



Whiteparish Parish Council

MINUTES of the Whiteparish Parish Council Finance Committee meeting held on Monday 1st December 2025 at 2 pm in Whiteparish Memorial Centre.

Present: Cllr T King (Chairman) and Cllrs M Hayday and L Palmer

In attendance: Bev Cornish (Locum Clerk). There were no members of the public present.

To elect a Chair of the Committee

1F/25 Cllr King was elected as Chairman of the Finance Committee.

To receive apologies for absence and to approve the reasons given.

2F/25 No apologies were received.

To receive any Declarations of Interest from Members.

3F/25 There were no declarations.

Exclusion of the press and public. To agree any items to be dealt with after the public, including the press, have been excluded under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 and Local Government Act 1972 ss100.

4F/25 This item was not required as there were no members of the public present.

To recommend Budget for year 2026/2027

5F/25 Following a brief discussion on the outturn for 2025/2026 and a review of each budget line for 2026/2027, Whiteparish Parish Council Finance Committee agreed to recommend approval for the budget to be set at the sum of £44,589.23.

To consider the Reserves Policy.

Whiteparish Parish Council Finance Committee reviewed the Reserves Policy.

6F/25 The Finance Committee is mindful of the Joint Panel on Accountability and Governance (JPAG) which is responsible for issuing proper practices about the governance and accounts of smaller authorities, and which encourages smaller authorities to hold general reserves of 100%. The Finance Committee recommends the Reserves Policy retains general reserves at a "minimum of 60%".

7F/25 It was recommended that Election Expenses be increased from £7,700 to £8,000.

8F/25 A condition assessment of the chain link fencing on the eastern boundary of the recreation ground suggests it will need replacement in the medium term. It will not be appropriate to get detailed quotes at this stage. To estimate an appropriate level of reserves the cost of replacing the closed board and chain link fences on the northern boundary was circa £20k in 2020. The Finance Committee recommends the earmarked reserves for fencing remain at £20k on the Reserves Policy.

Whiteparish Parish Council – Finance Committee Meeting Monday 1st December 2025
Minutes approved as a true and accurate record, and signed as so by the Chairman presiding

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Date.....

9F/25 The Finance Committee recommends that the fund to maintain existing village recreation facilities, including the MUGA remains the same at £20k on the Reserves Policy. Whiteparish Memorial Trust has advised the Parish Council that £20k is at the bottom end for any refurbishment of the MUGA.

To recommend Parish Precept for year 2026/2027.

10F/25 Further to the recommendation for the budget; Whiteparish Parish Council Finance Committee agreed to recommend that the precept request be set at £37,448.50. With the Band D Tax Base being set at 723.20, the Band D rate for 2026/2027 will be £51.78, compared to £52.26 for 2025/2026. This is a small reduction of 0.92%.

To consider the Financial Regulations.

11F/25 Whiteparish Parish Council Finance Committee reviewed the Financial Regulations and, subject to a further review following National Association of Local Councils (NALC's) recommendations, agreed to recommend approval with no amendments.

To consider the Risk Assessment.

12F/25 Whiteparish Parish Council Finance Committee reviewed the Risk Assessment and agreed to recommend approval with no amendments.

To consider the Finance Committee Terms of Reference.

13F/25 Whiteparish Parish Council Finance Committee reviewed the Finance Committee Terms of Reference and agreed to recommend approval with no amendments.

To consider the Statement of Internal Control.

14F/25 Whiteparish Parish Council Finance Committee reviewed the Statement of Internal Control and agreed to recommend approval with no amendments.

To consider any other financial matters.

15F/25 There were no other financial matters raised.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 3.25 pm.