



BARROW TOWN COUNCIL

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

Minutes of the Finance Committee held on Tuesday 13th January 2026 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	Apology	Cllr N Phillips	Present
Cllr A Coles	Present	Cllr B Elliot	Present
Cllr C Thompson	Apology	Cllr F Chatfield	Present
Cllr. K Hyland	Present	Cllr. S Churcher	Present

In attendance: Cllr C Rudd

Lesley Smyth (Town Clerk) Claire Nolan (Deputy Town Clerk)

F/358/2025 Apologies

Received and accepted from Cllr C Altree, Cllr J McEwan and Cllr C Thompson.

F/359/2025 Declarations of Interest

Received from Cllr. Coles and Cllr Phillips in respect of their membership on Westmorland and Furness Council, and from Cllr Coles in respect of his allotment tenancy and for Agenda item no.

10 (Event Grant Application – The Sistahood Barrow CIC.)

F/360/2025 Exclusion of Press and Public (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960) No issues were considered for exclusion.

F/361/2025 Minutes of the last Meeting held on 9th December 2025

Resolved: To receive the Minutes of the previous meeting of the Finance Committee held on 9th December 2025 and to authorise the Chair to sign them as a correct record. Proposed by Cllr. Chatfield and seconded by Cllr. Hyland. All agreed.

F/362/2025 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 the following issues:

1. Repairs to the patio at the War Memorial.
2. Request to meet with the Westmorland and Furness Director and Assistant Director of Finance in respect of the omission of due diligence on the defrayment of the allotments to the Town Council resulting in unforeseen excessive grounds maintenance expenditure.
3. Request for the allotment land valuation figure as at defrayment.

Cllr Phillips recommended the Clerk seek approval to attend the forthcoming Westmorland and Furness Council meeting to directly address these issues.

F/363/2025 Finance Report

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

1. Income & Expenditure Account for the period 1st April to 23rd December 2025
2. Allotments Receipts and Payments Account for the period 1st April to 23rd December 2025

Resolved:

Proposed by Cllr. Chatfield and seconded by Cllr. Leach that the accounts here presented be approved.

All agreed

3. Schedule of payments to 23rd December 2025

For information only. No issues raised.

4. Bank Reconciliation as of 31st December 2025

Balance brought forward 30.11.25: -	£316,605.08
December income	£ 3,800.68
December Expenditure	£ -21,071.34
Balance of Funds	£ 299,334.42
Unity Trust Bank	£171,379.46
General Reserve – CBS	£ 85,229.68
Events Fund	£ 38,975.45
Charity Relief Fund	£ 3,749.83
Total Funds @ 31 st December 2025	£ 299,334.42

F/364/2025 Precept 2026-2027

The Clerk sought confirmation for the 2026-2027 Precept figure.

Option 1.

Cllr Hyland proposed a Precept percentage increase of 4.99% in line with the Westmorland and Furness Council Tax percentage increase. Seconded by Cllr Elliot.

Option 2.

Cllr Phillips proposed an increase in line with the cost of salaries. Seconded by Cllr Churcher.

Resolved:

A vote having been taken, 4 members agreed to option 1. 3 members agreed to option 2. The 4.99% increase was here approved and will be forwarded to Full Council for adoption.

F/365/2025 Good Citizenship Award

Following an earlier request from Cllr Hyland and recent correspondence received by Cllr Chatfield, it was agreed a report and recommendation be submitted to full Council for the approval of this Award.

F/366/2025 Event Support Grants

The following Grants were presented for approval:

1. The Sistahood CIC. £995 approved. Proposed by Cllr Chatfield and seconded by Cllr Hyland. 6 votes for. 1 abstention due to declaration of interest.
2. Women's Community Matters. £1,535 approved. Proposed by Cllr Phillips and seconded by Cllr Churcher.

A section of the application form appertaining to workshops was not approved. The Committee required a more detailed description as to the scope of the events.

F/367/2025 Community Support Grants No applications.

F/368/2025 Get Barrow Moving No applications.

F/369/2025 Brighten Our Corner

The following Grants were presented for approval:

1. North Walney Residents Association. £1,000 approved. Proposed by Cllr Hyland and seconded by Cllr Phillips. All agreed
2. South Walney Infant & Nursery School. £1,000 approved. Proposed by Cllr Chatfield and seconded by Cllr Coles.

F/370/2025 Any Other Business

Authorised Bank Signatory

1. Cllr Coles to activate his authorisation at the earliest opportunity.
2. Dragon Boat Race 2026. Deferred to the next meeting.

F/371/2025 Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 10th February 2026 at 17.30pm in the Law Library, Town Hall.

The meeting closed at 18.20 pm

Lesley J Smyth

Town Clerk

