

THATCHAM TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of a meeting of the
Community Engagement Working Party
held on Thursday 7th October 2025 at 19:00hrs
in the Thatcham Town Council Chamber, Brownsfield Road

Present: Councillors Jeremy Cottam, Mark Lillycrop and Val Watts (as substitute for Councillor Ben Schiffer-Harte)

In attendance: Emily Moseley (Community Engagement Manager)

**CEWP/2025/26
RESOLVED**

ELECTION OF A CHAIRMAN

to appoint Councillor Mark Lillycrop as Chair for the municipal year 2025/26.

CEWP/2025/27

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Suzanne Adamantos, Ben Schiffer Harte and Stephanie Steevenson.

CEWP/2025/28

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

CEWP/2025/29

OFFICER UPDATE

The Community Engagement Manager provided an update on current community engagement activities, including: Thatcham Train Station, Diwali and Community United event, Kennet School (T Level collaboration, poppy project and art department involvement), Newbury College partnership, Heritage video project, Thatcham Market promotion, Volunteer engagement with AWE, Uptake of recent press releases.

CEWP/2025/30

NEWSLETTERS

Members discussed content for forthcoming editions of the Thatcham Town Council newsletter. Key themes proposed included sustainability, heritage, and positive community stories reflecting the town's spirit of kindness and support, often observed in conversations and Council surgeries. The completion of the 15-year Flood Alleviation Scheme was suggested as a feature of potential national interest.

RESOLVED

that the Community Engagement Manager will invite Councillors to submit ideas and content before work begins on each edition.

**CEWP/2025/31
RESOLVED**

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PRIORITIES

that the current and future priorities for community engagement will be sustainability, heritage, and enhancing the town's self-esteem.

CEWP/2025/32

FAIRTRADE COMMUNITY STATUS

The Working Party reviewed the Fairtrade Action Plan and to refer this to Group for further consideration regarding the Council's role.

RESOLVED

CEWP/2025/33

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor Cottam requested an update on the Changing Places toilet project and

RESOLVED

that the Community Engagement Manager will circulate an information pack and brief history of the project to the committee members.

CEWP/2025/34

ITEMS TO RECOMMEND TO F&GP

There were no items to report.

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CEWP/2025/25
RESOLVED

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

that the date of the next Community Engagement Working Party will be on
6th January 2026 at 7pm

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 20:32hrs