

**WIGTON TOWN COUNCIL**

**A MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE WAS**

**HELD ON THURSDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> OCTOBER 17:15 AT BARTON LAWS**

**PRESENT**

Councillors Scott, Stapley, Shone and Ferriby

**FIN/11/2025 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES & RECORD REASONS FOR ABSENCE**

E. Ireton  
Cllr Crouch  
Cllr Jackson

**FIN/12/2025 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/DISPENSATIONS**

Cllr Scott – 6 &7

**FIN/13/2025 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

None

**FC/14/2025 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

To receive any representations from members of the public – Members of the public are invited to speak for a maximum of 5 minutes each. The maximum total time for public participation will be 10 minutes. At the close of this item, members of the public will no longer be permitted to address the Council Members unless invited to do so by the Chairman.

**FC/15/2025 GRANT APPLICATIONS**

There were two grant applications:

1. Wigton Amateur Boxing Club requesting £1000
2. Citizen's Advice Bureau requesting £750

**RESOLVED**

Members **UNANIMOUSLY** approved both applications.

**FC/16/2025 2026/2027 BUDGET**

Members received and reviewed the 2026/2027 draft budget and budget to date.

- It was agreed that the **Welfare budget will remain at £300**, and **NHS physiotherapy should also be considered** within this allocation.

- Members agreed to include **annual solicitor fees as a preventative measure**, with **£5,000 allocated for 2026/2027**.
- Due to identified training needs, the **staff training budget will be increased to £5,000** for the year.
- It was agreed that the **Barton Laws maintenance budget will increase to £7,000 per year**, with any unspent funds **rolling over annually**. This will be reviewed each year to ensure a significant surplus does not accumulate.
- The **WBJC budget line cannot be finalised** until the Joint Committee meets and confirms its precept request.
- Members were supportive of the **Clerk investigating options for grounds vehicles**, noting that while a new tipper is needed, a **van and tipping trailer** may be more cost-effective. Members also supported exploring **machinery that could reduce manual labour**.
- The **grant allocation will remain capped at £10,000**, with an acknowledgement that **increased promotion and advertising** is required.
- A budget of **£500 will be allocated for a summer event at the allotments**.

#### **Member Queries:**

- The reason for the increase to the Barton Laws budget.
- Whether the reduction in the public toilets budget reflects the new facilities at the park.
- Whether the agreement between St Mary's and WTC can be reviewed.

These queries will be addressed at the next meeting when the **final budget is presented for approval**.

Meeting closed 6:10pm

Date of next meeting: TBC