

**MINUTES OF THE WELLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL POLICY & FINANCE
COMMITTEE HELD AT UNITED REFORM CHURCH HALL ON MONDAY 13
OCTOBER 2025 AT 6.00 PM**

Present: Councillor M Lithgow (Chair)
Councillors C Booth (from minute 264), J Cole, A Govier, J
Lloyd, C Penk, J Thorne, K Wheatley

In attendance: Alice Kendall – Democratic Services & Finance Manager
Wasif Choudhury – Democratic Services & Finance Officer
One member of the press
Representative of NHS Armed Forces (for minute 265)

259 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors S Pringle-Kosikowsky.

260 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors A Govier and J Lloyd have a standing personal interest declaration relating to MTMIT, the Council's IT consultant, being former customers of the company.

Councillor Thorne has a standing personal interest declaration relating to MTMIT, the Council's IT consultant, being a friend of the company owner.

261 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public in attendance.

262 MINUTES

RESOLVED to approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 11 August 2025.

263 ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS

**(a) TO NOTE AND APPROVE THE BANK RECONCILIATION AS AT 6
OCTOBER (attached)**

RESOLVED to approve the bank reconciliation.

**(b) TO NOTE AND APPROVE EXPENDITURE FOR 6 AUGUST – 6
OCTOBER (attached)**

RESOLVED to approve the expenditure.

**(c) TO NOTE AND APPROVE INCOME RECEIVED 6 AUGUST – 6
OCTOBER (attached)**

RESOLVED to approve income.

(d) TO NOTE AND APPROVE THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE AGAINST THE BUDGET FOR THE 2025-26 YEAR AS AT 6 OCTOBER (attached)

RESOLVED to note and approve the budget report.

It was **AGREED** that Council Officers should review best practices for how expenditure is reported to committees and the contract for the window cleaning of the Council offices should be changed given the supplier's previous links with the Council (former Councillor).

At this juncture, Councillor C Booth joined the meeting.

264 PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDERS

It was **RESOLVED** to note the paper with no further action.

265 Q3 GRANTS

- i. NHS Somerset - Armed Forces Outreach - £500

It was **RESOLVED** to suspend standing orders to allow representative of NHS Armed Forces Outreach to answer questions.

It was **RESOLVED** to resume standing orders.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the grant application of £500.

- ii. Kiera Chard – Christmas at the Well - £250

Councillors were supportive of this event, however, it was confirmed that the Grants Policy does not allow grants to be provided to individuals so it would not be possible to approve this application.

Councillors confirmed that they would like to support the event through separate means to the grant policy.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve Council Officers to support this event up to a cost of £150.

266 STATEMENT OF INTERNAL CONTROL

RESOLVED to defer this item for two months until the review of expenditure reporting is completed.

267 SCHEDULE OF FEES & CHARGES

RESOLVED to approve.

268 SCHEDULE OF DIRECT DEBITS & STANDING ORDERS

RESOLVED to approve.

269 COUNCILLOR ALLOWANCES

A paper was circulated for consideration which included the findings of the last Paris Independent Remuneration Panel.

It was **RESOLVED** to recommend to Full Council that the Councillors' Basic Allowance be increased to £807.78, with the additional payment to the Mayor/Chairman remaining at an additional 50% (£403.39).

270 INTERIM INTERNAL AUDIT

Agreed to note the report.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 18:55pm

Signed

Date