



**SANDGATE PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of a meeting of the Finance Committee held on**  
**Monday on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2024 at 6.30pm**

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**Present:**                      **Chairman:**              **Simon Horton**

**Councillors:**        **Michael Fitch & Tim Prater**

**Parish Clerk**        **Gaye Thomas**

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**These Minutes will only be deemed to be a correct record of the meeting when approved and signed at the next meeting.**

- 1. Apologies for absence:** Councillor Hazel Barrett
- 2. Declarations of Interest:** None
- 3. Minutes:** The minutes of the previous Finance Committee meeting on **18th November 2024**, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.  
**Proposed by: Councillor Michael Fitch**  
**Seconded by: Councillor Tim Prator**  
**Approved by all present**

**4. Monthly finance information:** The finance information had been previously circulated. It was noted that minor adjustments to income codes were required. The inclusion of the Dashboard graphic, which provides a comprehensive overview of the financial position, was highlighted as particularly useful, and the RFO was commended for this valuable addition

**5. 2025/2026 budget:**  
It was observed that the proposed Council Tax Base figures were received today, reflecting a 7.92% increase for Sandgate. This increase is attributable to the growing occupancy of Taylor Wimpey properties, as well as the rise in council tax for second homes from April 2025. This was identified as the second-highest increase within the district: only St Mary's in the Marsh was higher.

It was noted that the initial budgetary expenditure projections had been prepared accounting for essential priorities such as increases in the minimum wage, National Insurance contributions and known required maintenance etc. Furthermore, provision would be required to support funding the introduction of the 20 MPH speed restriction on the A259 Sandgate High Street. Consequently, the additional revenue generated from the expanded tax base is particularly appreciated as it will help offset that higher expenditure.

It was noted that the draft budget would be circulated before the next Finance Committee.

- 6. PWLB**  
This item was deferred until the next meeting.

Chairman's initials and date

**7. Correspondence**

None at this time

**8. Information**

It was noted that a grant application for RDHCT funding to support next year's Sea Festival fireworks and the rental of a covered stage would be submitted this week.

Additionally, it was acknowledged that the purchase of Hi-Vis jackets, which had been inadvertently omitted from the current Finance Committee agenda, would be addressed at the upcoming Full Council meeting.

Regarding CCTV provision, it was noted that the budget for the forthcoming year could be reduced, as recent inspections confirmed that the cameras are in good condition and will not require replacement. Furthermore, enhanced signal reception between the cameras and the receiver has led to improved recording quality.

Finally, it was noted that future discussions would focus on the expansion of CCTV coverage to other areas of the parish, including Fremantle Park.

**10. Date of next meeting:** 20<sup>th</sup> January 2025

**Meeting finished at 6.50pm.**

Signed by Chairman of Finance Committee ..... Dated .....