Mrs J Nolan
Clerk to the Council

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Minutes of the meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held at Ackworth Parish Council, Bell Labe, Ackworth, on Monday 21st September 2026 @ 7.30PM

Attendance
Cllr Sarah Balfour – Chair
Cllr John Bell
Cllr Suzy Sherratt
Cllr Nathan Bland

Clerk: J Nolan
0 Members of the Public Present

1. Apologies **1.1** To receive apologies for absence given in advance of the meeting **1.2** To consider the approval of reasons given for absence
1.1 Apologies were **RECEIVED** in respect of Cllrs Roberts & Maiden. **1.2** The committee had considered and **APPROVED** the reason given by Cllrs Roberts & Maiden.
2. Declarations of Interests and Dispensations **2.1** To receive any declarations of interest not already declared under the Council's Code of conduct or a member's Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests on items on the agenda **2.2** To receive, consider and decide upon any written applications for dispensation for disclosable pecuniary interest **2.3** To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate
2.1/2.2/2.3 None to **RECEIVE.**
3. To note the minutes for the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting held on 22nd June 2026.
3.1 The minutes had previously been circulated. The committee **NOTED** the meeting minutes as not quorate.
4. To receive the internal checks and reconciliation for Q1 April to June 2026.
4.1 The internal checks were **RECEIVED.**
5. To consider this Council's investment policy and any future banking requirements and make recommendation.
5.1 Two wording amends were proposed by the Clerk to the existing policy which were; • 3.4 change of 12 months to 24 months • 4.3 3% to 4%

It was **RECOMMENDED** by the committee that these changes are **APPROVED**.

The Clerk raised a further two areas for review consideration;

1. A requirement for a Financial Services Compensation Scheme Review given the total monies held with HSBC
2. Requirement for an additional employee (administrator) be added to the bank account to set up payments and alleviate process blockers in the dual authorisation payment process

It was **RECOMMENDED** by the committee that a report is present to Full Council to review the current banking arrangements under the Financial Services Compensation Scheme as a separate agenda item on a future Council meeting.

It was **RECOMMENDED** by the committee that the Administrator role is set up with access to load payments to the system only but not authorise. The Deputy Clerk or the Clerk remain the only employees with the access level to authorise a bank transaction.

6. To note a supplier name change from Metta Media Ltd to Ledja Ltd.

6.1 The change was **NOTED.**

7. To note the change of mobile phone provider from Three to Vodafone.

7.1 The change was **NOTED**.

Cllr S Sherratt arrived 19:45

8. To receive the Legionella Risk Assessment reports and make recommendation.

8.1 The Legionella Risk Assessment reports had been previously circulated to members.

It was **RECOMMENDED** that the Clerk is delegated authority to action the remedial recommendations as included within the report (including authorising individual items up to £500 exc VAT) and to bring an update back to the next meeting of this committee.

9. To receive the Fire Risk Assessment reports and make recommendation.

9.1 The Fire Risk Assessment reports had been previously circulated to members.

It was **RECOMMENDED** that the Clerk is delegated authority to action the remedial recommendations as included within the report (including authorising individual items up to £500 exc VAT) and to bring an update back to the next meeting of this committee.

10. To consider items for inclusion in the 2027/28 budget and make recommendation to Council.

10.1 The committee discussed and agreed there were no items at this time to be added.

11. TO CONSIDER FOR APPROVAL THAT THE PRESS AND THE PUBLIC BE EXCLUDED FROM THE REMAINDER OF THE MEETING ON THE GROUNDS THAT PUBLICITY WOULD BE PREJUDICIAL TO THE CONFIDENTAIL NATURE OF THE BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED ON THE FOLLOWING AGENDA ITEMS. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETING ACT 1960)

11.1 It was **AGREED** to move to the private section of the meeting on the below agenda items.

12. To receive quotes for a hearing amplifier device for the Council room and make recommendation.

12.1 It was **AGREED** that more research into devices was required and that Cllr Balfour would support.

13. To receive quotes for a replacement boot scrapper at Carr Bridge and make recommendation.

13.1 It was **RECOMMENDED** that funding is continued to be sought and if unsuccessful a boot scrapper is purchased after 31st October 2026 from budget funds. The boot scrapper selected was the Forza Pro Boot Wiper at a cost of £299.99.

14. To begin an initial discussion regarding the Ackworth Quarries public open space in relation to legal title restrictions to eligible properties regarding grounds maintenance.
14.1 A discussion took place. It was **AGREED** that the Clerk would compile a report on the discussion had, including the committee's recommendation for these to be presented to Full Council as part of a future Council agenda item.

Time Closed: 20:30