

Worth Parish Council

Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 2nd October 2025 commencing at 8.07 pm

Present:	Cllr Scott (Chair) Cllr Dorey Cllr Kipps Cllr Wilson	Cllr Williams (Vice Chair) Cllr Hodsdon Cllr Pointer
	Mrs L Bannister (Chief Officer)	1 member of the public

Due to the absence of the Chairman, Cllr Scott acted as Chair for the meeting, and it was RESOLVED to appoint Cllr Williams as Vice Chair.

046 Public Question Time

No questions were raised at this point in the meeting.

047 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs Casella, Coote, King and Phillips.

Absent – Cllr Lord

048 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Hodsdon declared an interest in the grant to the Copthorne Carnival as he is part of the organisation.

049 Minutes

It was RESOLVED to approve the Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 1st September 2025. These were duly signed by Cllr Scott.

050 Chairman's Announcements

None.

051 Correspondence List

It was NOTED that the following has been received:

- Thank you for the grant from St Catherine's Hospice.
- Update on the grant spend from 4Sight Vision Support.

052 Accounts and Financial Matters

Financial information

Financial information was included in the meeting pack. It was RESOLVED that the financial information was a true representation of the current financial situation.

Bank Reconciliations

It was NOTED that the bank reconciliations to 30th September have been completed and signed by Cllr Hodsdon. The bank reconciliation was inaccurate by 30p and this will be brought forward at the next meeting.

Unity grant fund

It was NOTED that approximately £3,500 has been applied for from the Unity Trust Bank Impact Grant towards youth costs.

Street lights

It was RESOLVED to approve the payment of £734 plus VAT to UK Power Networks for a road closure for a replacement street light column.

Grants

A representative from Peter Pan Playgroup spoke in support of the application and the benefits that the fence will bring to the children.

It was RESOLVED to award the following grants:
Peter Pan Playground - £750 towards a new fence

Cllr Hodsdon left the room

Copthorne Carnival - £750 for a new PA system

Cllr Hodsdon returned to the meeting

Members noted that the amounts of the grants being given may need to be reduced in future based on the volume being applied for.

Defibrillator

It was NOTED that funding for a new machine was declined, but a new device has now been purchased at a cost of £895 plus VAT.

053 Cyber & GDPR training

Members were offered cyber and GDPR training, at a cost of £6 per email account per month. Members wanted to explore Cyber Essentials as an option first, so this will be investigated by the Chief Officer and information given at a future meeting.

054 Section 106

- a. The reports were NOTED. It was also NOTED that WSCC has agreed to fund Fairways Primary School via S106.
- b. It was NOTED that the S106 application for new shutters and a door security system for the Copthorne Pavilion has been submitted.

055 Community Governance Degree

It was RESOLVED to approve the recommendation by the HR Committee that the Chief Officer completes the Community Governance Degree at a cost of £6,800 payable over two years.

056 Projects

Projects Tracker

The updated document was NOTED.

Bowers Place Parking

The update was NOTED.

CCTV

It was RESOLVED to approve the draft wayleave agreement, and confirmed that the Chief Officer has delegated authority to sign this on behalf of the Council.

Copthorne Recreation Ground

- a. It was RESOLVED to approve the virements of the following to the Copthorne Recreation Ground earmarked reserve:
 - £14,000 budgeted for the loan repayments
 - £10,000 from the Copthorne Neighbourhood Plan budget
 - £5,000 from the Copthorne Working Party budget
- b. It was RESOLVED that the project continues with the S278 application, minor variance planning application and groundworks once the S106 application is signed off and the loan approved.

057 Matters for Consideration submitted by the Village Working Parties

No items were submitted.

058 Consideration of items for discussion by the Village Working Parties

No items were submitted.

059 Date of the next meeting

The date of the next meeting is Monday 3rd November at the Parish Hub, Copthorne.

Meeting closed at 8.51 pm

Chairman: _____

Date: _____