

Hedon Town Council

Minutes of the Proceedings of a Meeting of

Finance & General Purposes Committee

held at the Town Hall, St Augustine's Gate, Hedon

26 June 2025

Present: In the Chair – Cllr S Gallant
Cllrs: S Banks, C Billany, J Brindley, J Dennis, B Goldspink, P Hinch,
G Pocklington, S Rommell and D Thompson
Clerk: C Addy

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllrs: S Archer (prior commitment) and S Wright (prior commitment)

2. Confirmation of the Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on the 29 May 2025 were agreed as being a correct record of the proceedings thereat.

Resolved: That the minutes were confirmed as a true record

3. Updates on the Minutes

Resolved: There were no updates to the minutes.

4. Declaration of Interests

4.1 To record declarations of interest by any member of the council in respect of the agenda items listed below. Members declaring interests should identify the agenda item and type of interest being declared.

4.2 To note dispensations given to any member of the Council in respect of the agenda items listed below.

5. To approve Accounts Payable Schedule – June 2025

The Schedule previously circulated to Members, will form part of the Minutes.

Resolved: that the schedule of payments for June 2025, signed by two Councillors, in the sum of £23,281.19 was approved.

6. To receive an update on the financial position of the Council as at 31 May 2025

The Chairman referred to the documents attached to these Minutes which had been circulated to all Councillors; the documents indicated the financial position of the Council as at 31 May 2025.

Resolved: that the schedules showing receipts/payments made during May 2025 and the budget monitoring report were approved.

7. To review Risk Reports for Code of Conduct, Computer Equipment, Council Property and Documents, Data Protection

The Chairman referred to the Risk Reports for Code of Conduct, Computer Equipment, Council Property and Documents, Data Protection. The Clerk raised the possibility of the Council taking out a contract for IT maintenance and support which would address some of the risks associated with computer equipment. A quote had been sought from a local company, Ability IT, but members felt it was too high for the level required at the council. However, the Clerk would continue to look for something more suitable and put this on the next agenda for further discussion.

Resolved: that the Risk Assessment Reports for Code of Conduct, Computer Equipment, Council Property and Documents, Data Protection were approved as tabled

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8. Events Working Group

Cllr Banks updated members on the discussions at the meeting held earlier. Cllr Banks had received quotes for the provision of Christmas cards but more information was required before a decision could be taken. A Flower Arranging Workshop had been arranged in the Town Hall for 16 August, which would be taken by the Town Clerk. The group had agreed a date for the 2026 Scruffs Dog Show on 18 April 2026 – venue tba.

9. Hedfest Working Group 2026 - update

Cllr Thompson noted that the next meeting of the group would take place on 25 July at 12 noon. The group were discussing having a 'Wild West' theme.

10. One to One Tuition in the Town Hall - Update

The Clerk updated members on her discussions with South Holderness Academy who were not prepared to pay a fee for the use of the Town Hall; therefore, the one-to-one tuition will come to an end at the end of June. That would give them time to arrange an alternative location.

11. Once the 'Rat Trail' ends – purchases of sculptures Update

Councillors were keen to purchase the 'rat' on Market Hill and had contacted those responsible to put in the request to purchase once the trail came to a close. Members discussed whether the current location should remain and it was agreed that the location was ideal.

Resolved: that the Town Clerk contact the 'Rat Trail' organisers to try and purchase the Hedon 'rat' without it going to auction

12. Cost of Skatepark Signage – update

The Clerk updated members on the quote received from ERYC regarding the cost of a sign which was £281 for one sign. Members felt that generally the users would be aware of the location without the need for a sign, and the cost of the sign (and the cost of installing it) was inappropriately high.

Resolved: that no further action be taken on the provision of a Skate Park sign

13. Correspondence

13.1 The Chairman referred to the latest version of the PSPO consultation report received from ERYC with amendments from other organisations eg Local Police Team with additional areas for 'No Alcohol Areas'. Members supported the amendments and the Clerk was asked to reply to ERYC.

Resolved: that the Council approved the amended PSPO consultation document from ERYC

13.2 The Chairman noted that the small tractor had broken down and the quote for repair was over £5k. After discussion members felt that, bearing in mind the large cost of the repair and the age of the tractor, the Clerk should investigate the cost of a new tractor (including a trailer and cutting deck) and this item would be on the agenda for further discussion at the next meeting.

13.3 The Clerk updated Members on her meeting with JCA Ltd (the Council's tree consultants) which had highlighted that no actual tree work had been carried out since JCA were appointed in 2021. She explained that JCA carried out the surveys required (which had happened) but that the tree work itself should have been carried out by Rennisons (as it had been before Tony Whitehead retired as the Council's tree consultant) with the more accessible work carried out by the Council's group maintenance team.

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She had received a quote of approx. £19k from JCA for the work that was now required to bring everything up to date. Members were concerned at the high cost of the work now required and asked the Clerk to see if there was a way of prioritising the work across the current budget year and the next; although they appreciated that safety was of major concern. This item would be on the agenda of the next meeting for a decision on how to finance the work.

- 13.4 Cllr Hinch outlined a recent e-mail he had received from The Yorkshire Society regarding the Society's offer to the Council to display a signed limited-edition print of the 'Brothers in Arms' painting in aid of the Rob Burrow MND Centre. There was no cost to the Council and members agreed that the print should be displayed in the Town Hall for two weeks. The Mayor would arrange for opening times outside the normal office hours.

14. Members' points of information and items for the agenda

- 14.1 Cllr Gallant confirmed that ERYC did not plan to take any further action with regard to changes to car parking charges.

- 14.2 Cllr Gallant reported that Amelia Booker of Holderness Health had been invited to attend an informal meeting of Councillors but she was unable to attend on a Thursday. He noted that Holderness Health felt the new booking system was working well and had already reduced the 8am scramble for appointments with average waiting times for the phone being answered down to 10 minutes. He would be attending a 'Forum' meeting held by Holderness Health in the near future and he would report back to the committee.

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Chairman of Finance & General Purposes Committee