 2nd instalment

The second instalment of the precent totalling £86,500.00 has been received on 28th September 2026.

6. Free Christmas Parking Day

The Free Christmas Parking Day of Saturday 19th December 2026 has been approved by the Civil Enforcement Team of Herefordshire Council.

7. Notice of Vacancy

A vacancy has arisen for a town councillor role due to the resignation of former councillor Mr Martin Fitton.
Subject to criteria, if no request for an election is received by Tuesday 27th October, then an individual can be co-opted to the council.

If a Co-option Notice is provided it would be that an individual could be co-opted to the council in November 2026.

8. Report Summary: Old Wesleyan Chapel Wall, Kington

A concern was raised regarding the deteriorating outer garden wall of the former Old Wesleyan Chapel, Kington (HR5 3BJ), a designated heritage asset.

The wall has reportedly been worsening for more than 18 months and borders a well-used public walkway, creating a potential risk to public safety. Previous attempts to contact the property owner received no response.

The Built Heritage Officer confirmed that, although the building has heritage status, the wall's structural stability is primarily a public-safety issue. The concern has therefore been forwarded to the relevant officers for assessment.

If the wall is judged to be potentially dangerous, Herefordshire Council will determine what further action is appropriate.
The Town Clerk has also been copied into the correspondence so that the Town Council is aware of the issue and its referral.

Appendix to Full Council Meeting Minutes
Monday 19th October 2026
Report from PCSO Felix Rawlinson, Kington and Weobly Safer Neighbourhood Team, West Mercia Police.

24/09/26 – Report received of a collision just off the roundabout near Ye Olde Tavern. A car collided with a fence – police attended and the driver was arrested at the time for driving without due care and attention.

04/10/26 – Report received of a vehicle that has been targeted whilst parked up in in Mill Street – A hole was drilled in the vehicle, and it was filled with expanding foam. If anyone has any information that could assist with the investigation, please let us know by dialing 101.

10/10/26 – Report received stating some "kids" were throwing stones at vehicles on the A44 Kington Bypass near the Crooked Well field. There were reportedly 2 or 3 children that looked approx. 9/10 years old, damage was caused to a vehicle. If anyone knows the individuals who may be responsible, please get in touch with us on 101.

15/10/26 – Report received that a dog has bitten someone in the area behind Lower Cross flats. If anyone has any information that could help this investigation, please get in contact with us on 101.

A date for the diary – we are holding another drop-in surgery at Border Bean on the 2nd December 2026 at 10 a.m. If anyone wants to discuss any local concerns they may have, please do come along.

Kington Town Council

Schedule of payments to be approved on 19 October 2026

Voucher #	Payee	Payment type:	Detail		Minute Ref.	Net	VAT	Total Payment
137	Unity Bank	DD	Service Charge			£ 9.70		£ 9.70
138	EE	DD	Mobile Phone Charges - October 2026			£ 26.50	£ 5.30	£ 31.80
Payments now due								£ -
139	Kington Building Supplies	BACS	Toilet Rolls; Dustbin Liner	KRT		£ 39.68	£ 7.94	£ 47.62
140	Arrow Plant & Tool Hire	BACS	Backpack Blower; Fuel; Clean Filter Pips	KRT		£ 57.13	£ 11.43	£ 68.56
141	Vision ICT	BACS	New Councillor email addresses & Deleted email addresses			£ 30.00	£ 6.00	£ 36.00
142	Herefordshire Council - Recreation Ground Cottage	BACS	Council Tax Adjustment - Monthly Payment	KRT		£ 387.00	£ -	£ 387.00
143	Michael Greenfield	BACS	Clerks Expenses for September 2026			£ 26.00	£ -	£ 26.00
144	Border Office Supplies & Systems	BACS	Photocopier Charges 24.08.26 - 24.09.26			£ 71.18	£ 14.24	£ 85.42
145	Border Office Supplies & Systems	BACS	Installation Wireless System - Photocopier			£ 90.00	£ 18.00	£ 108.00
146	Countywide Grounds Maintenance	BACS	Grounds Maintenance Monthly costs - September 2026	KRT		£ 529.71	£ 105.94	£ 635.65
147	J&P Turner	BACS	Planters Maintenance 30.09.2026			£ 650.00	£ 130.00	£ 780.00
148	Countywide Grounds Maintenance	BACS	Grounds Maintenance Monthly costs - June 2026			£ 529.71	£ 105.94	£ 635.65
149	Kington Building Supplies	BACS	Ultra Grime Multi-use Wipes	KRT		£ 9.49	£ 1.90	£ 11.39
150	Herefordshire Council	BACS	Office Rent 01.11.2026 - 30.11.2026			£ 190.00	£ -	£ 190.00

			Total payments this month excl. salaries			£ 2,609.90	£ 401.39	£	3,011.29
FOR INFORMATION									
Total of payments made through grants received:									
Total of payments made as a grant									
	Chamber of Trade		CCTV Funding					£	2,287.00
	Kington Bellringers		Equipment					£	500.00
Total paid as salaries (net) - September 2026								£	3,818.31