

NORTHWICH TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE FINANCE, AMENITIES AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 20th JANUARY 2026 at 6.00Rm

Members Present : Cllr R Cernik
Cllr K Cernik
Cllr C Fox
Cllr R Waterman
Cllr J Macdonald
Cllr L Siddall

Also Present : Chris Shaw - Chief Officer
Cath Kirwan - Deputy Chief Officer/RFO

FIN26/68 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE OR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr C Stewart, Cllr A Kent, Cllr S Naylor and Cllr T Melville

FIN 26/69 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor R Waterman declared an interest in any matters relating to Cheshire West and Chester.
Councillor J Macdonald declared an interest in any matters relating to Northwich Metals.

FIN 26/70 SIGNING OF THE MINUTES

Minutes of the Finance, Amenities and General Purposes Committee meeting held on 15th December 2025 and noted at Full Council meeting on Monday 5th January 2026.

Proposed Cllr C Fox, seconded Cllr J Macdonald, all agreed

FIN 26/71 DETAILED INCOME & EXPENDITURE BY BUDGET

RFO answered various members questions relating to budget headings.

4570/200 Utilities - increase with electric vehicle charging
4300/130 Insurance - fixed with Zurich
1141/200 Rose Meadow - income from S106 funds
4535/200 Play Equipment - expenditure on maintenance and repairs

Proposed Cllr J Macdonald, seconded Cllr L Siddall, all agreed

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Date

**Cllr Kate Cernik
Chair**

FIN 26/72 BACS DUE FOR PAYMENT

Bacs payments and direct debit figure approved £225,886.87

Proposed Cllr J Macdonald, seconded Cllr L Siddall, all agreed

FIN 26/73 FINANCE COMMITTEE TO CHECK PAYMENTS

Members chose two payments from both December 2025 payments. DCO/RFO provided the evidence for:

Chelford Farm Supplies - £70.85
Rudheath Parish Council - £945.00

FIN 26/74 2026/2027 PRECEPT

Members were presented with the draft 2026/27 draft budget which was discussed at length with officers around increases.

Members agreed that some budget lines needed to be increased but this would no change the final figure agreed, CO/DC/RFO to look at reducing some budget lines to accommodate the increases.

Members agreed to accept the proposed draft budget of £741,203

Increase from £85.68 to £94.98 for a Band D property.

Increase will be £9.30 per year for a band D property.

Proposed Cllr J Macdonald, seconded Cllr R Waterman, all agreed

FIN 25/75 AMENITY FEES 2026/2027

Members were presented with proposed Amenity fees for 2026/27 which were discussed at length

Members agreed to keep the new Amenity fees the same.

Proposed by Cllr C Fox and seconded by Cllr L Siddall, all agreed

FIN 25/76 WITTON & DANE VALLEY CEMETERY FEES 2026/2027

Members were presented with the proposed fees for Witten & Dane Valley Cemetery for 2026/27.

Members noted the increases in costs, this was due to increase in salaries, increase and card payments, contractor costs and help fund future improvements within our cemeteries including new paths and concrete plinths.

Members agreed to accept the new Cemetery Fees.

Proposed by Cllr C Fox and seconded by Cllr J Macdonald, all agreed

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Date

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**Cllr Kate Cernik
Chair**

FIN 25/77 FIRST INTERNAL REPORT

Members were presented with the first interim report for Northwich town Council for 2026/2027.

Members approved the report.

Proposed Cllr R Cernik, seconded Cllr C Fox, all agreed

FIN 26/78 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Date of the next meeting Monday 16th February 2026 at 6.00pm.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7.45pm.

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Date

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**Cllr Kate Cernik
Chair**

