

MINUTES
of
**A Meeting of New Romney Town Council's
Finance and General Purposes Committee
Held in the Assembly Rooms on
Wednesday 21st January 2026 commencing at 6.45pm**

PRESENT: Councillors J Rivers, P Thomas, J Davies, P Coe,
K Terry, P Peacock, Rev Cn McLachlan, P Carey

In Attendance:

RFO	-	Mrs C T Morris
Finance Clerk	-	Mrs J Field
Member of the Public	-	1

IN THE CHAIR: Councillor P Thomas

481/2025-26 **APOLOGIES:**

Apologies for absence were received and noted, as below:

Councillor J.Hiscock – For personal reasons.

482/2025-26 **DISPENSATION TO PARTICIPATE**

The RFO advised that no new Dispensations to Participate had been granted

483/2025-26 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

@ 18.46 PM Councillors Thomas, Rivers and Coe declared a Personal Interest in Agenda Item12 due to their being supporters of the organisation applying for grant funding.

484/2025-26 **ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING**

It was not necessary to adjourn the meeting as no questions had been received in writing by the Clerk.

485/2025-26 **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

None.

486/2025-26 **RE-CONVENING OF MEETING**

Not applicable

487/2025-26 **MINUTES**

(i) The Chairman presented the Minutes of the **Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting** held on **19th November 2025**, a copy of which had been previously circulated to all Councillors and it was:

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Davies

SECONDED BY: Councillor Rivers

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 19th November 2025 be approved and signed as a true and correct record.

Councillors Carey and Rev Cn McLachlan abstained from voting as they were not in attendance at the meeting.

The Chairman subsequently signed the Minutes.

(ii) The Chairman presented the Minutes of the **Finance & General Purposes Budget Committee Meeting** held on **8th December 2025**, a copy of which had been previously circulated to all Councillors and it was:

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Coe

SECONDED BY: Councillor Peacock

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Budget Committee Meeting held on 8th December 2025 be approved and signed as a true and correct record.

Councillors Thomas and Rev Cn McLachlan abstained from voting as they were not in attendance at the meeting.

The Chairman subsequently signed the Minutes.

488/2025-26 **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

(i) **2025/2026 Budget Comparison and Income & Expenditure reports**

The 2025/2026 Budget Comparison and Income and Expenditure Reports were received and noted.

(ii) **Schedule of Payments Approved under Financial Regs, SPAA and/or Delegated Authority**

The RFO presented the detailed schedule of Payments Approved under Financial Regs, SPAA and/or Delegated Authority. Following due consideration it was:

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Davies

SECONDED BY: Councillor Terry

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY – that, the afore-mentioned detailed schedule of Payments Approved under Financial Regs, SPAA and/or Delegated Authority, in the amended sum of £51,505.26 exc. VAT, be received and noted and identified cost centres be approved.

(iii) Schedule of Fund Transfers

The Schedule of Transfers between Town Council Bank Accounts was received and noted.

489/2025-26 **RFO'S REPORT**

The RFO's report, which read as under, was received and noted:

RFO's Report – F&GP Meeting on 21st January 2026

Actions completed since the F&GP Committee meeting held on 19th November 2025:

1. £30,000.00 of 2025/2026 CIL receipts was allocated to support the Town Council's HIP Plan for Zones 1 & 2 (*Minute Ref: 356/2025-26 refers*). *NB: The invoice from KCC in respect of these works has been paid.*
2. The applicant from the informal tennis group has been advised that their grant funding request has been declined (*Minute Ref: 358/2025-26(i) refers*).
3. Following their confirming acceptance of the award, the payment of grant funding to Romney Marsh Community Hub – Memory Cafes has been made (*Minute Ref: 358-2025-26(ii)(a) refers*).
4. Following their confirming acceptance of the award, the payment of grant funding to Light Up New Romney has been made (*Minute Ref: 358/2025-26(iii) (b) refers*).
5. An order was placed in respect of a one-year service contract for the platform lift at the Maude Community Centre (*Minute Ref: 359/2025-26(i)(b) refers*).
6. An order was placed in respect of construction of a secure storage area at the Maude Community Centre (*Minute Ref: 359/2025-26(ii)(b) refers*).
7. An order was placed in respect of installation of internal door locks at the Maude Community Centre Annexe (*Minute Ref: 359/2025-26(iii)(b) refers*).
8. An order was placed in respect of extending the central heating system at the Town Hall (*Minute Ref: 359/2025-26(iv)(b) refers*).

Other Matters of Report:

The RFO verbally advised that the recent drainage works carried out at the allotments had proved successful.

This concludes my report – RFO 7th January 2026490/2025-26 **COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL)**

The RFO presented her Community Infrastructure report, which was received and noted.

491/2025-26 **STRATEGIC PLAN 2023-27**

The Town Council's adopted Strategic Plan for 2023-27, with latest updates, was duly received and noted.

492/2025-26 **GRANT FUNDING /DONATIONS**

Having duly considered the Grant Funding request from John Armitage Memorial Trust (JAM). It was:

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Rivers

SECONDED BY: Councillor Coe

RESOLVED – that grant funding in the sum of £840.00, to be funded from the 2025/26 Grants/Donations Budget, be awarded to the John Armitage Memorial Trust (JAM).

493/2025-26 **QUOTATIONS****Fairfield Road – Tree Works**

Consideration was given to quotes received in respect to tree works at Fairfield Road Recreation Ground it was:

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Peacock

SECONDED BY: Councillor Rev Cn McLachlan

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY - that the quotation received in respect of Tree works at Fairfield Road Recreation Ground, in the sum of £850.00 exc VAT, (i) be approved and funded from the Tree inspection/surgery budget (ii) the RFO be authorised to settle all relevant invoices, when received, having first ascertained that all is in order.

The contract was awarded to M Coleman Arboricultural Services.

494/2025-26 **EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS:**

The clerk confirmed that it was not necessary to exclude members of public and press on this occasion.

495/2025-26 **LAND AND TENANCY MATTERS**

The RFO confirmed that there were no matters of report on this occasion.

496/2025-26 **CONCLUSION OF PRIVATE SESSION**

Not applicable.

The Chairman thanked the Councillors for their attendance and the meeting then concluded **at 19.22**

NB: All documents referred to herein are freely available for perusal on the Town Council website: www.newromney-tc.gov.uk or at the Town Hall for perusal on request, except for those documents of a sensitive / legal nature discussed in private session, including documents relating to staff matters which remain Private and Confidential in accordance with Data Protection legislation.

Minutes prepared by the Finance Clerk