

WHITTLESEY TOWN COUNCIL -Finance & Policy Committee

Minutes of meeting held on Monday 16th March 2026 at 6:00pm at Peel House, 8 Queen Street, Whittlesey, PE7 1AY.

Present: Councillors Boden, Dorling, Laws (arrived at 6.20pm), Mockett, and Wicks.

Officer in attendance: Miss Angelika Piotrowicz- Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer.

Recording: A recording is made as an aide memoir for the minutes

FP121/2026. To receive apologies from absent members and the reason for the absence.

Councillor Arman- Work.
Councillor Nawaz- Private.
Councillor Singh- Private

FP122/2026. To receive members' declarations of disclosable pecuniary, non-disclosable pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in relation to any agenda items discussed later in the agenda.

- No declarations.

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FP123/2026. To confirm and sign the minutes from the Finance & Policy Committee held on Monday 16th February 2026.

Councillor Wicks proposed the minutes, seconded by Councillor Mockett.

- **Councillor Boden signed the minutes as a true record.**

FP124/2026.Public Forum

To allow any member of the public to address the council. Time allowed 15 minutes in total to be split equally between the total amount wishing to speak.

6 members of the public present.

Robert Windle- Speaks regarding the Whittlesey Sports association booklet. The booklet is available in hard copy and online. Online edition can be updated with changes. Mr Windle asks the council if they wish to support the booklet as they did last year. Mr Windle also discusses the trial of a cheap method to improve audibility in the council chamber.

FP125/2026 Financials.

1. Bank Reconciliations to 31st January 2026.

2. Year-to-Date Figures

3. Payment List for Approval

- Bank reconciliations do not include two items: Metro Bank and Monmouthshire Bank, due to not being able to reconcile them as some documentation wasn't available.
- Pensions figure is up to the end of January and doesn't include the current Town Clerks pension. This is because it took time to sort out with Standard Life. The pension for the Town Clerk is now up to date and will be a regular monthly payment.
- The payment list from vouchers 226 to voucher 262. The total gross amount is £14,568.21.
- **Councillor Dorling proposes vouchers 226 to 262 for approval, seconded by Councillor Mockett.**
- **Recommended to Full Council**

CP Boden

FP126/2026 Agenda Items for discussion.

1. Internal auditor

- The current internal auditor will not be doing audits this year.
- The Clerk should approach neighbouring Parish and Town Councils for recommendations.
- The Clerk to get a couple of different options for consideration at the next Finance and Policy meeting.

2. Tender process

- Councillor Mockett still in the process to produce relevant information. This will be discussed another time.

3. MVAS report from Councillor Mockett

- Councillor Mockett is still in the process to compose relevant documentation regarding MVAS. This will be discussed another time.

4. Potential HGV restrictions on part of Drybread Road

- Councillor Boden mentioned a new director has been appointed to the County Council.
- This will be on the new director's agenda to move forward.
- Carry this agenda item forward to the next Finance and Policy meeting.

5. Update on cleaning contract- BW

- The trial period for the cleaning contract is until the 31st of March.
- Carry this agenda item forward to the next Finance and Policy meeting.

6. Update of EPC from Property Working Group - for budgetary consideration

- The update has been parked for now as agreed previously.

7. Update in use of Council chamber for Stephen Rice (Saxon Pit) and any cost implications.

- Stephen Rice has requested to use the council chamber.
- The charge to use the chamber is £10 an hours.
- This meeting is for the formation of a liaison group concerning the recycling materials.
- The Town Council needs to agree on who will be on the liaison group. – this will go to Full Council.

8. Water charges for Office property and allotments -Clerk

- There are ongoing issues with the water charges for the office property and allotments.
- The Town Council are in debit with Wave and the Clerk is trying to obtain an invoice.

9. Impact of any charges associated with the Volunteer Fair -ED

- A volunteer fair was held, with 51 attendees and 75 expressions of interest in volunteering.
- Seven people signed up on the day.
- The event cost £60 for printing flyers, paid by Whittlesey Town Council.
- There was discussions about the process for authorizing such expenses in the future.
- The organizer spoke about the possibility of using the yard outside and under the tunnel for future events.
- They would like to put another event together for June time.
- It was also discussed see what groups people have signed up for, and get back in contact with them months later down the line to see if they are still in those same groups.

Councillor Boden suspended standing orders so that Mr Windle can speak.

- Mr Windle spoke.
- **Standing orders resumed**
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FP127/2026. Additional Information.

- No additional information.

FP128/2026. Donation Requests.

CP Boden

- **Grant application- Whittlesey Sports Association**
- There are two options for supporting the magazine that were presented: 2,500 copies or 3,500 copies.
- The magazine has been well received in the community.
The Mayor endorsed the recommendation for the higher figure (3,500).
The magazine is distributed in other towns, and other mayors expressed interest in similar publication.
- **Suspend standing orders**

Councillor Laws- inquired if the previous year's quantity of guidebooks had been fully distributed,

Robert Windle- said yes.

- **Standing orders resumed.**
- Councillor Wicks does not agree with the amount of copies.

Councillor Dorling proposed to go with the higher amount which is 3,500 copies for £1,500, seconded by Councillor Mockett. 4 in favour, 1 abstention.

This application will be recommended to Full Council

Grant application- Whittlesey Festival

An application for £6,000 was submitted for the Whittlesey Festival.

- The council is determining how £6,000 fits within the budget, especially since it's near the end of the financial year.
- The funding request is an increase from £5,000 last year.

Standing orders suspended.

Jenny Parker- explained all the questions raised by councillors regarding how that cost is split.

Robert Windle- wanted to let everyone know the scale of the event.

Standing orders resumed.

Councillor Laws proposed to approve the Whittlesey Festival Grant Application for £6,000, seconded by Councillor Mockett.

This grant application is recommended to Full Council.

- **FP129/2026. Date of next meeting – Monday 13th April 2026 at 6.00pm.**

FP130/2026– Exclusion of the press & public Pursuant to section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act, it is resolved that, due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and press leave the meeting during consideration of items to be discussed.

Meeting Closed 6.55pm



Councillor Boden

Chairman

Finance and Policy

