



## Ottery St Mary Town Council

Minutes of the ORDINARY MEETING OF Finance & Strategic Planning Committee held on **Tuesday 20 January 2026** at **17:00**. The meeting was held in the **Ottery St. Mary Town Council Offices, 8 Broad Street, Ottery St Mary EX11 1BZ**

Present: Cllrs Dean Stewart (Chair), Janice Aherne, Richard Grainger and Vicky Johns (Mayor)  
In Attendance: Kerry Kennell, Town Clerk  
Minute Taker: Kerry Kennell, Town Clerk

### **FSP/26/01/01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were noted Cllr Feasey and Cllr Peka.

### **FSP/26/01/02 DECLARATIONS AND DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

To receive Declarations of interest for items on the Agenda and receipt of requests for new Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPIs) dispensations for items on the Agenda

Cllr Stewart	No interests were declared.
Cllr Grainger	No interests were declared.
Cllr Aherne	No interests were declared.
Cllr Johns	No interests were declared.

### **FSP/26/01/03 ADMISSION TO MEETINGS**

In consideration of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 (publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted): to agree any items to be dealt with after the public and press have been excluded

It was **RESOLVED** that Agenda item FSP/26/01/06 - Consideration of Community Grant Applications would be discussed in Confidential Session as they include information relating to the organisation finances.

### **FSP/26/01/04 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

To allow members of the public present to submit questions/comments for consideration  
Individual contributions will be limited to 3 minutes

There was none.

### **FSP/26/01/05 MINUTES**

Chair's initials \_\_\_\_\_

To receive the Minutes of the Finance and Strategic Planning Committee meeting of 9th December 2025 (FSP/25/12/01 - FSP/25/12/14) by the Chair as a correct record

The minutes of 9<sup>th</sup> December 2025 were approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record of the meeting.

**FSP/26/01/06 CONSIDERATION OF COMMUNITY GRANT APPLICATIONS**

Grant applications received from Ottery St Mary Bowling Club, Hospiscare and any further applications received

*Under s.1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the council resolved to exclude the press and public from the meeting since publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.*

It was **RECOMMENDED** that £2,000 is awarded to Hospiscare.

It was **RECOMMENDED** that £2,000 is awarded to the Ottery St Mary Bowling Club.

It was **AGREED** the Clerk will provide information on the grants paid during the financial year 2025/26 at the next meeting.

**FSP/26/01/07 TO CONSIDER THE NEXT STEPS REGARDING THE COUNCIL'S APPROVED STRATEGY DOCUMENTS AND MAKE DECISIONS AS APPROPRIATE**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-town-of-culture-2028-expression-of-interest/uk-town-of-culture-2028-expression-of-interest-guidance-for-bidders#ministerial-foreword>

it was **AGREED** that a document should be produced to summarise the strategy documents and explain the increase in precept for 2027/28. This should be shared via the Ottery Gazette, website and Facebook.

It was **RECOMMENDED** that the final draft of the summary document is approved by the Finance Committee.

It was **RECOMMENDED** the Council apply for a Town of Culture. The deadline to express an interest is 31 March 2026.

**FSP/26/01/08 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE REGARDING THE SECTION 106 CONSULTATION**

The Clerk is attending a meeting with EDDC tomorrow and the consultation should be launched shortly.

**FSP/26/01/09 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE CLERK REGARDING ANY OUTSTANDING ISSUES AND MAKE DECISIONS AS APPROPRIATE**

The Clerk confirmed that the Council has been awarded funding of £5,000 to increase CCTV in the town from the OPCC. The Clerk is seeking quotations for this work.

**FSP/26/01/10 TO NOTE ANY SPECIFIC CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

Chair's initials \_\_\_\_\_

There was none.

**FSP/26/01/11 TO RECEIVE ANY FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS FROM MEMBERS**

There were none.

**FSP/26/01/12 TO RECEIVE COUNCILLORS QUESTIONS**

There were none.

**FSP/26/01/13 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING: 10TH FEBRUARY 2026**

Reports & Appendix 1

Meeting concluded at 18:30

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Chair's initials \_\_\_\_\_

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