

Axminster Town Council

Office Hours
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday
10am – 12 noon

Mayor: Cllr Jill Farrow
Town Clerk: Paul Hayward

www.axminstertowncouncil.gov.uk



THE GUILDHALL
WEST STREET
AXMINSTER
DEVON
EX13 5NX

Tel. 01297 32088

Email: Clerk@axminstertowncouncil.gov.uk

Axminster Town Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee 23rd February 2026

DRAFT MINUTES – YET TO BE APPROVED

Held in person at the Guildhall on Monday 23rd February 2026 at 7.00 p.m.

Present: Cllrs. Leat (SL) (Chair), Dowdeswell (MD), Dunsbury (RD), Farrow (JF), Hayward (AH), Hurren (WH), Paice (EP), Price (JP), Walden (JW) and Willey (DW).

Meeting was declared quorate as per Standing Orders.

Town Clerk, Paul Hayward.

Deputy Town Clerk, Sarah Jackson.

No members of the public were in attendance.

Meeting was audio recorded as per Council policy. Chair opened the meeting, welcomed those in attendance and outlined fire precautions and identified fire exits.

Public Forum session.

No public forum representations. Chair closed the public forum at 7.02pm.

PLAN26/001

To note members of committee present for all or part of the meeting:

Attendance at meeting shown above. Meeting was declared quorate.

PLAN26/002

To note and, if thought fit, to approve apologies for absence:

Cllr. Ashkettle was absent due to a work commitment. Absence noted and apology approved.

Cllr. Laurence was absent due to a work commitment. Absence noted and apology approved.

Cllr. Osborn was absent due to a conflicting commitment. Absence noted and apology approved.

Cllr. Warwick was absent due to a work commitment. Absence noted and apology approved.

Absences and apologies proposed by Chair. Seconded JP. Resolved unanimously.

Continued Overleaf

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PLAN26/003

To note members of committee not otherwise present and to receive any other apologies for absence:

None.

PLAN26/004

To receive any declarations of interest from members of the committee in relation to items of business on this agenda and to note any dispensations previously afforded:

This does not preclude the need for members to declare any additional interests that may arise during this meeting.

None declared.

PLAN26/005

To consider and, if thought fit, to approve the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held in consultative session on 27th October 2025 and to consider any matters arising from those minutes:

Approval of the minutes proposed by Chair, seconded by JP. Resolved unanimously.

No matters arising.

PLAN26/006

To consider any matters listed on this agenda that Councillors consider should be dealt with as confidential business as per the provisions of The Public Bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960:

None raised by committee members.

PLAN26/007

To consider planning applications (as shown below) advised by the Local Planning Authority (East Devon District Council) prior to the agenda publication:

i) [26/0183/FUL](#) – Land at Lower Westwater Farm, Westwater, Axminster EX13 7JD

Consent for (retrospective) earth lined slurry lagoon

It was proposed by Chair, seconded by JW, that the Council do not support this application as there are well-grounded concerns over potential pollution into the River Yarty, and concerns over highway safety from farm traffic movements, and possible odour and fly nuisance from a slurry lagoon. Additionally, the site is inside the Blackdown Hills National Landscape Area in a very exposed & prominent location and thus landscape value could be eroded. Resolved unanimously.

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PLAN26/007

To consider planning applications (as shown below) advised by the Local Planning Authority (East Devon District Council) prior to the agenda publication (continued):

ii) [26/0221/FUL](#) - Lower Westwater Farm, Westwater, Axminster EX13 7JD

Erection of roof over covered loafing yard

SL proposed support for this application. Seconded by JW. Resolved unanimously.

See also [26/0315/FUL](#) below; [PLAN26/008](#)

iii) [26/0300/FUL](#) – Symonds and Sampson, Trinity Square, Axminster, EX13 5AN

Installation of 1 no. single external CCTV camera on first floor front elevation.

NB. Axminster Town Council is the applicant.

iv) [26/0301/LBC](#) – Symonds and Sampson, Trinity Square, Axminster, EX13 5AN

Installation of 1 no. single external CCTV camera on first floor front elevation.

NB. Axminster Town Council is the applicant.

SL proposed that no comment be submitted for either of these two applications as the Town Council was the applicant and that meant that any comment would be pre-determined.

Noted and agreed unanimously.

PLAN26/008

To consider planning applications advised by the Local Planning Authority (East Devon District Council) after the agenda publication and as shown on the supplementary agenda published (if applicable):

i) [26/0315/FUL](#) – Lower Westwater Farm, Westwater, Axminster, EX13 7JD

Erection of roof over cattle loafing yard (see [26/0221/FUL](#) above also)

SL proposed support for this application. Seconded by JW. Resolved unanimously.

PLAN26/009

To consider planning applications advised by the Local Planning Authority (East Devon District Council) that relate to adjacent parishes where the Town Council's views are being sought (if applicable):

None to be considered.

PLAN26/010

To ratify decisions made under delegated authority afforded to the Chair of Planning Committee and the Proper Officer by the Town Council in matters pertaining to minor planning applications.

None to be considered.

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PLAN26/011

To consider planning applications advised by the Local Planning Authority (East Devon District Council) that relate to tree matters (TPO/TRE):

None to be considered.

PLAN26/012

To note planning applications received but subsequently withdrawn prior to consideration.

None advised.

PLAN26/013

To consider any planning correspondence:

Members noted Planning Appeal for Northay Lodge (25/1302/FUL) which the Town Council had previously supported (although subsequently refused by EDDC) and resolved that no further comment should be submitted ie that their previous position of support remained unchanged. Noted. Clerk: Please advise Planning Inspectorate accordingly.

PLAN26/014

To consider any matters considered as urgent by the presiding Chair:

None raised by Chair, members or Clerk.

PLAN26/015

To note date of next scheduled meeting of the Planning Committee:

Meeting to be arranged if necessary – check website/noticeboard for details.

With no further business to attend to, the Chair closed the meeting at 7.15 pm.

Signed Date: TBA

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