



# WANTAGE TOWN COUNCIL

Council Office, The Beacon, Wantage, OX12 9BX Town

Clerk: Julia Evans 01235 763459

[www.wantagetowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.wantagetowncouncil.gov.uk)

Minutes of Policy Management & Finance meeting held on 8 September 2025  
at 7.30pm in The Beacon, Portway, Wantage, OX12 9BX  
The minutes are draft until approved at the next meeting

**Councillors Present:** S Third (Chair), I Cameron, A Dunford, J Hannaby, A Menzies, K Morris, L Todd, C Walters

**In attendance:**

Julia Evans

Town Clerk

Andy Sweeney

		<b>ACTION</b>
23	<b>Apologies for Absence</b> Cllrs Crawford, Johnson, Kirby-Harris, Wright	
24	<b>Declarations of Interest</b> None	
25	<b>To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 28 July 2025</b> The minutes were approved as a true record of the meeting. The minutes were signed.  PROPOSED BY Cllr Menzies SECONDED BY Cllr Morris RESOLVED	
26	<b>Statements &amp; Questions from the Public</b> None	
27	<b>Update from OCC on Wantage Market Pace improvement project</b> Andy Sweeney updated the meeting on project progress, key points were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Consultants have been appointed to work on the design. Preliminary design work will start this winter and will continue until June 2026.</li> <li>b) The engagement process will continue until June 2026</li> <li>c) An official survey was conducted in July and August. 566 responses were received, which were being analysed.</li> <li>d) An update was to be published in the September newsletter.</li> <li>e) A Public event was to take place in October; this was to be a ticketed event.</li> </ul> Andy Sweeney to send the presentation to the Clerk. Andy Sweeney was thanked for attending.	<b>Sweeney</b>

28	<p><b>Matters arising from the minutes:</b></p> <p>a) Update on community bus working group A driver had been recruited; a second driver was required. Vehicles were being considered. The company will become active next year. A business park may be interested in using the service for their employees. Cllr Cameron had joined the Community Transport Association.</p> <p>b) Asset of Community Value – Lark Hill and Grove Road Sites. A meeting had been held with the Vale Officer. Grove Road tenants had been asked for testimonials. It was suggested that the evidence should be submitted with a request for guidance on what else was required.</p> <p>c) Emergency Plan A meeting to review the document was to be held on 9 September</p>	<b>Deputy Clerk</b>
<b>Policy</b>		
	None	
<b>Management and Finance</b>		
29	<p><b>To receive the income and expenditure report</b> The report was received and noted.</p>	
30	<p><b>To review and sign the accounts for payment</b> The accounts for payment were reviewed and approved.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Walters Seconded Cllr Dunford RESOLVED The accounts for payment report was signed.</p>	
31	<p><b>To sign the bank reconciliation statements</b> The bank reconciliation statements were approved.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Dunford Seconded Cllr Cameron RESOLVED The reconciliation statements were signed.</p>	
32	<p><b>To review the Barclaycard statement for May</b> Reviewed and approved.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Cameron Seconded Cllr Morris RESOLVED The Barclaycard statement was signed</p>	
33	<p><b>To consider the proposal for out-of-date allotment bonds</b> It was agreed to transfer the excess funds to EMR for use against future allotment expenditure.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Walters Seconded Cllr Morris RESOLVED</p>	

34	<p><b>To consider support for the VCI S106 application</b> It was agreed to fully support this application.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Dunford Seconded Cllr Cameron RESOLVED</p>	
	<p><b>Date of next meeting</b> 13 October 202</p>	
	<p>It was agreed to move into confidential session.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Hannaby Seconded Cllr Walters RESOLVED</p>	
<b>Confidential Items</b>		
36	<p><b>To consider Grant Applications</b></p> <p>a) Jigsaw Stage Productions. The full amount requested sum was awarded.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Hannaby Seconded C Walter RESOLVED.</p> <p>b) Wantage Town FC. The full amount requested sum was awarded.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Hannaby Seconded Cllr Dunford RESOLVED.</p> <p>c) White Horse Ceilidhs. Because the funds were to be used in Grove Village Hall the request was refused.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Cameron Seconded Cllr Walters RESOLVED.</p> <p>It was recommended that the applicant approach Grove Parish Council.</p>	
37	<p><b>To consider the first draft of the 2026/27 budget</b> There was a discussion on the level of grant funding to be budgeted for. An increase of 3% was suggested. The Clerk to arrange a meeting with the Committee Chairs to discuss their draft budgets.</p>	<b>Clerk</b>

The meeting closed at: 21.15

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_