Gainsborough Town Council
Richmond House, Richmond Park, Morton Terrace
Gainsborough, Lincolnshire, DN21 2RJ
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FINANCE AND STRATEGY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Minutes of the Finance and Strategy Committee meeting held on **Tuesday 24 February 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 Paul Hooton
Councillor Paul Key
Councillor Richard Thompson (sub)

In Attendance:
Rachel Allbones Town Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer

FS26/142 Apologies for Absence
Apologies were received from Councillors Dobbie, Woolley.

FS26/143 Declarations of Interest
No declarations of interest were declared.

FS26/144 Dispensation Requests
No dispensation requests were received.

FS26/145 Items for Exclusion of Public and Press
RESOLVED: To exclude the public and press from items FS26/151, FS26/152 in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 1 (2) due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed.

FS26/146 Minutes of the Previous Meeting (Paper A)
RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Finance and Strategy Committee meeting held on Tuesday 27 January 2026 be approved as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chair.

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

FS26/147 Finance Reports (Papers B, C & D)
RESOLVED: To **NOTE** and approve the following reports:
i. Unpaid Expenditure Transactions for 19 February 2026.

ii. Cashbook Summary (including due and unpaid transactions) for 19 February 2026.
iii. Budget Comparison Report (including due and unpaid transactions) for 19 February 2026.

FS26/148 Bank Reconciliation (Paper E)
RESOLVED: That the monthly bank reconciliations for 31 January 2026 be approved and signed, with the following closing balances:
- HSBC Current/Deposit Account: £76,259.34
- CCLA: £430,000.00

FS26/149 Investment Strategy Review (Papers F & G)
RESOLVED: To adopt updated Investment Strategy.

FS26/150 Councillor Laptop Use & Return Agreement (Paper H)
RESOLVED: To RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL the adoption of the Councillor Laptop Use & Return Agreement.

FS26/151 Fee Waiver Request (Paper I)
RESOLVED: That the request to suspend the increase in fees for 2026/27 be rejected; however, as a goodwill gesture, an additional free week be offered during the 2025/26 financial year.

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

FS26/152 Marshalls Bowls Club Lease (Paper J)
RESOLVED: To approve the draft Lease and authorise the Town Clerk to progress the matter subject to completion of the legal process and receipt of the Licence to Underlet.

FS26/153 Items for Notification
RESOLVED: to **NOTE** the items for notification to be included on a future agendas:
i. Community Grants - March
ii. Earmarked Reserves Review – March
iii. Internal Controls - March
iv. Debtor Review – March
v. Asset Register Review - March
vi. Love Lane Allotment Garages - March
vii. Risk Management Policy & Register Review – April
viii. Operation Bridges Review
ix. Civic Protocol
x. Registrar Lease renewal
xi. Unity Trust Bank
xii. Strategic Plan
xiii. LCAS Silver Status submission

FS26/154 Time and Date of Next Meeting

RESOLVED: to **NOTE** the date and time of the next Finance and Strategy Committee meeting scheduled for Tuesday 31 March 2026 at 6:30pm at Richmond House, Morton Terrace.

The meeting closed at 7:29pm.

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