

BILLERICAY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting
held in the Council Chamber, The Chantry Centre, Chantry Way, CM11 2AP
on Thursday 17th April 2025 at 7.00pm

Chairman: Cllr A Adshead
Vice-Chairman: Absent
Councillors: K Mordecai, G Talbot, A Talboys, M Thomas, J Tutton

Also in attendance Cllr C E Butler and the Town Clerk

77. Apologies for absence

Cllrs R Clark, M Dear, M Moore, G St.Pierre, I Scott

78. Declarations of interest with regard to items on the Agenda

None.

79. Public Participation session with respect to items on the Agenda

None.

80. Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on 13th March 2025

Members received and considered the minutes of the meeting held on 13th March 2025

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting be approved as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

81. Financial Report

Members received and considered the following:

- (a) Income and Expenditure by Committee - copy of the accounts from 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025 and 1st April 2025 to 10th April 2025
- (b) Payments between 7th and 31st March 2025 and 1st April to 10th April 2025
- (c) Balance Sheet as at 10th April 2025
- (d) Accounting Statements for financial year 2024 – 2025 (AGAR Section 2)

RESOLVED: that the information contained in the above financial reports is noted.

82. Grant Applications

Members received and considered the following applications

- (i) Community Pastors - £397 for community hub equipment
- (ii) Billericay Cycle Campaign - £150 for promotional materials for the Kiddical Mass event

RESOLVED: that both organisations are awarded the full amounts requested.

83. Bank Accounts Review

Members were asked to consider whether a single institution limit should be set in line with the Financial Services Compensation Scheme which provides protection for deposits up to £85,000.

RESOLVED: (i) that the Council’s funds are not split between multiple accounts, and; (ii) deposit accounts are sourced from respected financial institutions which are considered secure within the market.

84. Youth Town Council

Members received the minutes of the meetings held on 18th March 2025 and 1st April 2025

RESOLVED: information noted.

85. Citizen of the Year

Members considered the competition and how it might be rejuvenated to attract more nominations. It was felt that the format needed to be re-thought and could benefit from new themes such as “best community event”.

RESOLVED: that the competition should be discontinued in its current format and alternatives will be considered and brought to a future meeting.

86. Chantry Centre Operational Management

Members received and considered the following:

- (a) an EICR (fixed wire test) is required and will mean the Centre is closed all day on Friday 13th June 2025
- (b) an up-to-date set of key performance indicators

RESOLVED: information noted

87. Items for Information

Members were advised of the following:

- (a) High Street Banking Hub – the Town Clerk and Cllr Devlin recently met with Richard Holden MP and Thea Watts from Cash Access UK who confirmed that the search for appropriate premises has now started.
- (b) Billericay has a Community Special Constable and Cllr Thomas attended his attestation at Essex Police HQ on 14th April 2025

RESOLVED: information noted.

88. Consideration of Items for Social Media/Press Release

- Grants awarded

89. Questions from the Press and Public

Cllr Butler said they felt group awards were preferable to Citizen of the Year.

Cllr A Adshead
Chairman of the Committee

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.46pm

Chairman:..... Date: