

**MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE WVCA HALL
ON WEDNESDAY 22nd JANUARY 2025**

Present: Cllrs: N Kirk (Chair), S Bangham, P O'Leary, V Perry & S Dyer (Clerk)

FIN/25/01 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

FIN/25/02 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Clerk gave an apology from Mark Dury, who cannot make the meeting due to family commitments, the apology was accepted.

**FIN/25/03 TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS UNDER
WHITCHURCH VILLAGE COUNCILS CODE OF CONDUCT
(ADOPTED ON 7th NOVEMBER 2012)**

No declarations.

**FIN/25/04 TO RECEIVE, CONSIDER AND GRANT ANY DISPENSATIONS
(FOR DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS)**

None.

**FIN/25/05 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE FINANCE MEETING HELD ON
11th SEPTEMBER 2024**

It was resolved that the minutes, previously circulated, were a true record of the above meeting and they were signed accordingly by N Kirk (Chair).

FIN/25/06 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON CiL & TREE PLANTING FUNDS HELD

The balance of CiL funds held is £99,393.08. It was discussed what some of the funding could be spent on. There is a strong possibility that the Scout Group will be approaching the Council for some funding towards repairing the Scout Hut, metal benches need to be purchased to be placed in Sleep Lane, more VAS signs to advertise the 20mph road restrictions, a wooden trail at the Playpark, extending the parish office & a defibrillator for outside the Community Centre.

Tree planting/maintenance of £6,610.63 will be used to water the trees until they are fully established, replace trees which have been damaged and on longer term maintenance.

**FIN/25/07 TO REVIEW THE RESERVES POLICY AND AGREE ANY
AMENDMENTS**

The Reserves Policy was reviewed, it was resolved to increase the Cemetery Reserves by £10,000.00 to £100,000 and the General Reserves to remain at £40,000.

- FIN/25/08 **TO NOTE THE RECOMMENDATION FROM THE
PLAYFIELD/CEMETERY/ALLOTMENT COMMITTEE REGARDING
BUDGET FIGURES AND FEES FROM 1st APRIL 2025**
The Playfield/Cemetery/Allotment Committee recommend that cemetery fees are increased by 3%, rounded up from 1st April 2025 and allotment fees stay the same. It was also agreed that cremation preparation fees are increased to £100.00.
Budget figures: -
Cemetery - £8,000.00
Playfield - £3,500.00
General Maintenance - £5,700.00
Allotments - £700.00
Total - £17,900.00
- FIN/25/09 **TO DISCUSS AND RECOMMEND CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FOR
2025/2026**
It was resolved that no capital expenditure is planned for the coming year.
- FIN/25/10 **TO CHECK THE BUDGET TO DATE, SET THE BUDGET FOR
2025/2026 AND AGREE THE PRECEPT TO BE RECOMMENDED TO
FULL COUNCIL**
The budget figures for 2024/2025 were reviewed and a new budget set for 2025/2026.
It was resolved to recommend the Precept is increased by 3% from £43,680.00 to £45,000.00. This will result in an annual increase of .92p on Band D property.

The meeting ended at 8.45 p.m.