

Minutes for the Meeting of Finance and Assets Committee
held at Exeter Hall on Thursday 23 October 2025 at 6.30pm

Present: Cllr Nik Soheili (Chair), Cllr Dave Kanonuwa (Vice-Chair), Cllr Lesley Mclean, and Cllr Ian Middleton, Cllr Alison Street, Cllr Robert Packard, Cllr David Robey, Cllr Fiona Mason, Cllr Phil Wyse, Cllr William Easdown Babbs, Cllr Doug Williamson, Cllr Melanie Moorhouse

In Attendance: Clerk – Sarah Kearney, and Facilities Manager – Graham Kearney

Apologies: Cllr David Betts, Cllr Linda Ward and RFO – Laura Pike

25/60 To receive Councillors' Apologies for Absence - Councillors who are unable to attend the meeting should notify the Clerk prior to the meeting.
The Finance and Asset Committee unanimously **RESOLVED** and accepted the apologies from Cllr David Betts, Cllr Linda Ward and RFO – Laura Pike

25/61 To Record Members' Declarations of Interest regarding the Agenda Items -
To receive any requests for Dispensations or Declarations of Interest from Councillors relating to items on the agenda, in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct, and to note any gifts and hospitality
Nothing to declare

25/62 Public Participation - Public participation is limited to 10 minutes in total. Members of the public may make only one address to the Council of no more than five minutes' duration and only concerning topics on the agenda.
Nobody attended

25/63 To Approve and Sign the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 23 October 2025
The Finance & Asset Committee unanimously **RESOLVED** that the minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting and were signed by Chair Cllr Soheili.

25/64 Governance:
Nothing to report

25/64 Financial Report – to receive a report on the account status to date – update

- 64.1 **Budget Monitoring for December 2025** – to consider any overspends
The Finance & Asset Committee unanimously **RESOLVED** and agreed to the Budget Monitoring figures for November 2025
- 64.2 **Invoices Payments for Nov/Dec 2025** – to acknowledge the invoices, schedule payments

The Finance & Asset Committee acknowledged the payments, and these were signed off by one of the Councillors

64.3 **Exeter Close Tree Project** – to consider and approve

The Finance & Asset Committee unanimously **RESOLVED** and approve the project's cost.

64.4 **Pavilion Floor** – update from Facilities Manager

The Facilities Manager reported that a section of the Pavilion floor is rotten due to damp rising through it. The insurance company was contacted, investigated the situation, and issued a report confirming that the damage is caused by ground moisture and is therefore not covered by insurance.

The Facilities Manager has obtained three quotes: one company would carry out the work but would not investigate the source of the water; a second company would complete the work and investigate the cause; the third company declined the work.

The Finance & Assets Committee agreed to evaluate the quotes and the report before deciding on the appropriate course of action. The report, quotes, and a note from the Facilities Manager will be circulated to Councillors so the matter can be considered at the next meeting for approval.

25/65 Budgets for 2026/27 – to consider and agree

Members of the Finance & Assets Committee, along with other Parish Councillors, attended the meeting to review the 2026/27 Budget and raise any concerns or queries requiring clarification. This resulted in a productive and constructive discussion, which all Councillors found extremely helpful.

Once all questions had been answered and Members were satisfied, Cllr N. Soheili recommended a 4% precept increase from last year, to be formally approved at the Extraordinary Full Parish Council Meeting.

Cllr David Robey asked that it be minuted that the Clerk and RFO had done an excellent job in preparing the budget, keeping Councillors fully informed throughout the process, and congratulated them both on their work.

The Finance & Assets Committee also discussed the dividends received from the CCLA investments. Members agreed that, going forward, dividends from the Property Fund should remain within that account, and dividends from the Deposit Fund should remain within the Deposit account, rather than being transferred to the Unity account to supplement the budget. The Council unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve and confirm the arrangements for how dividends will be allocated within each of the CCLA accounts.

25/66 Grants – to consider and agree

66.1 **Salsa Evening Event** – to consider and approve

The Finance and Assets Committee confirmed that they could not approve this as a grant. However, the Parish Council is happy to support the event and would appreciate it being publicised as “supported by Kidlington Parish Council”.

66.2 **KRT** – Staffing fee – to consider and approve

The Finance and Assets Committee confirmed that they would support this grant. However, when reviewing the KRT accounts, they noted that the previous grant from the Parish Council had not been recorded as income. They felt that, going forward, any grant awarded by the Parish Council should be clearly shown in the organisation's accounts as grant income.

66.3 **Kidlington Football Club** – to consider and approve

The Finance and Assets Committee felt that this application should be directed to KRT, the Recreation Management Trust, which oversees our facilities. They also noted that no

quotes for the proposed works had been provided and recommended that these be obtained and submitted as part of any future application.

Date of Next Meeting – 15 January 2026 from 6.30 pm at Exeter Hall Committee Room

Meeting Finished: 7.55pm

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