

WICKHAM MARKET PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIR: Cllr IVOR FRENCH

FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSE COMMITTEE

CHAIR: Cllr DAVID CHENERY



MINUTES of the meeting of Wickham Market Parish Council Finance & General Purpose Committee held on Monday 9 March 2026 at 19:00

- FGP25: **53 Present from the Council** Cllr Chenery (Chair) Cllr Dempsey-Gray
Cllr Cooke Cllr I French
Cllr Creasey A. Besly (Clerk)
- FGP25: **54 Present from the Public** None
- FGP25: **55 Open Public Forum session** None
- FGP25: **56 Apologies for Absence:** None
- FGP25: **57 Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda:** None
- FGP25: **58 Proposal to approve the draft minutes** of the F&GP Meeting of 5 January 2026 **All Agreed**
- FGP25: **59 Chair's Report:** Cllr Chenery suggested that the Council should start to consider how CIL funds relating to the Simon's Cross development should be spent, assuming that it goes ahead. He suggested that we could come up with some options and ask the residents to vote on them or make their own suggestions.
- FGP25: **60 Finance Reporting:**
- 60.1 Finance report and Payments Schedule:** **Published** There were no questions
- 60.2 Bank Reconciliation and Reserves Summary:** **Published** The bank reconciliation was reviewed against statements from CCLA and Barclays, approved and signed.
- 60.3 Summary Financial Statement:** **Published**
There was a general discussion about the financial position which looks secure.
- 60.4 Approve withdrawal of funds from CCLA** to cover March payments. The expected March payments are currently c£38k and we only have £20k in Barclays. Therefore at least 18k needs to be transferred. It was proposed that £25k is transferred from CCLA to create a small contingency. **All Agreed**
- 60.5 Review suggested reallocation of reserves** to recommend to the Full Council
Reserves were reviewed and after the general reserve is increased to £60k (the recommended 50% of the precept), any remaining surplus should be allocated to the Village Hall Modernisation. **All Agreed**
- FGP25: **61 Proposal to approve a Parish Council Microsoft 365 licence** **published**
The proposal was discussed and it is clear that WMPC should move to a council MS365 platform for the reasons stated. The proposal was approved. **All Agreed**
- FGP25: **62 Proposal for the Parish Council to join** the Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management (ICCM) as an associate member. Details can be found on their website. Cost is £105 pa. <https://www.iccm-uk.com/iccm/membership/corporate-membership/>
It was agreed that this both demonstrates good stewardship of the cemetery and represents good value for money. **All Agreed**
- FGP25: **63 Consider grant request from the Village Hall.** This was reviewed and it was proposed that this should be authorised. **All Agreed**
- FGP25: **64 Review IT Policy** to be recommended to the full Council. The draft policy was reviewed in detail and it was proposed that it should be recommended that the Full Council adopt it. **All Agreed**
- FGP25: **65 Reporting items for the next meeting:**
- FGP25: **66 Date of next meeting:** Monday 27 April 2026

Meeting Closed 20:15

Signed.

Cllr David Chenery, Chair.

Date.

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