



Minutes of a Meeting of the Finance Committee held in Committee Room, Alderholt Village Hall at 7.00pm on Monday 5th January 2026

Present: Cllr S Butler (Chairman), Cllr A Hibberd and Cllr G Logan

In attendance: Mrs N Ashton (Clerk) and 1 member of the public.

- 1/26 Welcome from the Chairman including housekeeping notices:**
Cllr Butler welcomed everyone to the meeting and pointed out emergency exits.
- 2/26 To receive and accept apologies for absence:**
Cllr Tooke was absent from the meeting.
- 3/26 To receive declarations of interest and/or consider the granting of dispensations:**
There were no declarations of interest or dispensation requests received.
- 4/26 To approve the Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 23rd June 2025:**
Members **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes as a correct record and they were signed by the Chairman.
- 5/26 Public Session:**
There were no questions or statements.
- 6/26 Clerks Report – FSCS increased from £85,000 to £120,000 on 1st December 2025:**
The Financial Services Compensation Scheme deposit protection has been increased to amount as stated.
- 7/26 To consider any Grant Applications received:**
Grant application received last year but applicant's deadline has passed for the funds requested.
- 8/26 Budget 2026/2027**
- i. To review current expenditure against budget and forecast of expenditure to end of financial year:**
The Clerk presented the figures showing current expenditure to date and estimated expenditure to year end and the estimated final bank balance at year end.
 - ii. To consider and agree the budget and precept requirement for 2026/2027 for submission to Full Council:**
Members **RESOLVED** to agree a budget of £110,089 and a precept requirement of £107,385.21 for submission to Full Council for approval. The annual charge for Band D would be £82.68 which represents an annual increase of £2.41 (3%).
 - iii. To review the earmarked reserves and agree any allocations for 2026/2027 for submission to Full Council:**
Members **RESOLVED** to retain earmarked reserves for Community Transport, Election Costs, future Neighbourhood Plan Review, future Asset Replacements and



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to earmark funds for the Big Alderholt Fete 2026 and funds for Land Registry Legal Costs. It was also agreed to transfer funds set aside for Wireless Microphone to the Future Asset Replacements budget heading as the project is not proceeding. Earmarked reserves will be reviewed again in March prior to the end of the financial year. It was agreed the estimated bank balance at year end and the allocation of earmark reserves will result in general reserves being held within the limits as stated in the General Reserves policy.

9/26 To review the following:

i. Risk Management

Review of the Risk Assessment document completed, no high risks identified which could impact the budget. Reference to the FSCS will need amending prior to submission to Full Council for annual review.

ii. Internal Controls

The Internal Audit which took place in October and as reported at the November Full Council meeting stated that the internal control procedures in operation are adequate to meet the needs of the Council. Review of Practitioners Guide completed to ensure compliance with Assertion 2 of the AGAR, agreed a new document/policy be compiled to assist with internal controls compliance.