CHARD TOWN COUNCIL
The Guildhall, Fore Street, Chard, Somerset TA20 1PP
01460 239567 www.chard.gov.uk
Mayor: Cllr Bates Chief Executive & Town Clerk David Bell

Minutes: Extraordinary Meeting Finance & Audit

Finance & Audit Committee held on **Monday 16th March 2026** at 19.00pm in The Guildhall, Fore Street, Chard TA20 1PP

Councillors Present: Cllr Baker, Cllr Eggins, Cllr A Kenton, Cllr J Kenton, & Williams (Chair),

Officers Present:
Chief Executive & Town Clerk, David Bell; Teresa Turnbull Finance Officer.

Section1 Standing Items:

2026/01 Apologies for absence
Apologies were received from Cllr Bulmer

2026/02 Declarations of interest
No declarations were made

2026/03 Committee Meeting Minutes

Proposed Cllr Eggins Seconded Cllr J Kenton
Unanimous

Resolved: To approve minutes for Finance & Audit Committee meeting of the 2nd December 2025

Section 2: Items For Noting

2026/04 Bank Reconciliation Statement: February 2026
Committee noted the February statements provided.

2026/05 February 2026 Payments List
Committee noted the February 2026 payments list will be submitted to Full Council.

2026/06 Internal Audit Arrangements
Committee noted the oral update provided. To be referred to Full Council for decision on the contract.

2026/07 Project End Of Year Report
Committee noted the **projected** End of Year Report.

2026/08 Insurance Consideration Renewal

Committee noted the Council's insurance current contract providers, was renewed for a three-year period with effect from 1 April 2024 and remains in place. Further that negotiations are taking place to review levels of cover and renewal

Section 3: Items For Discussion And Decision

2026/09 Ear Marked Reserves

It was resolved to recommend to Full Council to allocate up to £500,000 to the following Earmarked Reserves (EMRs):

- Sports & Changing Facilities – £100,000
- Play Equipment – £100,000
- Civic Regalia – £25,000
- Guildhall Sinking Fund – £100,000
- Cemetery Sinking Fund – £75,000
- MUGA – £50,000
- Play Areas – £50,000

Proposed Cllr J Kenton Seconded Cllr T Eggins
Unanimous

2026/10 Virements To Budget Lines

Recommendation 1 - Jocelyn Ward Election Costs

Proposed Cllr Eggins Seconded Cllr A Kenton
Unanimous

Resolved: To recommend to Full Council to approve a virement of £4,105.31 from the General Fund to the Election Costs budget line to cover the shortfall and enable payment of the invoice

Recommendation 2 - Mayor's Charity Income

Proposed Cllr J Baker Seconded Cllr J Kenton
Unanimous

Resolved: To approve the virement of £670.86 from the General Fund to the Mayor's Charity Income account to facilitate payment to the Mayor's nominated charitable beneficiaries for 2024/25

2026/11 Community Grants

Consideration of grant applications from Chard Cricket Club and Citizens Advice Somerset

Recommendation:

Proposed Cllr Eggins Seconded Cllr Baker

Unanimous

Resolved: To approve the unanimous recommendations of the Grants Sub-Committee to grant the sum of £1000 to Chard Cricket Club & Citizens Advice Somerset.

2026/12 Date of Next Meeting
Committee noted the date of the next Finance & Audit Committee meetings as being 14th April 2026

There being no other business the Vice Chair thanked people for attending and closed the meeting at 7.48 p.m.

Vice Chair: **Date:** 14/4/26

Cllr Williams