



BROMYARD & WINSLOW TOWN COUNCIL

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Minutes of meeting held on
Monday 18th November 2024
in the Council Chamber, Council Offices,
Rowberry Street, Bromyard.

**Minutes
F24/41 - F24/43**

Members Present: Cllrs Churchill, Davies, Dunne-Thomas, Franklin (Chairman), Law
(Vice-Chair), Magson and Page.

In attendance: Cllr Lester (part)

Officers Present: Karen Mitchell (Town Clerk)

F24/41 Apologies for absence

None. All members present.

LGA 1972 S85 (1)

F24/42 Declarations of Interest and written requests for dispensations.

Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2007 SI No. 1159

Cllr Churchill declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI) in item F24/43, as a Trustee of the Bromyard Recreation Ground Charity (Kempson Players).

F24/43 Budget 2025/26

Members reviewed the initial draft budget for 2025/26 (v1.0) line-by-line, making amendments to align with anticipated income and expenditures. Budgetary needs from the Planning & Economic Development, Properties, Burial, and Staffing Committees had been incorporated into the appropriate budget lines.

The Chairman highlighted current year key budgetary issues.

Loss of Income: revenue loss from car parks due to prolonged issues with parking machines.

Increased Expenditure: Renewal of public toilets on Tenbury Road, primarily funded by the earmarked asset maintenance reserve, with additional funds sourced from the repairs and renewals budget. Reserves will need gradual replenishment.

Additional Discussions: Topics included grants, marketing, the outdoor market, and footway maintenance, which Herefordshire Council has reduced due to financial constraints. The Town Council may consider stepping in for maintenance as a delegated service, which would incur costs.

A proposal to eliminate the marketing budget for 2025/26 was lost. A subsequent vote to maintain the allocation was carried, with Cllr Page requesting that his vote against be recorded.

Members considered a letter from the Bromyard Recreation Ground Charity (Kempson Players) seeking an increase in the annual grant to address rising costs.

Cllr Churchill, having declared a DPI, exited the chamber during this discussion.

Initials..... Date.....

It was subsequently **RESOLVED** to allocate £8,000 in the draft budget for the Kempson Player recreation ground.

Cllr Churchill rejoined the meeting.

Cllr Lester (non-committee member) entered at this point.

A proposal to increase the amount allocated in the draft budget for the Christmas Lights to £8,000 was moved and carried. It was noted that an increase had not been requested from the Christmas Lights Association.

It was RESOLVED to suspend Standing Order 3w to extend the meeting until no later than 9:30pm.

Following discussion, it was **RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chair of the Finance Committee be delegated to further review the budget.

The revised 2025/26 draft budget (v.2) will be considered at the Finance Committee meeting on the 9th December, with recommendations to be presented at the Full Council meeting on 16th December, 2024.

There being no further business to transact, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9:05pm.

CHAIRMAN DATE