

Minutes of a Meeting of the Finance & Corporate Governance Committee held on Friday 24th October 2025 at 10.00am in the Council Meeting Room, Wem Library.

Present Councillors: B Barker (Chair), B Cotterall, P Johnson, L Gilchrist,
R Gascoigne, D Parry.
Mrs A Roberts (Responsible Finance Officer)

1. Apologies - to receive any apologies and reasons for absence.

The following apologies were noted:

Cllr P Broomhall, Cllr D Parry, Cllr M Hudson.

2. Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

a) Declaration of any disclosable pecuniary interest in a matter to be discussed at the meeting and which is not included in the register of interests.

None declared

b) To consider any applications for dispensation.

None received.

3. Committee Minutes - to approve as a correct record the minutes of a meeting of the Finance & Corporate Governance Committee held on 13.6.25

Resolved:- to approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Finance & Corporate Governance Committee held on 31.6.25 and they were duly signed by the chairman.

4. Progress Report – to note.

Resolved:- to note.

5. Accounts – 2025-26 2nd Quarter Budget Report for consideration

Resolved:- to accept the second quarter budget report.

6. Grants 2026-27

a. To consider the grant guidance for smaller contributions, including the £500 threshold

b. To consider the smaller grants budget for 2026-27

Resolved:- to recommend to Full Council that the grant guidance and £500 threshold remain unchanged and that the smaller grants budget should be increased to £4000.

7. 2026-27 budget

a. To consider the process for setting the budget.

Resolved:- the Finance and Corporate Governance Committee will meet every December to agree the Amenities budget for recommendation to Full Council.

8. Cyber Security Policy

Resolved:- to recommend that Full Council adopts the Cyber Security Policy

9. Financial Policies – to review

- a. Investment Policy

Resolved:- to approve the Investment Policy and recommend that the Mayor signs the document.

- b. Business Continuity

Resolved:- to recommend that Full Council approves the revised Business Continuity Plan

- c. Cash Handling Policy

Resolved:- to approve the Cash Handling Policy

- d. Reserves Strategy

Resolved:- to approve the Reserves Strategy

- e. Discretionary Pension Policy

Resolved:- to approve the Investment Policy and recommend that the Mayor signs the document.

10. Audit

- a. Conclusion of 2024-25 External Audit – noted
- b. To review the Internal Audit Action Plan and effectiveness of the system of internal audit.

Resolved:- to approve the Internal Audit Action Plan and review of the effectiveness of the System of Internal Audit

- c. To Approve the Audit Plan for the current year

Resolved:- to approve the 2025-26 Audit Plan

- d. Statement of Internal Controls, including process for dealing with invoices

Resolved:- to approve the Statement of Internal Controls

- e. To consider the process for appointing an internal auditor for the current year

Resolved: -to accept the recommendation of the RFO and seek competitive quotes for internal audit services in 2026-27.

11. Date and time of next meeting – to note.

Resolved:- to note that the next meeting will be held on 5th December 2025 at 10.00.

Meeting ended 11.09 am

Chairman.....