



NEWPORT & CARISBROOKE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF NEWPORT & CARISBROOKE COMMUNITY COUNCIL'S FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 19th JANUARY 2026, COMMENCING AT 6:15PM AT 64 HIGH STREET NEWPORT.

Members Present: Cllrs A Garratt (Chair), R Harrington-Vail (Vice-Chair), V Lowthion, T. Verrinder.

Also in attendance: Cllrs Shaw & Rushbrook.

RFO: Victoria Wright

Acting Clerk: Bob Blezzard

Public Questions - None

32/26	<u>Apologies for Absence</u> Apologies were received from Cllrs Esteban & Martin
33/26	<u>Declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests.</u> Cllr Garratt declared a non-pecuniary interest in matters relating to IOW Council as an Isle of Wight councillor. Cllr Harrington-Vail declared a non-pecuniary interest in matters relating to Community Action as a trustee.
34/26	<u>Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising.</u> Members were presented with the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 15 th December 2025. <u>RESOLVED:</u> THAT, the minutes of the finance committee meeting held on 15th December 2025 be unanimously agreed and signed as an accurate record. Matters arising – None.
35/26	<u>Finance</u> Members received the payments list to 31 st December 2025.

	<p><u>RESOLVED:</u> THAT, the payments list to 31st December be noted.</p> <p>Members received the balance sheet to 31st December 2025.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> THAT, the balance sheet for December 2025 be noted & signed.</p> <p>Members received the income and expenditure report to 31st December 2025.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> THAT, the income and expenditure report to 31st December 2025 be noted.</p>
36/26	<p><u>Grant Application from IOW Venue Campaign</u></p> <p>Due to a previous application received and an award given in September 2025 members were not supportive of this application.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> THAT, a grant award is not awarded to the IOW Venue Campaign.</p>
37/26	<p><u>Budget 2026/27</u></p> <p><u>Councillor Budget Bids</u></p> <p><u>Parks Officer.</u> A lengthy discussion was had by members regarding the role and need for a parks officer. Members were supportive of the role in principle with the following points made. To reduce the Public Realm Officer Service (Environment Officer) down to one day a week to cover the areas that the Parks Officer will not, they will also continue with their statutory duties, this role will cost approximately £8,759 per year. It was proposed that the Parks Officer bid be renamed Parks & Environment Service with a reduced first-year budget of £46,700 down to £23,350. This being a 6-month cost initially to set the job specification, consult with existing staff and the recruitment process. The combined total of these services will be approximately £32,109. The sum allocated in the draft budget is £36,500 which will remain the same. The budget line 4800/600 Environment Officer to be renamed Parks & Environment Service. It was agreed that these amendments would mean that a separate Parks Officer budget bid of £46,700 would not be needed.</p> <p><u>Simeon Green Improvements</u> Members were supportive of a reduced budget of £1,800 as a start for these works.</p> <p><u>Youth Provision</u> A discussion took place regarding youth service, and it was agreed to top up the existing Youth Provision Growth budget of £3,290 to £8,000 and set aside in an EMR for future use.</p>

	<p><u>Youth Provision (Port Project)</u> Cllr Lowthion provided a brief update on the Port Project since the presentation at the Full Council meeting on 12th January. The bid of £10,000 was agreed for inclusion in the budget to be proposed to Full Council on 9th February noting that it may be amended on the night.</p> <p><u>Shaping Newport</u> A proposal of £20,000 was agreed to present to full council.</p> <p><u>Dog Bins</u> It was noted that the bins are not NCCC assets and therefore will not be supported within the draft budget. However, if further supporting information is provided by Cllr Price before the full council meeting in February the bid could be reinstated.</p> <p><u>Fairlee Hole</u> Members were reminded of an existing EMR labelled Emergency Wardens which contains £2,229. It was agreed to top this budget up to £3,000 and rename it Flooding & Resilience. This will allow a small pot of money that can support flooding issues.</p> <p><u>Heritage Society</u> Due to the Heritage Society not requesting any additional funds for 2026/27 this budget bid was not agreed.</p> <p><u>Additional staff member / Apprentice</u> A proposal of £20,000 will be presented to full council for an apprentice at 64 High Street. This will be for roughly 2/3 of a year's cost with the full cost being included within the staffing budget for 2027/28.</p>
38/26	<p><u>Members' Questions</u></p> <p>None</p>
39/26	<p><u>Next Agenda</u></p> <p>None</p>
40/26	<p><u>Next Meeting</u></p> <p>The next meeting of Newport & Carisbrooke Community Council's Finance Committee will take place on Monday 16th March 2026 at 64 High Street Newport commencing at 10am.</p>

Signed By:

Chair/Vice-Chair

Date: