

**MINUTES OF THE WELLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL POLICY & FINANCE
COMMITTEE HELD AT UNITED REFORM CHURCH HALL ON MONDAY 10
NOVEMBER 2025 AT 6.00 PM**

Present: Councillor M Lithgow (Chair)
Councillors C Booth, J Cole, A Govier, J Lloyd, C Penk, S
Pringle-Kosikowski, J Thorne

In attendance: Dave Farrow – Town Clerk/CEO
Alice Kendall – Democratic Services & Finance Manager
(DFSM)
Wasif Choudhury – Democratic Services & Finance Officer
Councillor G Williams
One member of the press

323 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor K Wheatley.

324 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.

325 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public in attendance.

326 MINUTES

RESOLVED to approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 13 October 2025.

327 ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS

**(a) TO NOTE AND APPROVE THE BANK RECONCILIATION AS AT 4
NOVEMBER**

RESOLVED to approve the bank reconciliation.

**(b) TO NOTE AND APPROVE EXPENDITURE FOR 6 OCTOBER – 4
NOVEMBER**

RESOLVED to approve the expenditure.

**(c) TO NOTE AND APPROVE INCOME RECEIVED 6 OCTOBER – 4
NOVEMBER**

RESOLVED to approve income.

(d) TO NOTE AND APPROVE THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE AGAINST THE BUDGET FOR THE 2025-26 YEAR AS AT 4 NOVEMBER

RESOLVED to note and approve the budget report.

(e) TO NOTE RESERVE BALANCES AS AT 4 NOVEMBER

RESOLVED to note and approve the reserve balances.

328 26/27 BUDGET

At this juncture, Council J Cole arrived at the meeting.

The DSFM delivered a brief presentation on the draft budget and precept figures that have been calculated as per the budget report, with each cost centre examined thoroughly which was noted.

There was some discussion on how to allocate staff costs. Councillor J Thorne was in favour of having a dedicated cost centre. After much discussion, it was **AGREED** that it is more visible to see them within each department (as presented) as this best illustrates the spending across the Council's activities.

It was **AGREED** that the Community and Environment Committees should make a final review of their draft budgets at the November meetings to ensure there is provision to achieve plans for next year. Any updates to the draft to be made via recommendation to Full Council and the DSFM will update the draft accordingly before final circulation.

DSFM will review Business Rates forecast for Fore Street cost centre.

It was agreed that costs involved with locking the playing field and toilets should be reviewed in the next year, bearing in mind efficiencies that can be brought by the implementation of other projects. For example, making sure doors on toilets are upgraded to a time locking system during any possible refurbishment.

It was **RESOLVED** to remove Deputy Mayor Expenses line from the Cost of Democracy cost centre as any expenses would be met by the Members Travelling code.

It was **RESOLVED** to recommend to Full Council the proposals outlined in the draft budget papers presented, pending any updates for draft 2 from the Committees.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 19:55pm

Signed

Date