

Amersham Town Council

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD ON 20 APRIL 2026

PRESENT:

Councillor Martin Day (Chair)
Councillor Simon Woodhead (Town Mayor)
Councillor Heena Amarshi
Councillor Jane Barnes
Councillor Maura Brady
Councillor Paul Edwards
Councillor Mark Roberts
Councillor James Wilkinson

IN ATTENDANCE:

Elizabeth Richardson - Town Clerk Finance & Policy

66. **APOLOGIES:**

Councillor Jonathan Allum
Councillor Elizabeth Kolb

67. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

68. **TO RECEIVE THE FINANCE REPORTS FOR JAN & FEB 2026:**

- i) Income and Expenditure Reports for period ending 31 January and 28 February 2026
- ii) Balance sheets as at 31 January & 28 February 2026
- iii) Accounts paid from 1 January to 28 February 2026

It was

Proposed - Councillor S Woodhead
Seconded – Councillor H Amarshi

RECOMMENDED that the finance reports for the period 1 January to 28 February 2026 be accepted.

69. **RENEWAL OF COUNCIL ELECTRICITY CONTRACT FOR STREETLIGHTING:**

As the Clerk was still awaiting accurate quotations from the broker, the discussion was deferred until the next meeting.

70. **REVISION OF GRANTS POLICY:**

The proposed changes to the existing grants policy were discussed, including some debate regarding restrictions on grant eligibility. A vote was taken on whether to allow grant applications from individuals seeking funding for community projects. The motion to amend the current policy was not carried, with the vote being 5:3 against permitting applications from individuals. However, the Clerk will seek clarification on the legal position.

It was also agreed that the proposed policy should be redrafted to incorporate the suggested revisions, with particular attention to the maximum grant amounts to be

considered. The revised policy will be brought back to Council for consideration at a future meeting. In addition, the policy and the format of the application and decision-making process will be reviewed over the coming year.

Proposed – Councillor M Roberts
Seconded – Councillor H Amarshi

71. **QUOTATION FOR SOLAR PANELS AT ATC SITES:**

The quotations obtained were noted. After discussion

It was Proposed – Councillor H Amarshi
Seconded – Councillor P Edwards

RECOMMENDED that comparative quotations be obtained for solar panels on Barn Meadow Community Hall and that further expert advice is sought on:

- the suitability of the building to accommodate the panels
- the potential benefit and cost of installing peak shaving device
- the security of a battery
- whether planning consent is required.
- ownership of the panels (leased or purchased)
- whether vehicle charging points could be included

72. **MATTERS FOR REPORT:**

There were no matters for report.

Part two

EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

That under Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admissions to meetings) Act 1960, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they include the likely disclosure of exempt information, stated to be confidential.

73. **RENEWAL OF FLINT BARN LEASE:**

The tenant's proposal for a break clause in the lease was noted and Councillors expressed their agreement in principle on a without prejudice basis.

It was Proposed – Councillor M Roberts
Seconded – Councillor M Brady

RECOMMENDED that the Clerk liaise with the tenant to agree heads of terms for the new lease.

74. **RENEWAL OF THE BOWLS CLUB LEASE:**

The committee received an update on the latest email exchange with the club's representative concerning the lease renewal and noted the recommendations of the Bowls Club Working Group. After discussion

It was Proposed – Councillor M Roberts
Seconded – Councillor P Edwards

Agreed to send a letter to the Bowls Club trustees, as drafted by the Council's working group.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm

Chairman.....

Date

F&GP