

HUNGERFORD TOWN COUNCIL

The Mayor
Cllr Helen Simpson
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MINUTES of the **F&GP Meeting** held on Wednesday 11th March 2026 at 7.00pm in the Library, Hungerford.
Present: Cllrs Winsor, Keates, Carlson and Simpson. Also present, Clerk and RFO

FGP20260021 Apologies for absence – Cllr Cole
FGP20260022 Declarations of interest – None
FGP20260023 Minutes - To approve and sign the minutes of the F & GP meeting on Wednesday 14th January 2026.

Proposed: Cllr Simpson
Seconded: Cllr Carlson
Resolution: Minutes were agreed as a true record. All in favour.

FGP20260024 Receive an update on actions –

Code of conduct has been ratified. All transfers and allocation of grant funds are complete and policies have been adopted. The Archers hire agreement has been finalised. Contractors have been instructed. Abacus have started work on the damp to the ladies' toilet wall at Croft Field Centre. They have removed the plaster and are letting it dry out before they inject.

ACTION: Still waiting for the lease for Ramsbury Drive from West Berks Council.

ACTION: Invite Brenda Newton to the Mayor's reception for a photo opportunity with HAHA to celebrate the transfer of Newtons Garden to HTC ownership.

FGP20260025 Propose acceptance of bank reconciliation for Jan and Feb.

Proposed: Cllr Winsor
Seconded: Cllr Carlson
Resolution: Acceptance of bank reconciliation £448,000.97 as accurate for Jan.
Proposed: Cllr Simpson
Seconded: Cllr Carlson
Resolution: Acceptance of bank reconciliation £418,193.28 as accurate for Feb.
(The following are in respect of the Christmas lunch funds held in a separate account)
Proposed: Cllr Simpson
Seconded: Cllr Carlson
Resolution: Acceptance of bank reconciliation as accurate for Nov.
Proposed: Cllr Simpson
Seconded: Cllr Winsor
Resolution: Acceptance of bank reconciliation as accurate for Dec.
Proposed: Cllr Simpson
Seconded: Cllr Keates
Resolution: Acceptance of bank reconciliation as accurate for Jan.
Proposed: Cllr Winsor
Seconded: Cllr Simpson
Resolution: Acceptance of bank reconciliation as accurate for Feb.

FGP20260026 Propose acceptance of cashflow (circulated)

The cashflow was accepted as accurate. The leisure Centre payment is being held waiting a meeting. It is paid in arrears.

Confidential PART 2

The public and press may be excluded from the meeting on the grounds that publicity might be prejudicial to the public interest as per the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960.

FGP20260027 Propose rate card increase 4.3%

Proposed: Cllr Winsor

Seconded: Cllr Simpson

Resolution: Agreed 4.3% uplift for all Town Council fees including tenant fees.

FGP20260028 Update on Library building coping stones

Whilst it was agreed a couple of coping stones would be lifted to investigate the damp this was not actioned due to the positioning of the lightning rods on the building and the poor condition of the bricks. The builder concluded the damp is being caused by the coping stones being too small and the drip lines being covered up. There are two ways to fix the problem, one being to replace all the coping stones which would require scaffolding and be expensive. The other option being to install a commercial drip system. The poor brickwork on the west facing library wall can be addressed by painting the top 4 rows of bricks and then the whole of the wall sprayed with waterproofing negating the need to repoint.

ACTION: Chase quotations for the repair options from Abacus.

FGP20260029 Consider costs for REME Freedom of the Town

The total budget is £1300. This will be for the producing of a scroll/certificate for the ceremony and a shield and also for food.

REME will be supplying a cold buffet for 300 soldiers and HTC will supply food for another 100 to include other invited guests. We are waiting to hear details of the REME buffet

FGP20260030 Update on damp in Croft Field Centre and any extra costs

(Please note the below is a separate issue to the damp on the ladies toilet internal wall)

Both the front and back of the building have rising damp issues, particularly in the wall pillars. The Mens Shed have also reported black mould at the bottom of one of their cubicles. Some walls have no damp proof injections and in other places it has failed. Delta Roof did a site visit and advised that silicon injections would not be good enough and that treatment would only warrant a 5 year guarantee. They would recommend a full job installing black jack, dry zone rod and membrane to which they could offer a 20 year guarantee. A quotation has been provided.

ACTION: Clerk to obtain comparative quotes and recommendations from Marlborough TC and Kintbury Church.

FGP20260031 Consider allocation of funds to late grant applications–

Proposed: Cllr Winsor

Seconded: Cllr Simpson

Resolution: Allocate £500 to the Chris Boulton Memorial fund.

FGP20260032 Note staff toil and holiday – These were noted.

FGP20260033 Update on debtors – Two were noted

Meeting closed 7.55pm