

KENILWORTH TOWN COUNCIL**Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance and General Services Committee****Commencing at 7.00 pm on Thursday 3 July 2025**

PRESENT: Councillor A J G Marsh

Councillors: D A T Bailey, A Chalmers, K S Dickson, A Insley, P Jones, J Kennedy, A Milton and J Payne.

Town Clerk: Miss M S Field.

Deputy Town Clerk: Miss G Honey

The fire and safety brief was displayed on the screens prior to the commencement of the meeting.

FGS.231 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

FGS. 236	<u>APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDING – KENILWORTH SHOW</u>	Cllr J Kennedy	Advised pre-application.
FGS. 240	<u>WCC COUNCILLORS GRANT FUND</u>	Cllr K Dickson	Married to WCC Councillor

Councillors K S Dickson, J Kennedy, A Milton and J Payne made a general declaration of personal interest in relation to any items regarding Warwick District Council.

FGS.232 APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Cllrs A Dearing, R Dickson, N Eaton, Z Leventhal, A Randall and M Stevens.

Cllr A Summers was absent from the meeting.

FGS.233 MINUTES

Members NOTED the Minutes of the Finance and General Services Committee held on 22 May 2025. These were received and approved by the Town Council (KTC) on 12 June 2025.

NEW MATTERS**FGS.234 APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDING – 496 SQUADRON**

Members considered an Application for Funding support in the sum of £500 from 496 SQUADRON towards their planned watersports programme.

Members felt the programme delivered high value to the local young people and there was support for the bid. It was therefore proposed, seconded and:

RESOLVED that the sum of £500 be granted to 496 SQUADRON from the Unspecified Allocation Budget for 2025/2026.

FGS. 235 APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDING – ARTS UPLIFT

Members considered an Application for Funding support in the sum of £3000 from ARTS UPLIFT for their exercise workshops.

It was noted this funding would cover half of the cost of hosting the workshop which had a proven track record of positive outcomes on participants' mental and physical wellbeing.

It was duly proposed, seconded and:

RESOLVED that the sum of £3000 be granted to ARTS UPLIFT from the Unspecified Allocation Budget for 2025/2026.

FGS. 236 APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDING – KENILWORTH SHOW

Members considered an Application for Funding support in the sum of £600 from the KENILWORTH SHOW for a shuttle bus service. Members noted this was a retrospective application.

With a lack of data, it was questioned how well this service was used, and what impact this grant would now make on the basis the service had already been provided. Members considered that there were no exceptional circumstances to warrant the granting of this application after the event. However, Members noted the Show's desire to work with the Kenilworth community and particularly the educational provision within the town. This was something the Members wished to encourage, in addition to offering suggestions of further funding opportunities including the WCC Cllrs Grant Fund and the HS2 Community Fund.

It was duly proposed, seconded and, with one abstention:

RESOLVED that the grant application from the KENILWORTH SHOW be rejected.

FGS. 237 APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDING – TIME4HOPE

Members considered an Application for Funding support in the sum of £7084 from TIME4HOPE for family support counselling.

Members questioned the charities formal governance and fundraising framework including what other sources of funding had been explored. Members believed the charities support to be worthwhile, and wished to support them in identifying other appropriate sources of funding, including WCC Cllrs grants on the basis SEN is a provision of the County Council. It was felt Kenilworth United Charities may also be able to assist.

After much discussion, it was proposed, seconded and:

RESOLVED that the sum of £3,500 be awarded to TIME4HOPE from the Unspecified Allocation Budget for 2025/2026. Members wished to insert a condition this funding was used to benefit Kenilworth families only, to encourage the charity to seek additional support and funding from other sources, and put in place a stronger governance framework in the coming years.

FGS.238 CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS

- (i) Cllr P Jones presented the arrangements for the High Street Light Switch On this year. A meeting was due to take place next week with the Old Town Festival organisers to manage the running of the Light Switch On in association with the illuminations committee and the Town Council. Different attractions are being researched and the use of the parochial hall is being considered for additional community stalls.

Cllr Jones advised that the Christmas lights in the High Street also needed replacing and the Town Council are currently obtaining quotes for these. These will be funded by a donation from the illuminations committee but will be owned and insured by the Town Council. Approval for this spend will be brought to the next Town Council meeting.

Members discussed bringing the community back into the event and expanding this further up the high street to prevent crowding as in recent years. Community collaboration was key.

- (ii) The Chair presented recent feedback shared with the WDC Events Team on the Warwick Road Light Switch On event that had been gathered by the BVE group. The event team at WDC had requested a meeting with the Clerk and BVE group going forwards.

Cllr Milton said that communication and consultation was key and the proposals should benefit all businesses. Cllr K Dickson suggested a forum or drop in event hosted by one of the businesses or by this Council. Members delegated the organisation of this to the BVE group.

Members NOTED these updates.

FGS. 239 CONSULTATIONS

Members NOTED that the Statement of Licensing Policy 2026-2031 consultation and the Off-Street parking in Warwick District survey was open for response. A response to the Parking survey was to be delegated to the Business & Visitor Economy Working Group to compile and submit on behalf of the Town Council.

The Chair advised that paper copies of the parking survey were available at key locations in the town including the library and kenilworth centre.

Members NOTED this update.

FGS. 240 WCC COUNCILLORS GRANT FUND

Members considered whether the Town Council wished to submit an application to the WCC Councillors' Grant Fund 2025/2026, Round 1, which is open for applications. The deadline to apply is 5pm on Sunday 20 July 2025. Cllr D Bailey advised that the climate group could consider drafting an application for tree maintenance by the deadline. Members were happy for this to be delegated to Cllrs Bailey and Stevens to pursue.

Members NOTED this update.

FGS. 241 PHOTOCOPIER

Cllr K Dickson proposed that in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the duration of the following item in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be considered (commercially sensitive contracts).

This was seconded by Cllr J Kennedy. It was duly:

RESOLVED that in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the duration of the following item in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be considered (commercially sensitive contracts).

FGS.242 NEXT MEETING

The Chair advised that the next scheduled meeting of the Finance and General Services Committee will take place on 2 October 2025, at 7pm.

The meeting concluded at 8:17pm.

Signed

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