



BARROW TOWN COUNCIL

Town Hall, Duke Street, Barrow-in-Furness LA14 2LD

Minutes of the Finance Committee held on Tuesday 10th June 2025 at 17.30 pm in the Law Library at the Town Hall, Duke Street, Barrow-Furness

Cllr M Leach – Chair	Present	Cllr C Altree	Apology
Cllr J McEwan – Vice Chair	Present	Cllr N Phillips	Apology
Cllr A Coles	Present	Cllr B Elliot	Present
Cllr C Thompson	Present	Cllr F Chatfield	Present
Cllr. K Hyland	Apology		

In attendance: Lesley Smyth (Town Clerk)

F/276/2025 Apologies

Received and accepted from Cllr Altree, Cllr Phillips, Cllr Hyland and the Deputy Clerk.

F/277/2025 Declarations of Interest

Received from Cllr. A Coles in respect of his membership on Westmorland and Furness Council.

F/278/2025 Exclusion of Press and Public (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960)

No issues were considered for exclusion.

F/279/2025 Minutes of the last Meeting held on 14th May 2025

Resolved: To receive the Minutes of the previous meeting of the Finance Committee held on 14th May 2025 and to authorise the Chair to sign them as a correct record. Proposed by Cllr Chatfield and seconded by Cllr. Coles. All agreed.

F/280/2025 Report on the Finance Action Sheet

The Town Clerk presented the current work programme to enable the Committee to note the progress made across the various actions in which the Committee was involved.

Resolved: To confirm the actions outstanding:

- To date there has been no acknowledgement from Westmorland and Furness Council in respect of funding the repairs to the patio at the War Memorial.
- A response to the request to Westmorland and Furness Council for the inclusion of Barrow Town Council in the Community Infrastructure Levy was reported under Min F/231 of 12th February 2025. No further update.
- The purchase of a Financial Accounting System is in progress.
- The opening of a separate Bank Account for the Events Committee and the transfer of the

£70,000 Events Budget.

The Clerk asked for clarification on this matter and Cllr Leach said he would discuss with Cllr Altree who originally proposed this action.

- Contract for the infrastructure of the Christmas Tree.

In accordance with the Standing Orders the requisite action is a minimum of three quotes. However, this is specialised work, and the Clerk noted she is unable to locate more than one company in the local area with this expertise, and therefore sought approval from the Committee to proceed. The details to be taken to the next meeting for discussion. This action was approved.

F/281/2025 Finance Report

The following reports, distributed prior to the meeting, were submitted for approval: -

1. Income & Expenditure Account for the period 1st April to 31st May 2025

2. Allotments Receipts and Payments Account for the period 1st April to 31st May 2025

- It was noted the outcome from a recent meeting between the Allotment Committee and M Richards from Westmorland and Furness Council had not been positive. Therefore, the Clerk reported she has sent an FOI request to Westmorland and Furness Council requesting details of all Income and Expenditure for the 5 years before defrayment of the sites to the Town Council.
- Further, the Clerk reported the last Barrow Borough Council Allotment Committee meeting held before the defrayment was in October 2019.
- The Chair of the Allotment Committee, Cllr Chatfield noted the on-going issues on the sites and the continuing hard work being undertaken by the Allotment Officer. The Allotment Committee will continue to seek redress from Westmorland and Furness council, but until such time the Clerk sought approval for an Allotment contingency of £60,000 in the financial year 2025-26.

Resolved.

Proposed by Cllr Elliot and seconded by Cllr Coles. All agreed. To be taken to the next Full Council for approval.

3. Schedule of payments May 2025

4. Bank Reconciliation as of 31st May 2025

Balance brought forward 1.5.25: -

Unity Trust	£483,856.93
May 2025 Income	£ 24,066.99
May 2025 Expenditure	£ -36,153.46

Balance of Funds	£471,770.46
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Unity Trust Bank	£398,719.37
Furness Building Society	£ 67,729.68
Relief Charity Account	£ 5,321.41

Total Funds as of 31 st May 2025	£471,770.46
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Resolved: Proposed by Cllr. Coles and seconded by Cllr. Chatfield that the accounts here presented be approved. All agreed

F/282/2025 Event Support Grants

The following Grant was approved.

Furness Abbey Fellowship (Medieval Fair). - £2,000. Proposed by Cllr Elliot and seconded by Cllr Chatfield. All agreed.

F/283/2025 Community Support Grants

No applications received.

F/284/2025 Get Barrow Moving

The following Grants were approved.

Bonus Swimming Club. £3,500. Proposed by Cllr Elliot and seconded by Cllr Chatfield. All agreed.

George Hastwell School. £500. Proposed by Cllr Chatfield and seconded by Cllr Thomson, All agreed.

Pickleball. No specific amount had been requested but the total of the whole programme is £35,000. Under the Terms of the 'Get Barrow Moving Fund' the maximum amount that can be approved is £2,500. The Committee agreed this sum in principle but requested the Clerk to obtain confirmation that joint funding for the balance of the funding has been secured.

F/285/2025 Any Other Business

1. Christmas Lights and Infrastructure for Christmas Tree 2025

Further to Min.274(1) of 14th May 2025. A letter from Cllr Herbert was forwarded to Barrow BID. To date there has been no reply.

2. Appreciation to Officers

The Chair wished to minute the Committee's appreciation to retired Cllr Herbert for his service to the Council, and to extend their appreciation and gratitude to J Sanderson, the Allotment Officer, for her continued hard work under such difficult circumstances.

F/286/2025 Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 8th July 2025 at 17.30pm in the Law Library, Town Hall.

The meeting closed at 18.35 pm

Lesley J Smyth

Town Clerk