

Sharnbrook Parish Council
FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on Wednesday the 22nd April 2026 at 7pm in the Back Room of the Methodist Church, Park Lane.

Present: N Cowdery (NC) (Chairman) D Eyre (DE) J Russell (JR)
Also Present: S Mortimer (SM)(Clerk)

Absent: A Warmington (AW) D Waterfield (DW) J Day (JD)

1. **Apologies for absence.** Apologies were received from Avice Warmington, David Waterfield and Joanna Day
2. **To receive any disclosure of Personal and/or Prejudicial Interest of Councillors.** None.
3. **To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 7th of January 2026.** The minutes were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
To consider the annual budget statement and financial accounts for the year 2025/26 The budget was reviewed and all accepted the figures. The clerk advised that the documents requested have been submitted to the internal auditor for review. The councillors reviewed the spreadsheet and related paperwork submitted to the internal auditor.
4. **To receive the final statement on investments.** The CCLA bank balance at the end of the financial year £355,165.30 and the average Fund yield for this period was 3.74% p.a. Interest earned for the year £14,298.46
5. **To receive and review the year end bank reconciliation to the 31.03.2026.** The bank balances and values in the accounting software agree. The Unity bank balances are sufficient to cover payments.
6. **To review the budget for the year 2025/26** The figures submitted during the preparation of the initial budget were reviewed and it was agreed that the budget would be reviewed quarterly at the Finance and General Purpose Committee meetings. The Clerk would monitor the spending against the budget monthly.
7. **To receive the Annual Statement of Accounts for the Year End 31.03.2026** The annual statement was agreed as presented. The unrestricted reserves are in line with the recommendation for a council of our size.
8. **Council Finance – internal audit and review.** The Internal Auditor for the 2025/26 year has received all the information to complete the Internal Audit . The internal auditor has confirmed the internal audit is complete
9. **To review the figures to be put forward in the Annual Governance and Accountability Return and review the statements contained to ensure the council can approve these at the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council on the 12th of May 2026.** The information presented to the internal auditor was reviewed and agreed. The Clerk has advised the internal auditor of the dates that the audit/review needs to be completed. The Internal Auditor will send the signed off Annual Governance and Accountability Return to the clerk ahead of the Annual Parish Council meeting.
10. **To discuss, and agree a way forward for all procedures and policies** The Clerk would review policies to ensure updated and compliant with NALC documents with assistance from councillors.
11. **Date and time of next meeting.** This will be held on Wednesday the 15th of July 2026 at 7pm
The meeting ended at 7:35pm

Signed

Dated