

**Minutes of the Finance and Policy Committee Meeting of the Town Council on
Monday 27th May 2026 at 6.30pm**

Present

St Michael's Ward
Cllr Fowles

St Paul's Ward
Cllr S Sexton
Cllr Craddock

In attendance

Stephen Hill, Town Clerk

- 26/01/FP** **Election of the Finance & Policy Committee Chairman
Committee RESOLVED to elect Cllr Fowles as Chairman for
2026/27.**
Proposed by Cllr S Sexton and seconded by Cllr Craddock
For 3, Against 0, Abstentions 0
- 26/02/FP** **Election of the Finance & Policy Committee Deputy Chairman
Committee RESOLVED to elect Cllr S Sexton as Deputy Chairman
for 2026/27.**
Proposed by Cllr Fowles and seconded by Cllr Craddock
For 3, Against 0, Abstentions 0
- 26/03/FP** **Apologies for absence**
None
- 26/04/FP** **Declarations of Interests**
None
- 26/05/FP** **Dispensations**
None
- 26/06/FP** **Public Question Time for items on the agenda**
None
- 26/07/FP** **[Minutes of the Finance & Policy Committee Meeting held on 16
February 2026](#)
Committee RESOLVED to approve for accuracy the minutes of the
Finance & Policy Committee Meeting held on 16 February 2026 as
published and circulated with this agenda.**
Proposed by Cllr Craddock and seconded by Cllr Fowles
For 3, Against 0, Abstentions 0
- 26/08/FP** **[Terms of Reference \(ToR\)](#)**
Time start of meetings to be changed to 7pm and ref. to Full Council's
approval to be added.

Committee reviewed, revised as necessary and RESOLVED to approve its ToR, recently approved by Full Council May 2026.

Proposed by Cllr Craddock and seconded by Cllr S Sexton
For 3, Against 0, Abstentions 0

26/09/FP

Asset Register to 31 March 2026

Committee noted inclusion of value for portrait.

Following Full Council May 2026, Committee RESOLVED to review/revise and recommend the draft Asset Register March 2026, to Full Council June 26.

Proposed by Cllr Fowles and seconded by Cllr S Sexton
For 3, Against 0, Abstentions 0

26/10/FP

Earmarked Reserves

Committee Recommends to Full Council inclusion at further £25k for Dowell St wall and up to £30k for interim officer/s. Committee discussed the pros and cons of a Councillor appointment to the role of RFO.

Following Full Council May 2026, Committee RESOLVED to review/revise and recommend Earmarked Reserves to Full Council June 2026.

Proposed by Cllr Fowles and seconded by Cllr Craddock
For 3, Against 0, Abstentions 0

26/11/FP

Assertion 10

Following Finance & Policy Committee February 26 Committee **NOTED** actions that enables the Council to give a positive Assertion.

26/12/FP

Q4 2025/26 Financial Report

Committee **NOTED** the (a) [2025/26 financial report](#); and (b) reconciliation of accounts to end March 2026 – [Current, Nationwide & Savings Account](#). Including that Reserves had increased to £371k end March 26.

26/13FP

Conclusion of 2024/25 AGAR Final Report and Certificate

Committee **NOTED** the External Auditor's final [report and Certificate for AGAR 2024/25](#) received 24 March 26 and [published](#). Committee noted that the public challenge, investigated by External Audit, resulted in no actions for the Council but that Honiton's taxpayers had incurred additional cost.

26/14/FP

Draft Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) 25/26

Committee considered each Assertion and agreed that a positive (yes) Assertion to all points should be Recommended to Full Council June 26.

Committee RESOLVED completion of and recommended the draft 2025/26 AGAR to Full Council June 2026: [draft Annual Return, Public Rights and Variances \(other receipts, other payments\)](#).

Proposed by Cllr S Sexton and seconded by Cllr Craddock
For 3, Against 0, Abstentions 0

26/15/FP

To close the meeting.

The meeting was closed at 7:41 pm.

DRAFT