



**Minutes of a meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on  
Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at Unity Wellbeing Centre, Vernon Street,  
Nelson**

**Commenced: 6.30pm - Concluded: 6.55pm**

**Councillors Present:** Naeem Akhtar, Zafar Ali, Aqib Bashir and Ikram UI-Haq

**Absent Councillors:** Shabaz Ahmed, Thabasum Ruby Anwar, Mohammed Rehan Hanif and Mohammad Adeel Qamar

**Non-Councillor (without voting rights):** None

**Observing Councillors (not a member of the committee):** None

**Officers:** Nick Harbour – Assistant Town Clerk [minute taker]

**Members of the Public:** One

2025/067 (FGP)	<p><b><u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u></b> To receive and approve apologies for absence and reasons given to the Assistant Town Clerk prior to the meeting.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Ahmed and Seconded by Councillor UI-Haq, and <b>RESOLVED:</b> That the apologies received from Councillors Thabasum Ruby Anwar, Rehan Hanif and Mohammad Adeel Qamar are approved and accepted.</p>
2025/068 (FGP)	<p><b><u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u></b> To receive disclosures of personal and prejudicial interests from members on matters to be considered at the meeting. Officers are required to make a formal declaration about council contracts where the employee has a financial interest.</p> <p>None.</p>
2025/069 (FGP)	<p><b><u>ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</u></b> To adjourn the meeting for 15 minutes to allow members of the public to make representation on the business of the agenda for the meeting. No resolutions can be under public participation.</p> <p>One member of the public here from Inspire2Box to answer any questions on item 9.</p>

2025/070 (FGP)	<p><b><u>MINUTES</u></b> To approve the draft minutes of the Finance and General Purposes committee meeting held on 17 December 2025. (Previously circulated)</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor UI-Haq and Seconded by Councillor Akhtar and <b>RESOLVED:</b> That the draft minutes of the Finance and General Purposes committee meeting held on the 17 December 2025 be confirmed as a true record and be signed by the Chair.</p>
2025/071 (FGP)	<p><b><u>ACCOUNTS AND SCHEDULE OF AUTHORISED EXPENDITURE PAYMENTS / RECEIPTS</u></b></p> <p><b>2025/071.1 To receive the monthly schedule of payments for the period of November and December 2025. The committee is required to review the schedule of payments for compliance in accordance with the Financial Regulations.</b></p> <p>The monthly schedule of payments were received and reviewed for the period of November and December 2025.</p> <p><b>2025/071.2 To note the schedule of payments over £500.00 for the period of November and December 2025 for publication on the website in accordance with the Data Transparency Code.</b></p> <p>Members noted the schedule of payments over £500.00 for publication on the website in accordance with the Data Transparency Code.</p> <p><b>2025/071.3 To review and approve the Finance and General Purposes committee payments for the period of November and December 2025.</b></p> <p>Note: The schedules of committee payments shall be signed by the Committee chair and included as an annex to the minutes, subject to any redaction to protect personal information</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor UI-Haq and Seconded by Councillor Bashir and <b>RESOLVED:</b> That the Finance and General Purposes committee payments for the period of November and December 2025 are approved and signed off by the Chairman.</p>
2025/072 (FGP)	<p><b><u>BANK RECONCILIATION STATEMENTS</u></b></p> <p><b>2025/072.1 To receive the bank reconciliation statements for the period of November and December 2025</b></p> <p>Members noted the Bank Reconciliation Statements for the period of November and December 2025</p> <p><b>2025/072.2 To appoint a member, other than a cheque signatory to verify the bank reconciliation statements for all accounts (produced by the Assistant Town Clerk).</b></p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Anwar and Seconded by Councillor Ahmed, and <b>RESOLVED:</b> That Councillor Akhtar be appointed to verify the bank reconciliation statements for all accounts produced by the Assistant Town Clerk.</p>
2025/073 (FGP)	<p><b><u>BUDGET MONITORING REVIEW</u></b> To review the budget spends so far in the financial year 2025/ 26 and identify any significant differences thus far.</p> <p>Members reviewed the budget lines, nothing of note was highlighted as an issue at present.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p>
2025/074 (FGP)	<p><b><u>ASSET REGISTER</u></b> To review the Nelson Town Council asset register in line with recommendations received by the internal auditor.</p>

	<p>The Assistant Town Clerk had circulated the asset register.</p> <p>The recent additions were the football equipment used for the Friday night coaching sessions and the 9 new grit bins which were recently approved at Full Council.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p>
<p>2025/075 (FGP)</p>	<p><b><u>SMALL GRANT APPLICATION – INSIPRE2BOX</u></b></p> <p>To consider a small grant application received from Inspire2Box to part fund equipment to run the StrongHER Futures programme. The funding request is for £991.49.</p> <p>A small grant application for £991.49 had been received from Inspire2Box to part fund equipment to run the StrongHER Futures programme.</p> <p>Whilst all present were in agreement that the initiative was a worthwhile cause which would help support local residents, a couple of issues were identified and needed clarifying before a decision could be reached.</p> <p>Members asked that the most recent bank statement is provided as well as receipts for spends on the previous grant application which was approved by this Council the year before to contribute towards another initiative from Inspire2Box.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Ali and Seconded by Councillor UI-Haq, and  <b>RESOLVED:</b> That the small grant application received from Inspire2Box to part fund equipment to run the StrongHER Futures programme is deferred until the most recent bank statement has been provided and receipts from the previous grant application approved by this committee are received.</p>
<p>2025/076 (FGP)</p>	<p><b><u>ANY ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION FOR A FUTURE AGENDA</u></b></p> <p>To notify the Clerk of any matters for inclusion on the agenda of the next meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>
<p>2025/077 (FGP)</p>	<p><b><u>DATE OF THE NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING</u></b></p> <p>To note the date of the next committee meeting scheduled to take place on Wednesday 29th April 2026 at 6.30pm, at the Unity Well Being Centre, Vernon Street, Nelson.</p> <p>Members noted the date of the next meeting.</p> <p>The meeting was closed by the Chair at 6.55pm.</p>