

**Minutes of the meeting of Awsworth Parish Council's Finance & General Purposes Committee held on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2025 in the Awsworth Parish Council's Sports Pavilion, Awsworth, Nottingham. The meeting commenced at 7:30 p.m.**

**Present:** Cllr G Spencer / Cllr J Woodward / Cllr J Mortimer / Cllr M Smith / Cllr M Perkins / Cllr C Sanderson / Cllr D Knell / Cllr R Paxton / Cllr L Parish / Cllr I Gentry / Cllr B Reynolds / Hayley Holt (Clerk)

	<b>Actions:</b>
<p><b>FIN/01/25 <u>Appointment of Chair</u></b></p> <p><b>Election of Chair</b> – Cllr J Woodward - Proposed by Cllr G Spencer, seconded by Cllr C Sanderson – All in Favour.</p> <p>There being no other nominations Cllr J Woodward was voted in as Chair for the next 12 months.</p>	
<p><b>FIN/02/25 <u>Appointment of Vice Chair</u></b></p> <p><b>Election of Vice Chair</b> – In the absence of the Chair, Cllr G Spencer (as Chair of Full Parish Council) will stand in, proposed Cllr C Sanderson, seconded Cllr J Mortimer – All in Favour.</p> <p>There being no other nominations Cllr G Spencer was voted in as Vice Chair for the next 12 months.</p>	
<p><b>FIN/03/25 <u>Apologies for absence</u></b></p> <p>Cllr L Ball (Trowell Parish Council)</p>	
<p><b>FIN/04/25 <u>Declarations of Interest</u></b></p> <p>Cllr G Spencer – Awsworth Village Hall &amp; Awsworth Bowls Club / Cllr J Mortimer – Awsworth Village Hall / Cllr M Perkins – Awsworth Bowls Club / Cllr R Paxton – Awsworth Village Hall / Cllr I Gentry – Awsworth Bowls Club</p>	
<p><b>FIN/05/25 <u>Minutes for Approval</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed Cllr G Spencer, seconded Cllr M Smith – accept minutes as a true record – All in favour, 4 abstentions.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>FIN/06/25 <u>Reports on actions from the Minutes of the last meeting</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New Village Signs – quotes have been received and we are currently in discussions with Cossall Parish Council, Avant Homes, and Broxtowe Borough Council to looking at funding and installation options.</li> <li>Clerk stated that she had informed the Hanging basket company of the changes we would like to make and to ask for 2026/27 quote but has not received a response as yet.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clerk to chase</li> </ul>
<p><b>FIN/07/25 <u>'Flowers of Love' Project</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>St Peters Church holds a 'Flowers of Love' festival each year in late June, where anyone wishing to bring flowers to church in remembrance of a loved one, can place them in a vase or have them arranged.</li> <li>It was agreed that Awsworth Parish Council would set a budget of £50 to purchase flowers for the Project – proposed Cllr C Sanderson, seconded Cllr I Gentry – all in favour.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cllr C Sanderson to contact Florist.</li> </ul>
<p><b>FIN/08/25 <u>Christmas Lights funding</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clerk informed the Council that residents have been asking if we could have more Christmas lights throughout the Village and if money raised from Santa's Sleigh could be used towards these?</li> <li>A discussion was held around this, and it was agreed that money raised from Santa's sleigh should continue to be used for Children of the village and not lights.</li> <li>It was agreed that the Clerk would get an up-to-date quote and discuss lighting options with Contractors (e.g. solar panel, lamp post lights, fairy lights etc). Once the quotes have been received, It was agreed that we should contact Broxtowe Borough Council to ask for help and support with funding (S106 / Levelling up funds) and potentially local businesses too.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clerk to get quotes and write to BBC</li> </ul>

<p><b><u>FIN/09/25 Expenditure Report 2025/26</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Clerk highlighted the following areas of spend/overspend: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 4040 – Website: there is an overspend due to the new website design and set up costs, although there was £650 in reserves which has now been used.</li> <li>- 4045 – War Memorial – work now completed and £350 left in reserves.</li> <li>- 4051 – Contingency Fund – £8000 overspend under this code used towards the Play area improvement projects.</li> <li>- 4075 – Office electricity – Clerk to look at new contract.</li> <li>- 4216 – General maintenance, repairs, and sundries (The Rec) – overspend due to a variety of issues.</li> <li>- 4246 – General maintenance, repairs, and sundries (Shilo) – Urgent H&amp;S repairs to boardwalk and steps.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• £15,215 left in the budget at end of Nov</li> <li>• £56,516 left in the bank at the end of Nov</li> </ul>	
<p><b><u>FIN/10/25 Budget / Precept 2026/27</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Committee went through the spreadsheet line by line to agree preliminary figures.</li> </ul> <p>Hayley Holt (Clerk) and Cllr G Spencer left the meeting at 8.05pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The HR Committee has recommended the Clerks hours to be increased to 26 hours per week from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2026 – proposed Cllr C Sanderson, seconded Cllr A Perkins – all in favour.</li> </ul> <p>Hayley Holt (Clerk) and Cllr G Spencer returned to the meeting at 8.15pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Broxtowe have stated that for no increase, the precept figure for Broxtowe Borough Council is £95,624, which is an increase of funds of £3,325 / 3.6%.</li> <li>• Clerk to get annual email and website costings.</li> <li>• Clerk to check photocopier costings and contract end date.</li> <li>• Clerk to look at all phone costings.</li> <li>• Will need a budget for office improvements to ensure there is adequate and efficient storage.</li> <li>• Clerk to get price for Defib consumables needed for next financial year.</li> <li>• Pond fencing needs repairing.</li> <li>• Clerk to speak to Avant regarding dog bin installation on the new site.</li> <li>• Clerk to look into food waste bins in more detail.</li> <li>• Clerk to check annual sanitary bin costs.</li> <li>• VH extension (code 4243) – Clerk to check previous year’s budget and expenditure.</li> <li>• Clerk to ask Amigo’s if they require annual grant.</li> <li>• Cllr J Woodward stated that transport costs to swimming gala’s etc at School are becoming an issue. Cllr G Spencer proposed to increase donation to school from £200 to £250, seconded Cllr C Sanderson – all in favour.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clerk to complete all actions</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>FIN/11/25 Date of next meeting(s)</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2026</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Chair thanked all councillors for their attendance and patience; he closed the meeting at 9.25pm.</b></li> </ul>	