

**SOUTH WOODHAM FERRERS TOWN COUNCIL  
FINANCE & PROJECTS COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES** of a Meeting held at Champions Manor Hall on  
Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2025 at 7.30pm

**Present**

Councillor Thompson (Chair)  
Councillor Eley (Vice Chair)

Councillor Bentley  
Councillor Price

Councillor Massey  
Councillor Shearring

Councillor O'Brien  
Councillor Crosbie

**In attendance:** Town Clerk

**FP25-148 Apologies for absence**

No apologies of absence were received.

**Absent** Councillor Kelly  
Councillor Wilson

**FP25-149 Dispensation Considerations**

No dispensation considerations received.

**FP25-150 Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest considerations received.

**FP25-151 Confirmation of Minutes**

Minutes of the Finance & Projects meeting held on 11th of November 2025 were **APPROVED** as a true record and signed by the Chair.

**Proposed:** Councillor O'Brien

**Seconded:** Councillor Thompson

**Vote:** All in favour

**FP25-152 Public Questions**

No public in attendance.

**FP25-153 Financial Matters**

**Committee Received and NOTED the following:**

a. the budgetary position for this Committee and Champions Manor Hall as of 26th November 2025.

b. received and noted the Council's bank balances as of 26th November 2025.

- Unity Current Account £44,990.42
- Unity Instant Access Savings £486,429.12
- Santander Deposit Account £306,943.71

c. the financial transactions for November 2025.

**FP25-154 Items Noted**

- The movements to the Earmarked reserves have been completed on 21st November 2025.

- The payment from Scottish Power - export from the solar panels was received on 25/11/25 for £449.76.

**FP25-155 Budget 2026/27**

Council considered the draft budgets for all committees 2026-27 for recommendation to Council on 20th January 2026.

**Proposal:** To increase the Christmas Lights budget to £30,000.00, including a designated allocation for a Christmas tree, within the revised draft budget presented to the Committee.

**Proposed:** Councillor O'Brien

**Seconded:** Councillor Price

**Vote: Carried**

**One against**

**Proposal:** To not proceed with a budget allocation 2026-27 for streetlights.

**Proposed:** Councillor Thompson

**Seconded:** Councillor O'Brien

**Vote: All in Favour**

**Proposal:** To recommend a precept of £468,080 to Council on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2026. Based on a tax base of 6,131.32 Band D would be an amount of £76.34. Increase Band D Council Tax £0.07.

For the 2025 – 2026 budget year the band D amount was £76.27.

**Proposed:** Councillor Eley

**Seconded:** Councillor Bentley

**Vote: All in Favour**

**FP25-156 Report to Council**

Recommended Budget 2026-27.

**FP25-157 Media Contact**

No media contact agreed.

**FP25-158 Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Finance & Projects Committee will be on 3<sup>rd</sup> of March 2026 at 7.30pm.

There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.02pm.

Signed.....  
Chair of the Meeting

Date: 3rd March 2026