MABLETHORPE AND SUTTON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
Held on 27th October 2025

Present:	Cllr	C Tebbutt (in the Chair)		
	Cllrs	C Arnold	I Bailey	V Clark
		L Cooper	G Cullen	S Holland
		K Marnoch	D Mellor	M Nicholson
		G Parkhurst	H Parkhurst	J Rastall
		D Tyler	R Watson	
Absent:	Cllrs	S Bristow	S Rayment	P Russell
		M Wellby		

In attendance: Mr S Fletcher (Town Clerk)
Mrs S Archibald (Deputy Clerk)
Robin Button (part)

Also present: 4 members of the public

Prior to the commencement of the meeting the Mayor, Cllr C Tebbutt, invited those present to observe a one-minute silence following the sad passing of the Town Crier, Mr D Summers and former Councillor and Mayor Margaret Rolls.

Cllr Tebbutt paid tribute to Mr Summers and recalled the many civic events they had attended since 2018. Cllr Tebbutt further paid tribute to Mrs Rolls, a former Councillor and past Mayor in 2007/08.

Public forum

Members and the public present wished to remember the Town Crier with anecdotes and express loss at his passing. All concurred.

An oral report of the District Council was provided by Cllr R Watson.

Prayers were led by Robin Button.

The meeting commenced at 7.19 p.m.

44. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

The meeting was advised that apologies with valid reasons for absence had been received from Cllrs S Bristow, S Rayment, P Russell and M Wellby.

It was proposed, seconded and
Resolved: That apologies be noted with valid reasons for absence accepted from Cllrs S Bristow, S Rayment, P Russell and M Wellby.

45. **TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST UNDER THE LOCALISM ACT 2011**

Cllr C Arnold wished to record her appointment by ELDC as a member of the Lindsey Marsh Drainage Board.

46. **TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD THE NOTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 8TH SEPTEMBER 2025**

It was proposed, seconded and
Resolved: That the official minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 8th September 2025 be approved as correct records and signed by the Chairman.

47. **TO RECEIVE THE NOTES OF THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS AND ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATIONS AS INDICATED**

It was proposed, seconded and
Resolved: That the acts, proceedings and recommendations of the following meetings be approved:

i. Administration Committee 20th October 2025
ii. Planning Committee 6th October 2025

It was further proposed that the notes of the Properties Working Group dated 17th October 2025 be considered minute by minute, and, to this end:

a. **HEALTH & SAFETY**

It was proposed, seconded and
Resolved: That the Town Council accepts the recommendation of the Properties Working Group and appoint a sector specialist to ensure legal and competent compliance in respect of Health & Safety policy and procedures.

b. **ST. MARY'S NATURE AREA**

It was proposed, seconded and
Resolved: That the Town Council accepts the recommendation of the Properties Working Group and instructs staff members to continue their endeavours to secure necessary quotations.

c. **LAND – TUPLIN ROAD**

a) It was proposed, seconded and
Recommended: That the Town Council accepts the recommendation of the Properties Working Group and supports the following uses of the land **i)** the planting of trees secured following the successful grant under the Kings Fund for Community Orchards – (TC minute ref 38 27.07.2024 refers); **ii)** to review the possibility of partial use of the land for safe mountain biking riding; **iii)** engages with representatives in respect of a community garden area; and **iv)** an area for event space be factored.

It was noted that additional waste bin requests be followed up with ELDC.

At the request of Cllr I Bailey (as per standing order 16) the following being noted as a recorded vote.

b) It was further proposed, seconded and
Recommended: That the Town Council accepts the recommendation of the Properties Working Group and agrees to the ownership and takes on responsibility of additional land at the junction of Tuplin Road, Centenary Close and Coleman Close and accepts a contribution from the developer toward future maintenance of this area. It was noted that the potential development of a small play area be further explored.

It was noted that the Town Clerk would further negotiate the contribution amount with the developer.

Votes for: Cllrs C Arnold, S Holland, K Marnoch, G Parkhurst, J Rastall, D Tyler, C Tebbutt, and R Watson.

Votes Against: Cllr I Bailey, V Clark, L Cooper, G Cullen, D Mellor and H Parkhurst.

Abstention: Cllr M Nicholson.

c) **PUBLIC TOILETS – STOCK CONDITION**

It was proposed, seconded and
Resolved: That the Town Council accepts the recommendation of the Properties Working Group and makes additional budgetary provision to enable decoration of its 3 toilet blocks and instructs the Grants Working Group to meet, discuss, construct and submit an application to ELDC for grant funding under their 'Pride in Place' grant scheme.

d) **BEACH HUT OPENING PERIODS 2025/26 & 2026/27**

It was proposed, seconded and
Resolved: That the Town Council accepts the recommendation of the Properties Working Group and adopts the following opening / closing dates:

- Mablethorpe & Sutton – close 31st October 2025
- Mablethorpe – open 2nd April 2026 to 30th October 2026
- Sutton – open 14th February 2026 to 30th October 2026

It was noted that updates to the dedicated beach hut website would be undertaken in advance of the 2026 booking period.

e) **PROPERTY – 108A THE HIGH STREET MABLETHORPE**

i. It was proposed, seconded and
Resolved: That the Town Council accepts the recommendation of the Properties Working Group and does not specify uses of the outbuildings at this time with any decision deferred until the site had been developed and to minimise any health and safety risk from potential users / visitors.

It was noted that staff members had offered the former 'Men's Shed' building as a readily available area to the group interested in operating a 'Repair Shop' as this building had previously been successfully occupied, utilised and operated by the Men's Shed group for over 5 years.

ii. It was proposed, seconded and
Resolved: That the Town Council instruct its appointed architect to submit planning application to ELDC to begin the development process.

48. **TO RECEIVE BRIEF REPORTS FROM THE TOWN MAYOR, TOWN CLERK AND REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES (ORAL OR TABLED)**

The Mayor reported on the recent visit of the Princess Royal to the area and his attendance at the Sutton Light Show; he also wished to promote his fundraising '80s Christmas Party Night, with tickets available now.

Representative	Body	Description
Town Clerk	M&STC	Tabled report

49. **GRANT FUNDING / DONATIONS UPDATE**

It was proposed, seconded and
Resolved: That the Town Council ratifies the following grant and equipment donations

	Applicant	Event	Amount Requested	Amount Awarded
A	Golf Road Gophers	Purchase of Plants	£400	£400 (direct invoicing)

50. **ENVIRONMENT AGENCY – AUTUMN WORKS**

The works by the EA Field Team, contractors or the Internal Drainage Board in respect of scheduled maintenance work for the Environment Agency over the autumn months in the parish were noted.

51. **CONTINENTAL MARKET / ILLUMINATIONS EVENT 2025 AND TO AGREE DATES FOR 2026**

Updates and positive feedback on the successful events for 2025 were received and it was proposed, seconded and
Resolved: That the following events be held in 2026:

- Continental Market 3rd to 5th April 2026
- Illuminations Event 25th July 2026
- Continental Market 24th to 26th July 2026

Note: (i) A possible Halloween Event was suggested; and (ii) A Member wished to thank the Mayor, Town Clerk and staff for their efforts in organising the Summer events.

52. **BUDGET AND PRECEPT 2026/27**

Members were asked to consider and approve the recommendations of the Administration Committee with regard to budget proposals and precept demand for 2026/27. It was noted that additional budget heads had been introduced to make grant awards more transparent by separation and following robust discussion:-

It was proposed, seconded and
Resolved: That a) the recommendations of the Administration Committee regarding budget proposals and precept demand for 2026/27 be approved, and b) any potential additional budgetary provision would be explored should this be required from matters arising in agenda item 11.

Note: (i) Cllrs L Cooper wished it to be recorded that she voted against recommendations due to the inclusion and separation of grant awards 2026/27; (ii) Cllr H Parkhurst wished it to be recorded that she opposed changes in respect of potential grant awards 2026/27.

53. **FINANCIAL MATTERS:**

a) BANK BALANCES

Reconciled bank balances as at 9th October 2025 (latest received statement(s)).

Account ending 3703	£ 463,141.32	Account ending 4082	£ 1,299.52
Account ending 2423	£ 8,390.00	Account ending 8803	£ 165.42 (29.09.25)

Members noted the foregoing.

b) **TO AUTHORISE SIGNING OF ORDERS FOR PAYMENT AND TO NOTE INCOME FOR AUGUST 2025 AND SEPTEMBER 2025**

It was proposed, seconded and
Resolved: That (a) Orders for **payment** made in the sum of **£115,676.34** in August 2025 and **£84,845.58** in September 2025 be authorised and (b) **income** received in the amount of **£47,432.72** in August 2025 and **£413,474.68** in September 2025 be noted.

54. **TO RESOLVE TO MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960 DUE TO THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE BUSINESS TO BE DISCUSSED IN RELATION TO THE FOLLOWING: -**

- Property matters

It was proposed, seconded and
Resolved: That the Town Council moves into closed session in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed.

This part of the meeting closed at 8.25 p.m.

It was proposed, seconded and
Resolved: That the Town Council took a short comfort break.

Note: The meeting resumed at 8.35 p.m.

Minute arising from confidential item: –

55. **POTENTIAL PROPERTY MATTERS**

The Town Clerk gave an oral update on potential property transfers from ELDC and advised that such matter would not be considered until written proposals were received.

A report in respect of a potential property operation by lease was circulated.

It was proposed, seconded and
Resolved: That any decision to proceed, or otherwise, be deferred to allow the Town Clerk, Mayor, Deputy Mayor and District Councillors to meet with officers of ELDC to further discuss financial concerns and report back to a future meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.12 p.m.