Gainsborough Town Council
Richmond House, Richmond Park, Morton Terrace
Gainsborough, Lincolnshire, DN21 2RJ
Tel: 01427 811573
Website: gainsborough-tc.gov.uk

FINANCE AND STRATEGY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Minutes of the Finance and Strategy Committee meeting held on **Tuesday 27 January 2026** at **6:30pm** in the meeting room, Richmond House, Richmond Park, Morton Terrace, Gainsborough, DN21 2RJ.

Councillors Present: Councillor Nigel Bowler (Chair)

Councillor Sheila Bibb
Councillor Stephen Blogg
Councillor Nicholas Coxon
Councillor Michael Devine
Councillor David Dobbie
Councillor Paul Key
Councillor Richard Thompson (sub)

In Attendance:
Rachel Allbones — Town Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer

FS26/128 Apologies for Absence
Apologies were received from Councillor Woolley.

FS26/129 Declarations of Interest
No declarations of interest were declared.

FS26/130 Dispensation Requests
No dispensation requests were received.

FS26/131 Items for Exclusion of Public and Press
No items for the exclusion of the public and press.

FS26/132 Minutes of the Previous Meeting (Paper A)
RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Finance and Strategy Committee meeting held on Tuesday 16 December 2025 be approved as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chair.

It was noted that following the meeting WLDC amended the Tax Base resulting in the increase of the precept being 4.72% and not 3.69% as stated in FS26/114.

Note: Councillors Bibb, Blogg, Dobbie abstained from voting on the above resolution. Councillor Key abstained from voting on the items after he left the meeting.

FS26/133 Finance Reports (Papers B, C & D)

RESOLVED: To **NOTE** and approve the following reports:

i. Unpaid Expenditure Transactions for 22 January 2026.
ii. Cashbook Summary (including due and unpaid transactions) for 22 January 2026.
iii. Budget Comparison Report (including due and unpaid transactions) for 22 January 2026.

FS26/134 Bank Reconciliation (Paper E)

RESOLVED: That the monthly bank reconciliations for 31 December 2025 be approved and signed, with the following closing balances:

- HSBC Current/Deposit Account: £64,821.15
- CCLA: £500,000.00

FS26/135 Accessibility Statement for the Website Review (Paper F)

RESOLVED: To adopt updated Website Accessibility Statement.

FS26/136 Fees and Charges (Paper G)

RESOLVED: To

1) Approve the 2026/27 Sports Grounds charges as set in Appendix A.
2) Provide cricket pitch free of charge for children's all stars and dynamo's cricket sessions.
3) Approve the 2026/27 Cemetery charges as set in Appendix B.
4) Approve the 2027/28 Allotment charges at £0.139 per square metre and £0.150 per square metre for Non-residents.
5) Approve the 2026/27 water charges for Spital Hill at £11.50 per standard plot and Foxby Hill at £6.70 per standard plot (double charge for large plots).
6) Approve the 2026/27 Garage space charge at £60.78.
7) Approve the fee for fairs/circuses at £250 per trading day.
8) Approve the fee for the Motor caravaners for 2026/27 at £600 (Fri – Sun).
9) Approve the fee Charity / community groups for Marshalls whole site at £150 per event day.

Note: Councillor Dobbie abstained from voting on the above resolution.

FS26/137 Electronic Communications and Social Media Policy Review (Papers H - K)

RESOLVED: To adopt the Electronic Communications and Social Media Policy which supersedes the Councils Communications Policy, Communications Strategy and Social Media Policy.

FS26/138 Use of Work Vehicles by Councillors & Staff for Personal Domestic Use Review (Paper L)

RESOLVED: To adopt the reviewed Use of Work Vehicles by Councillors & Staff for Personal Domestic Use Policy, with the removal of 'two parts' in 4.1.

FS26/139 Councillor Laptop Use & Return Agreement (Paper M)

RESOLVED: To RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL the adoption of the Councillor Laptop Use & Return Agreement.

Note: Councillor Dobbie abstained from voting on the above resolution.

FS26/140 Items for Notification

RESOLVED: to **NOTE** the items for notification to be included on a future agendas:

i. Marshalls Bowls Club Lease
ii. Love Lane Allotment Garages
iii. Operation Bridges Review
iv. Civic Protocol
v. Investment Strategy – March
vi. Asset Register Review - March
vii. Risk Management Policy – April
viii. Risk Register – April
ix. Registrar Lease renewal
x. Unity Trust Bank
xi. Strategic Plan
xii. LCAS Silver Status submission

FS26/141 Time and Date of Next Meeting

RESOLVED: to **NOTE** the date and time of the next Finance and Strategy Committee meeting scheduled for Tuesday 24 February 2026 at 6:30pm at Richmond House, Morton Terrace.

The meeting closed at 7:52pm.

Signed as a true record of the Meeting: ________________________ Dated______________
Presiding Chair of approving meeting