<u>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.</u>

<u>Present</u> 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

<u>Resolved</u>:- 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.

<u>Resolved</u>:- to note.

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

<u>Resolved</u>:- 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.

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

8. Cyber Security Policy

<u>Resolved</u>:- to recommend that Full Council adopts the Cyber Security Policy

9. Financial Policies – to review
a. Investment Policy

<u>Resolved</u>:- to approve the Investment Policy and recommend that the Mayor signs the document.

b. Business Continuity

<u>Resolved</u>:- to recommend that Full Council approves the revised Business Continuity Plan

c. Cash Handling Policy

<u>Resolved</u>:- to approve the Cash Handling Policy

d. Reserves Strategy

<u>Resolved</u>:- to approve the Reserves Strategy

e. Discretionary Pension Policy

<u>Resolved</u>: -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.

<u>Resolved</u>: -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

<u>Resolved</u>: -to approve the 2025-26 Audit Plan

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

<u>Resolved</u>: -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…………………………………………………