

Minutes of a Meeting of the Finance Committee on Monday 24th November 2025 in Charvil Village Hall at 8pm

Present Katrin Harding, (Chair), Matt Walker, Jane Hartley, and Lee Cripps

Apologies for Absence

Absent

25/118 OPEN FORUM - an opportunity for residents to raise urgent matters of concern – no residents were present.

25/119 To Approve the Minutes from the meeting on 12th May 2025

It was resolved to approve these, which was passed unanimously.

25/120 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND ANY WRITTEN REQUESTS FOR PECUNIARY INTERESTS IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE CLERK – there were no declarations of interest.

25/121 Resolution to exclude members of the press and public due to the confidential nature of the following agenda items – This was unanimously approved.

25/122 To consider the draft budget figures for the full council and to consider what possible extra-ordinary items of expenditure should be included for next year

The first pass was acceptable, although after some discussion, it was agreed that once possible items for extra-ordinary expenditure have been identified over the next few weeks, this would be added to the Village Improvements budget. It was also agreed to increase the budget for professional services to £4.5k in case of employing a planning consultant.

25/123 To consider what longer term items should funds be built up for in the coming years

Some items will be added to this as a result of the strategic plan, but in terms of expensive long term maintenance items, the following were identified and should be included: the replacement of the village hall floor sometime between 20207 and 2030; the fencing around the East Park Farm playing field, which will need some thought as to what is required; some maintenance fund for the East Park Farm car park; and building up a fund to modernise the playground at St Patrick's Recreation Ground.

25/124 To consider the staff pay grade increases for 2026-27 this impacts the budget

All staff are likely to go up a pay grade, assuming a satisfactory appraisal, which equates to 1.5 to 1.6% increase in pay. Added to this, there will be a nationally negotiated increase sometime next year, which is likely to be around inflation, and one post has been increased by a pay grade from December. All this needs to be accounted for in the staff budgets.

25/125 To note that the Bank Statements should be checked before the next Full Council meeting

The clerk will ask Councillor A'Bear to do this before the next Council meeting.

The meeting ended at 9pm