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

Finance & Audit Extraordinary Meeting held on **Monday 22 July 2025** at 19.00pm in The Guildhall, Fore Street, Chard TA20 1PP

Councillors Present: Baker, Bates, Bulmer, A Kenton, J Kenton, O'Brien, Richter, & Williams (Vice Chair),

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

Public Participation Time.
Representatives from Churches Together & Youth Adventure Trust gave an overview of their community grant application.

Section1 Standing Items:

2025/17 Apologies for absence
Apologies were received from Cllr Hassan

Proposed Cllr Bates Seconded Cllr Baker
Unanimous

Resolved: To accept the Councillors apologies.

2025/28 Declarations of interest
Declarations of interest were made by Cllr Baker in respect of agenda items;

- 2025/33, items ii) due to being a Somerset Councillor & iii) being Chair of the Carnival committee &
- 2025/31 as there was a payment to the Carnival

A declaration of interest was made by Cllr O'Brien in respect to agenda item 2025/31 as there was a payment to Chard Area Youth.

A declaration of interest was made by Cllr Williams in respect to 2025/33, item iii) being a member of the Carnival

A declaration of interest was made by Cllr Bulmer 2025/33, item ii) due to being an employee of Somerset Council.

A councillor suggested changing the order of the agenda moving 2025/33 *Submitted Community Grant Applications* for discussion first.

2025/29 Minutes
12/05/25,17/06/25, 23/06/25 (Extraordinary)

Proposed: Cllr Baker Seconded Cllr J Kenton

Resolved: For Officers to listen to the recordings of all 3 meetings and amend the minutes for all 3 meetings.

Section 2: Items For Noting

2025/30 Chard Town Council Reserve Balance Report 2024/25

Proposed: Cllr Baker Seconded: Cllr Bates
Unanimous

Resolved: To go back to Full council for review of the EMR amounts with particular regard to £14K CIL, 25K Guildhall & 15K Cemetery.

2025/31 Payments Over £500 Q1 2025/2026

Committee noted the report and raised questions on tree work, IT support provision, and HR providers which the Chief Executive & Town clerk agreed to clarify outside if this meeting.

2025/32 Schedule for Community Grant Applications

Committee agreed the schedule and to meet in two weeks to review the community grants funding policy.

Proposed: Cllr J Kenton Seconded: Cllr O'Brien
Unanimous

Resolved: To agree the grants application schedule

Section 3: Items for Discussion & Decision

2025/33 Submitted Community Grant Applications – Pre Agreement Of Schedule

i. Youth Adventure Trust

Proposed: Cllr O'Brien Seconded: Cllr J Kenton

Resolved: To defer the Youth Adventure Trust application for the Grants Subcommittee to look at for the next grant round in more detail as they had not received the application in time to go through it.

ii. Chard Town Carnival

Proposed: Cllr O'Brien Seconded: Cllr Bulmer

Resolved: To award the Carnival £1,000

iii. Octagon & Westlands

Proposed: Cllr O'Brien Seconded: Cllr Bates

Resolved: Not to award Octagon &Westlands a community grant because they are a however the Mayor would like to support their event using the Mayoral allowance. The detail of which to be discussed outside of this meeting.

iv. Chard Churches Together

Proposed: Cllr O'Brien Seconded: Cllr Bulmer

Resolved: To award Churches Together £750

2025/34 Capital Receipts Reserve
This item was withdrawn.

2025/35 Date of Next Meeting
The scheduled date of the Finance & Audit Committee meeting is 7th October 2025

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Chair: **Date:**

Signed on behalf of the chair

T.M. Eggins 15/12/2025