



SANDOWN TOWN COUNCIL – FINANCE COMMITTEE - MEETING MINUTES – 28 JULY 2025

Minutes of the Meeting of Sandown Town Council Finance Committee held on **MONDAY, 28 JULY 2025** at 5:00 pm at The Broadway Centre, 1 Broadway, Sandown, Isle of Wight PO36 9GG.

Present: Cllrs Alex Lightfoot (Mayor), Debbie Andre, Ian Boyd, Liam Cregg, Paddy Lightfoot, and Tracy Mikich.

Also Present: Jennifer Armstrong (Clerk/RFO) and Lorraine Ellis (Deputy Clerk).

PUBLIC QUESTIONS:

None present.

1-2025/26 APOLOGIES

None received.

2-2025/26 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

1. To receive any declarations of pecuniary and non -pecuniary interests
None Received.
2. To receive and consider granting any written requests for dispensations.
None Received.

3-2025/26 TERMS OF REFERENCE

The proposed terms of reference for the Committee were discussed with members noting no representations had been received from members not on the committee. Clarification was provided that clause 7.5 did not give the Chair the right to alter the committee's decision but to vote differently using the casting vote to their personal vote.

A motion to approve and adopt the terms of reference was moved and duly seconded. Councillors' votes were confirmed verbally to meet accessibility requirements, and it was unanimously:

RESOLVED:

THAT the proposed Finance Committee Terms of Reference be approved and adopted.

4-2025/26 MONTHLY ACCOUNTS

1. To approve the Payments and Receipts lists as presented for May 2025

A motion to approve the Payments and Receipts presented for May 2025 was moved and duly seconded. Councillors' votes were confirmed verbally to meet accessibility requirements, and it was unanimously:

RESOLVED:

THAT the Payments and Receipts for May 2025 be approved.

2. To approve the Payments and Receipts lists as presented for June 2025

A motion to approve the Payments and Receipts presented for June 2025 was moved and duly seconded. Councillors' votes were confirmed verbally to meet accessibility requirements, and it was unanimously:

RESOLVED:

THAT the Payments and Receipts for June 2025 be approved.

3. To receive and note the verified bank reconciliations through June 2025

The May and June 2025 Banking Reconciliations were noted.

4. To receive and note the Expenditure against budget through 30 June 2025

The Expenditure against budget through 30 June 2025 was noted

5-2025/26 FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

The Committee considered the revised Financial Regulations which had been based on the latest model regulations from NALC. The document needed to be adapted to suit its size and structure of each individual council. The committee considered a number of clauses in that context, whilst noting any text in bold indicated a legal requirements, which a council could not change or suspend. Members collectively agreed revisions to the clauses which needed to be addressed.

A motion to circulate regulations reflecting the agreed revisions and propose the updated document to the next Full Council for adoption was moved and duly seconded. Councillors' votes were confirmed verbally to meet accessibility requirements, and it was unanimously:

RESOLVED:

- (i) THAT the updated regulations be circulated to members prior to the next Full Council meeting.
- (ii) THAT the Finance Committee recommend the revised regulations for adoption at the next meeting of Full council.

6-2025/26 SANDHAM GROUNDS – CCTV ARRANGEMENTS

Members considered a proposal from the Bowling Club regarding CCTV hosting and utilities costs. The club currently hosted one of the Council's CCTV cameras and related equipment at Sandham Grounds providing a site for one of the cameras, broadband and electricity.

The Chairman of the Club had proposed that rather than this be rebilled, the Town Council install two additional cameras on the parks system within the Bowls Club Grounds to protect the Club. This would be more cost effective for the Club than installing a new system and builds capacity for downloading footage should the need arise.

It was expected that the cost of purchasing and installing two cameras would be in the region of £2,000. An arrangement on the proposed basis for a period of three years would generate a saving of approximately £400 based on current energy costs, not taking account increased energy costs and inflation. The monies would be vired from the CCTV service and maintenance budget.

A motion in support of the proposal was moved and duly seconded. Councillors' votes were confirmed verbally to meet accessibility requirements, and it was unanimously:

RESOLVED:

- (i) To agree to fund the installation of two additional cameras to extend coverage to include the Bowls Club, and support accessing footage when required, in exchange for three years free use of the Clubs power supply and broadband.
- (ii) To explore grant funding for some or all of the costs to offset the unbudgeted expenditure.

7-2025/26 SANDHAM GROUNDS – PARKS (Paper H)

1. Rainbow Park Equipment

The Committee were advised that the existing roundabout, which had been installed in 2019 was no longer sitting evenly on its bearings and the resulting gaps between the surface and the lip of the equipment exceeded permitted levels and the equipment being taken out of use. Initial investigations have established the parts on the roundabout, which due to its accessible design were below ground level, were corroding faster than expected due to the site being below sea level and as a result of flooding.

Investigatory works were required before costs to repair the roundabout could be established if at all. It is estimated these works would cost up to £1,000. A new piece of equipment with an "above ground" design would cost an estimated £7,500 plus delivery and installation.

Due to the popularity of the park there was agreement works to investigate repairs should be undertaken and replacement costs sought for replacement of the equipment in the Spring of 2026.

A motion to this effect was moved and duly seconded. Councillors' votes were confirmed verbally to meet accessibility requirements, and it was unanimously:

RESOLVED:

THAT repairs be undertaken and an above ground solution be brought forward in the Spring of 2026, funded by capital reserves.

2. Zip Wire/Flying Fox

The installation of the Zip Wire pre-dated the 2019 refurbishment works. Recent inspections had highlighted that the design of this type of equipment had changed and significant works would be required to update it. Several parts have now been replaced but continued to wear due to the metal-on-metal design. It was estimated that £1550.00 would be required to bring it back into use for the summer and expected further works would be required next year to ensure its continued use.

Replacing the existing zip wire with a modern design made from a mixture of materials was estimated to cost £8,000 plus delivery and installation but quotes would be required to confirm this. The surface under the wire itself is also in need of replacement due to changes to the ground level as a result of flooding. Estimates for this work were £4,500.

A motion to this effect was moved and duly seconded. Councillors' votes were confirmed verbally to meet accessibility requirements, and it was unanimously:

RESOLVED:

THAT costings be sought and the equipment and surface be replaced in the Autumn of 2025, funded by Capital Reserves.

3. Skate Park

The Committee considered additional maintenance required to the ramps in the Skate Park, expected to cost approximately £1,500. The continued deterioration of the metal was also recognised with members noting the ramps were approaching end of life. Monies had been put aside to refurbish the skate park and it had been expected this project would begin in 2026/2027. Officers believed however, due to the increase in repairs required this needed to be bought forward.

A motion proposing a solution to these issues was moved and duly seconded. Councillors' votes were confirmed verbally to meet accessibility requirements, and it was unanimously:

RESOLVED:

THAT repairs be undertaken to extend life of ramps and a recommendation be made to Full Council that scoping works for the refurbishment project be bought forward into the current financial year.

8-2025/26 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on 11 August 2025.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

None present.

Meeting Finished 18:12