WIRKSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Finance, Buildings and Personnel Committee held 9 November 2026

FBP26/42 Present: Cllr A Clamp (Chairman), Cllr A Jordan , Cllr S Spencer, Cllr Thompson and Cllr C Whittall
In attendance: Sue Gratton Kennell (Deputy Town Clerk), Paul Jennings (Town Clerk)

FBP26/43 Apologies for Absence: Cllr E McDonagh

FBP26/44 Variation in Order of Business: None

FBP26/45 Members' Pecuniary Interests in Agenda Items: Cllr Thompson - Personal interests in items 10, 11 Community Grant and Community Meeting Space requests as a member of Wirksworth Safer Roads Group.

FBP26/46 Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting of the Finance, Buildings and Personnel Committee dated 12 October 2026 were confirmed as a correct record.

FBP26/47 Monthly Budget Balance
To consider whether to apply any budget accruals into the new financial year.

REC that the matter be noted

FBP26/48 Occasional Letting
To review H1 actual revenue and anticipated bookings to assess the impact on the budget.

REC that the letting budget be amended for 2027-28 to reflect a more achievable target (TH £21000, MH £15500).
That the concessionary let policy be reviewed at future FB&P meeting.

FBP26/49 Memorial Hall Floor
A recommendation has been made to consider assigning budget for the repair of the Memorial Hall Floor (est £10000).

REC that council budget £10000 for repair of the Memorial Hall floor in 2027/28.

FBP26/50 Budget and Precept 2027-28
To consider any issues that should be considered or included in the budget.

REC to achieve a balance budget that a precept of £280000 is required (which includes provision for MH floor but no change to existing contingency fund nor provision of funding for SIDS).

Cllr Jordan dep 8:00pm; Cllr Thompson abstained from voting in the next 2 items (personal interest)

FBP26/51 Community Grant

Wirksworth Safer Roads Group (Speed Watch) have requested a grant of £531 to purchase equipment to undertake speed watch sessions (the group are currently borrowing Middleton's Community Speed Watch Group equipment).

REC that the council pledge up to £200 towards the costs of purchasing equipment (representing 40% of grant budget for 2026-27). The group will need to seek other funding sources to meet the difference.

FBP26/52 Community Meeting Space Request

Application made by Wirksworth Safer Roads Group requesting meeting space under the community meetings space scheme.

REC that the council agree to 6 further meetings across 12 months (under the terms of the Concessionary Meeting Space Scheme). Given that the group has now been in place for 2 years, it should be encouraged to establish a separate constitution (rather than operating under the umbrella of Grassroots).

FBP26/53 Town Hall Maintenance

Update on issues at the Town Hall (Flooring, Roof, Heating and general repair/safety issues)

REC that it be noted that the work to the Town Hall Floor has been completed. Heating in the building remain out of commission awaiting further repair works. The clerk to investigate possible solutions/proposal that might address the longer-term viability of the heating system. An area of the stage has been cordoned off due to safety concerns from loose plaster in the roof.
The repair to the main hall roof has been agreed and is now awaiting dates for the works to commence.

FBP26/54 Grounds Maintenance

At present, the Town Council uses the services of 4 contractors on an annual basis to service outside spaces (The Meadows, Kingsfield Play Area, Washgreen Play area, Stoney Wood and Footpaths).

REC that the clerk seek contractors/tenders for the works.

FBP26/55 Kingsfield Play Area

Maintenance and repair works have now been completed on the equipment (addressing issues identified in the Annual Independent Inspection)

REC that matter be noted.

FBP26/56 Staffing Matters
Provide an update on staffing issues.

REC that matter be noted.

FBP26/57 Clerk's Time Sheet
July - September 2026, to be signed by the Chair

REC that the clerk had accrued 26 hours of TOIL in the period to September 2026.

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm Chairman