



## GREAT HORKESLEY PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD MONDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2025 AT GREAT HORKESLEY NEW VILLAGE HALL AT 9.30AM

#### **Those present:**

Cllr G Baker (Chairman)

Cllr C Arnold

Cllr P Tempest

#### **F25/10 Chairman's Welcome**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

#### **F25/11 Apologies and Reasons for Absence**

Cllr Mead was not present at the meeting.

#### **F25/12 Declaration of Interests**

Cllr Baker declared an interest in respect of item F25/15 as a member of Great Horkesley PCC.

#### **F25/13 Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held 8<sup>th</sup> July 2025 were approved and signed as a true and accurate record.

#### **F25/14 Half Yearly Accounts**

Members reviewed and approved the Half-Yearly accounts as at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2025 for the 2025/26 financial year. There were no specific points to note.

#### **F25/15 GHPC Grants**

The following grant applications were considered and discussed at length by members (in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972, Section 137). The Section 137 spending limit for 2025/26 is £11.10 per elector.

**It was unanimously agreed** (proposed Cllr Baker) to recommend to Full Council that the grants requests from the following organisations be met in full when considering the 2026/27 budget.

1<sup>st</sup> Great Horkesley Scout Group (Will Lodge) - £1,000

Friends of Bishop William Ward School (Kate Hutton) - £1,100

Great Horkesley Community Events Group (Sam Jarvis) - £1,000

Considering the grant application from Great Horkesley PCC was deferred to the next meeting of Full Council.

#### **F25/16 Financial Documents**

**It was unanimously agreed** (proposed Cllr Baker) to approve updates to wording of the Financial Regulations and Scheme of Delegation as follows, as per Full Council minute reference 25/039(d)(iv).

*Financial Regulations 5.18*

In cases of serious or exceptional risk to the delivery of council services or to public safety on council premises, the clerk may authorise expenditure on repair, replacement or other work that in their judgement is necessary, whether or not there is any budget for such expenditure. The Clerk shall consult with at least one member, preferably the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the council or of a committee in that order, and report to the council as soon as practicable thereafter. If the decision entails new expenditure by the council, the total shall not exceed more than 50% of the council's reserves.

*Scheme of Delegation Item (m)*

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1972 s101, in exceptional circumstances the Clerk is empowered to take any decision that would normally be taken by the Council. Such a decision may only be taken:

- a. Where there would be a significant loss, either financial or of opportunity, that would be detrimental to the community were the decision not taken until the next scheduled meeting of the council, AND
- b. Following consultation with at least one member, preferably the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the Council or of a Committee in that order, AND
- c. If the decision entails new expenditure by the Council, that no expenditure be committed that exceeds 50% of the Council's reserves.

The decision and circumstances shall be reported to the next meeting of the Council.

**F25/17 Recommendations to Full Council**

There were no other matters for recommendation to Full Council.

**F25/18 Next Meetings of the Finance Committee**

The next meeting of the Finance Committee will be on 12<sup>th</sup> January at 10.00am and will focus on approving the Q3 accounts and 2026/27 council budget. The Clerk will call an additional meeting prior to this date if required.

These minutes are a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Signed .....

Date .....