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**ILFRACOMBE TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES – 26 – 08
THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, THE ILFRACOMBE CENTRE, DEVON, EX34 9QB**

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held at 7:00pm on Monday 10th August 2026

Members Present:

Cllrs: M Fay (Chair/Mayor), J Williams (Deputy Mayor), B Gear, G Coulter, T Elliott, D Turton, D Williams, M Newland, T Huggins, T Ebert, N Basil, J Quinn, J Irwin, N Jenner, M Turnbull

Officers Present:

L Donovan (Proper Officer), I Howard (Minute Taker), C Coombs (Responsible Finance Officer), C Lovett (Project Officer)

Others present: Cllr S Wilson and 2 members of the public.

2608 - 1. Welcome by Chair

Cllr Fay welcomed the assembled.

2608 - 2. To receive and consider for approval, apologies and reasons for absence.

Apologies were received from Cllr S Jennison, P Crabb and Cllr Irwin (personal). Cllr G Schofield was absent from the meeting.

2608 - 3. To receive and record Declarations of Interest as per Localism Act 2011 Section 31.

None received.

2608 - 4. Chair's discretion – for any matters or announcements for Information only.

The PO had an item to raise.

2608 - 5. Public participation

A member of the public requested an update on both the Osborne and Grovener Hotels. The PO explained that these have both been raised through various forums, such as IRB, and any updates will be fed back in due course. A member of the public asked whether, putting individual political allegiances aside, ITC collectively had a view on the private development of property in Ilfracombe which may subsequently be allocated to people who have never been on the social housing list for the area. The PO explained that ITC did not have policies as such in place and that all housing decisions are made by NDC.

2608 - 6. To determine which items, if any, of the agenda should be taken with the public excluded – Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, Section 1, Paragraph 2.

No items to be taken with the public excluded.

2608 - 7. To adopt minutes of Full Council Meeting held 13th July 2026 and to note matters, updates and actions arising.

Motion to approve and adopt the above minutes was proposed by Cllr Fay, seconded by Cllr Coulter with all in favour.

2608 - 8. Minutes of Staffing Committee meeting (to note and approve recommendations) – 20th July 2026 - Cllr M Fay – These minutes were noted by members.

2608 - 9. Minutes of Planning Committee meeting (to note and approve recommendations) – 20th July 2026 - Cllr J Williams – These minutes were noted by members. Cllr Elliott provided an update on the North Devon Resort site, which had been raised under the Chair's Discretion. Following discussions with Building Control and Ilfracombe Fire Service, Cllr Elliott was advised that the barriers had been reinstated, but the windows remained unsecured. As the site is due to be renovated, it was hoped that work would begin soon to improve safety.

2608 - 10. Minutes of Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting (to note and approve recommendations) – 27th July 2026 - Cllr T Huggins – These minutes were noted by members.

2608 - 11. ITC 26064 – Proper Officer Report

2608 - 11.1. To review and agree an ITC response to the Scoping Consultation to be submitted by 11th August 2026 – Motion to agree the response, as it stands within the combined papers, was proposed by Cllr Fay, seconded by Cllr Coulter with all favour. The PO will send of the response tomorrow before the deadline.

2608 – 11.2. To review and agree a spend on a replacement vehicle for the Facilities Team – Motion to agree a spend of up to £12,000 was proposed by Cllr Gear, seconded by Cllr J Williams with all in favour.

2608 – 11.3. To review and agree installation of Royal Mail Postal Locker at Ropery Road Car Park – Motion to agree the installation of the locker was proposed by Cllr Newland, seconded by Cllr Huggins with all in favour.

2608 - 12. ITC 26065 – Responsible Finance Officer Report

2608 – 12.1. To review and agree current accounting status – The RFO provided a verbal report to members, including the current status of the accounts, this was agreed by members.

2608 – 12.2. To review and agree invoices for payment – Cllr Huggins proposed to agree the submitted invoices on the addendum, for payment, this was seconded by Cllr Fay with all in favour.

2608 - 13. ITC 26066 – Programme Manager Report – including One Ilfracombe update – This report was noted by members.

2608 - 14. To receive reports/proposals from Ilfracombe Town Councillors

2608 – 14.1. ITC 26067 – Together for Tomorrow – Cllr M Turnbull & Cllr N Basil – This report was noted by members.

2608 - 15. To receive reports from County and District Councillors

2608 – 15.1. DCC Cllr Wilson report – This report was noted by members.

Cllr Newland left the meeting at 19:53hrs.

2608 - 16. To receive reports from Working Groups and Councillor Champions

2608 – 16.1. ITC 26068 – Public Health Champion Report – Cllr T Elliott – Members noted the report and highlighted that concessionary rates for community groups may need to be reviewed.

2608 – 16.2. ITC 26069 – Maternity Services Report – Cllr T Elliott – Following discussion, Cllr Elliott proposed to send a letter to both the Secretary of State for Health and MP Ian Roome including the concerns raised in the meeting in addition to those included in the report. This was seconded by Cllr D Williams, with all in favour. The PO will write and send these letters following the meeting.

2608 - 17. To adopt draft Biodiversity Policy and Action Plan – Motion to adopt the policy and plan as it stands was proposed by Cllr Fay, seconded by Cllr Jenner with all in favour.

2608 - 18. To receive correspondence/licenses/notices

2608 - 18.1. Letter from Police & Crime Commissioner in reply to ITC letter sent 15th June 26 – This correspondence was noted by members.

2608 – 18.2. Letter from MP Ian Roome in relation to Wildersmouth Beach – This correspondence was noted by members.

2608 – 18.3. DCC Speed Limit Proposal – to agree comments/objections on behalf of ITC – Members raised no comments or objections, and the proposal was noted.

2608 - 19. Chairs Discretion – for information only – The PO reported on discussions concerning the Larkstone Pitch and Putt contract with NDC. Cllr S Wilson explained that the matter was initially to be decided by officers but will now be considered by NDC's Strategy and Resources Committee in September. Members wished to express their views by letter; however, no decision could be made under Chair's Discretion. The PO advised that members could submit comments individually, call an extraordinary meeting, or wait until the next F&GP Committee meeting.

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 20:34hrs, the next Full Council Meeting will take place on Monday 14th September 2026 at 19:00hrs in the Council Chambers.

Cllr Mark Fay (Mayor)
Ilfracombe Town Council
Chair

10/08/2026