



**Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee
Wednesday 26 February 2025
7.30pm**

Present: Cllrs Craig Gale (Vice Chairman in the Chair), Paul Berry and Steve Thomas.

In Attendance

G Burt, Clerk to the Council

18/25 Chairman's Announcements.

The Chairman advised

1. That the meeting was being streamed to the internet.
2. That Cllrs wishing to speak should raise their hand and speak loudly and clearly.
3. Mobile phones should either be switched off or silenced.

19/25 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Edna Benger, Phillip Day and Craig Jones for approved reasons. On the proposal of Cllr Craig Gale, seconded by Cllr Paul Berry, **RESOLVED** that the apologies and reasons given be accepted.

No apologies: Jeremy Harris

20/25 Declaration of Interests and notification of change to members' interests.

Cllr Paul Berry declared a pecuniary interest in Min 24/25 as his wife is an employee of the Council.

21/25 Public Session (Members of the Public may speak for up to 3 minutes at the discretion of the Chairman).

None

22/25 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 29 January 2025, previously circulated, were taken as read. On the proposal of Cllr Steve Thomas, seconded by Cllr Paul Berry that the minutes be approved and signed as a correct record accordingly.

23/25 Clerk's Report

None

24/25 To Approve Payments and Note Receipts for January 2025.

As the meeting would have become inquorate due to Cllr Paul Berry having to leave the room, this item was DEFERRED.

25/25 To Note Bank Reconciliations.

The following Bank Reconciliations were NOTED. (The corresponding statements were then initialled by Cllr Craig Gale).

Cashbook 1 to 31/01/2025 - Appendix B

Cashbook 3 to 31/01/2025 - Appendix C

26/25 To review and ratify current Direct Debits and Standing Orders etc.

On the proposal of Cllr Craig Gale, seconded by Cllr Paul Berry, **RESOLVED** that the Direct Debits, Standing Orders and other automated payments as tabled be approved.

27/25 To consider grant application from St Catherine's Hospice.

On the proposal of Cllr Steve Thomas, seconded by Cllr Paul Berry, **RESOLVED** that £400 be awarded to St Catherine's Hospice under s137 LGA 1972.

28/25 To consider request for sponsorship of firework display by BSRA

The Council had budgeted £2,000 for this in year 2025-26 as it felt that it was an important village event; it had been cancelled the previous year due to insufficient sponsorship and Cllrs felt this was one way which the Council could support it. On the proposal of Cllr Craig Gale, seconded by Cllr Steve Thomas, **RESOLVED** that the annual fireworks at Jubilee Fields be sponsored in 2025 by way of £2,000 under s145 LGA 1972.

29/25 To consider proposal from Cllr Craig Gale that the Council works towards having Mission and Vision Statements.

Cllr Craig Gale considered that the Council would benefit from Mission and Vision Statements and presented a proposal for discussion. Trevor Leggo, the CEO of WSALC could assist with a free visioning exercise. It was felt that it had merit as it would guide the Council's future direction. It should however be not too wordy, easy to use and be reviewed regularly. On the proposal of Cllr Craig Gale, seconded by Cllr Steve Thomas, **RECOMMEND** to Council that it undertakes steps to having Mission and Vision Statements accordingly.

30/25 Date of Next Meeting – Wednesday 26 March 2025.

The meeting closed at 7.49pm.

Chairman

Date

<u>Bank Statement Account Name (s)</u>	<u>Statement Date</u>	<u>Page</u>	<u>Balances</u>
Current Account	31/01/2025		227,876.64
Business Reserve Account	31/01/2025		0.00
Treasury Reserve Deposit	31/01/2025		420,186.99
Unity Bank	31/01/2025		494.21
			<hr/> 648,557.84

<u>Unpresented Payments (Minus)</u>	<u>Amount</u>
11/10/2024 13564 Mulberry Local Authority Servi	1,092.60
18/12/2024 013584 West Sussex County Council	19,295.91
18/12/2024 013585 Ballpoint Office Supplies Ltd	145.87
18/12/2024 013587 SGW Safety & Security Ltd	1,500.00
18/12/2024 013591 WorkNest Ltd	1,543.80
18/12/2024 013592 Keith Atherfold	45.00
18/12/2024 013593 West Sussex County Council	19,295.91
24/01/2025 013595 Billingshurst Comm. & Conf. Ce	16,191.80
24/01/2025 013596 SE Landbased Training Courses	594.00
24/01/2025 013597 West Sussex County Council	28,309.18
24/01/2025 013598 Surrey Hills Solicitors LLP	300.00
24/01/2025 013599 Deacon Asset Management	20.00
24/01/2025 013601 Fowlers Estate Agents	20.00
24/01/2025 013602 Meadows Wellbeing	20.00
24/01/2025 013603 Hayman Hospitality Ltd	20.00
24/01/2025 013605 Keen Consultants	4,740.00
24/01/2025 013606 SGW Safety & Security Ltd	1,500.00
24/01/2025 013607 NALC	360.00
24/01/2025 013608 Progression Signage & Display	102.00
24/01/2025 013609 Arthur J Gallagher Insurance B	390.39
28/01/2025 013610 West Sussex County Council	19,295.91
	<hr/> 114,782.37
	533,775.47

<u>Unpresented Receipts (Plus)</u>	<u>Amount</u>
	0.00
	<hr/> 0.00
	533,775.47
Balance per Cash Book is :-	533,775.47
Difference is :-	0.00

Signatory 1:

Name Signed Date

Signatory 2:

Name Signed Date

<u>Bank Statement Account Name (s)</u>	<u>Statement Date</u>	<u>Page</u>	<u>Balances</u>
Bonus Saver Account	31/01/2025		191,996.25
			<u>191,996.25</u>
<u>Unpresented Payments (Minus)</u>		<u>Amount</u>	
		0.00	
			<u>0.00</u>
			191,996.25
<u>Unpresented Receipts (Plus)</u>			
		0.00	
			<u>0.00</u>
			191,996.25
		Balance per Cash Book is :-	191,996.25
		Difference is :-	0.00

Signatory 1:

Name Signed Date

Signatory 2:

Name Signed Date