

Minutes of the meeting of the Finance, Asset & Resources Committee held on
Thursday 3rd September 2026 at 7pm.

Present: Councillors: Cllr G Hutchinson (Chair), P Jones, G Elner, J Howard, A Wignall and P Goulbourne.

Town Clerk and RFO: Jo Butterworth.

Deputy Town Clerk and Deputy RFO: Gem Whitley.

FAR 09/26/01 **To elect a Chair for 2026/2027 Municipal Year.**

It was moved by Cllr P Goulbourne, seconded by Cllr A Wignall and

RESOLVED: that Cllr G Hutchinson be elected Chair for the 2026/27 municipal year.

FAR 09/26/02 **To elect a Vice Chair for 2026/2027 Municipal Year.**

It was moved by Cllr P Jones, seconded by Cllr P Goulbourne and

RESOLVED: that Cllr J Howard be elected Vice Chair for the 2026/27 municipal year.

FAR 09/26/03 **To receive apologies and reasons for absence.**

Apologies were received from Cllr N Proffitt due to work commitments.

RESOLVED: that the apologies and reasons for absence be approved.

FAR 09/26/04 **Disclosure of Personal and Prejudicial Interests.**

Cllr P Jones declared a personal interest in item 09/26/11 Ellesmere Cricket Club.

FAR 09/26/05 **Grant Dispersations.**

None requested.

FAR 09/26/06 **Minutes.**

It was moved by Cllr P Goulbourne, seconded by Cllr A Wignall and

RESOLVED: that the Finance Asset & Resources Committee meeting held on the 8th January 2026 be signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record.

FAR 09/26/07 **(a) Detailed Income and Expenditure 1st Quarter.** To review.

The Clerk reported that the Art Festival nominal ledger number 4556/107 was showing at 501.4% overbudget. This is not a true reflection. A budget of £500 had been allocated, donations were received and show in Town Council income (1801/101).

The Clerk also reported that membership fees 4109/300 is showing 110% of the budget spent, this is due to the ICCM membership fee increasing by £10.

(b) Bank Balances as at the end of the 1st Quarter. Noted.

FAR 09/26/08

Town Council Offices.

Members considered a quotation received to provide a full set of working drawings, specification/schedule and tender for the works at Ellesmere Town Hall. The quotation was from AJD Surveying Limited a company that previously provided the same service to the Town Council for the new roof at the Town Hall. Members agreed that they would like to directly award the contract to them for stages 1 and 2 of the quotation which totalled £2,900 plus VAT.

It was moved by Cllr G Elner, seconded by Cllr P Goulbourne and

RESOLVED: To instruct AJD Surveying Ltd to complete section 1 & 2 of the works quoted for a total of £2,900.

FAR 09/26/09

Grants.

A grant request from Fizzgigs was considered.

It was moved by Cllr A Wignall that a grant of £800 be awarded.

It was further moved by Cllr P Jones that a grant of £800 be awarded and that Fizzgigs are signposted to Ellesmere Rural Parish Council (ERPC) to also apply for a grant.

Cllr Jones's motion was seconded by Cllr P Goulbourne and

RESOLVED: to award Fizzgigs a grant of £800 and signpost them to ERPC for further grant funding.

The Clerk reported that following a grant request from Discover Ellesmere CIC for £2,000 towards Ellesmere leaflet printing an application for an Environmental Maintenance Grant had been applied for and was unsuccessful. Therefore members were asked permission to pay the £2,000 from General Reserves as agreed by Council during in May 2026. Min Nos: 05/06/21 (c) and 05/26/23.

It was move by Cllr G Hutchinson, seconded by Cllr P Jones and

RESOLVED: to pay Discover Ellesmere £2,000 from general reserves.

FAR 09/26/10

Gardening Contract.

(a) & (b) The Clerk reported that following the July meeting of the full Town Council where it was minuted that the contractors were not fulfilling their contract, they had given notice with immediate effect. As this was happened during summer recess a local firm was approached to temporarily take over the duties of the contract until the Council reconvened in September. Members all agreed that the temporary contractors had done an excellent job and as a result agreed not to go out to tender again because the quotation to carry out the works permanently was only £100 more than the contract that had been agreed in March, they would like to directly award the contract to the temporary company for the remainder of the initial

contract which is 31st March 2029.

It was moved by Cllr P Jones, seconded by Cllr A Wignall and

RESOLVED: to directly award the gardening contract to Northwood Nurseries until 31st March 2029 for a total of £8,500 plus VAT a year.

FAR 09/26/11

Ellesmere Cricket Club. Cllr P Jones left the room.

Members discussed the legal fees for the lease extension that had originally been discussed in December 2023.

It was moved by Cllr P Goulbourne, seconded by Cllr G Hutchinson and

RESOLVED: that Ellesmere Cricket Club pay for their legal fees and the Town Council legal fees to allow the club to carry out building works, extend the lease and permit the Cricket Club to hire the club out for functions.

FAR 09/26/12

Ellesmere Bowling Club.

A request from Ellesmere Bowling Club to cover the ongoing maintenance costs of their defibrillator was considered.

It was moved by Cllr P Jones, seconded by Cllr A Wignall and

RESOLVED: that after much discussion it was agreed to advise the Bowling Club to submit a grant application every 4 years to cover the cost of new batteries and pads.

FAR 09/26/13

Ellesmere in Bloom.

Members considered a request to give Ellesmere in Bloom access to water from Cross Street toilets to water the flowers. A quotation of £145 plus VAT to install an anti taper outside tap and install a new cold feed.

It was moved by Cllr P Jones, seconded by Cllr G Elner and

RESOLVED: to accept the quote of £145 plus Vat to install a tap on Cross Street toilets.

Meeting Closed 7.55pm.

Chair

Date