



Minutes of the Finance Committee starting at 9:30 am on Tuesday, 21st April 2026 at Buxford Hall, Great Chart Playing Fields

Present: Cllrs Darvill (Chair), P Barker and Wiffen
Aniko Szocs (Clerk)

Meeting started at 09:30. am

1. Apologies

The committee received and approved apologies from Cllr Paul Tate & Cllr Ian McClintock

Proposed: Cllr P Barker	Seconded: Cllr Wiffen	Vote for: 3
Vote against: 0	Vote abstain: 0	Motion: Carried

2. Declarations of Interest

2.1. Disclosable Pecuniary Interest – None

2.2. Other Significant Interests –None

2.3. Other Interests – Items 4.1 & 4.3 Cllr Darvill and Cllr Wiffen

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 4th December 2025 were duly approved as a true record.

Proposed: Cllr P Barker	Seconded: Cllr Wiffen	Vote for: 3
Vote against: 0	Vote abstain: 0	Motion: Carried

4. Grant Application

4.1. Dreamdragons

The committee resolved to recommend that the full council approve the grant application, subject to the condition that the lights remain the property of the village hall.

Proposed: Cllr Malcolm	Seconded: Cllr P Barker	Vote for: 3
Vote against: 0	Vote abstain: 0	Motion: Carried

4.2. United Church Ashford

The committee resolved to recommend that the full council approve the grant application.

Proposed: Cllr Wiffen	Seconded: Cllr Darvill	Vote for: 3
Vote against: 0	Vote abstain: 0	Motion: Carried

4.3. Grow19

The committee resolved to recommend that the grant application be approved for the sum of £6,000, which covers the rent only and not the set-up costs.

Proposed: Cllr Wiffen	Seconded: Cllr Darvill	Vote for: 2
Vote against: 1	Vote abstain: 0	Motion: Carried

5. Finance

5.1. 2025-2026

The committee reviewed the budget lines for the 2025-2026 financial year and noted which lines would be carried forward, as well as those that were under or overspent. This highlighted the need to monitor spending closely in the coming year to minimise overspending. However, this may prove challenging if an emergency arises that requires additional expenditure. The Clerk will follow up on questions regarding some of the larger items of expenditure and was also reminded to be more consistent in recording items to the correct budget line.

The committee also discussed future banking arrangements, including opening additional bank accounts with better interest rates. It was agreed that the committee would consider transferring funds from the Dudley account to the Coventry Building Society, and moving funds currently held in the NatWest account to the Yorkshire Building Society. The committee also agreed to open an easy access account with a more favourable interest rate. The Clerk will look into this and report back at the full council meeting in May for information.

6. Date and Venue of next meeting

The next Finance Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, 13th May starting at 10:30 am at Great Chart Playing Fields, Buxford Pavilion.

The meeting closed at 10:45 am

Signed by:

Chair

Date: