



## FLEET TOWN COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2026 at 7pm  
at The Harlington**

\* Councillor Holt (Chairman)

# Samantha Neves (Vice Chairman)

* Councillor Einchcomb	* Councillor Stanton
# Councillor Fang	0 Councillor Taylor
0 Councillor Powell	0 Councillor Tilley
# Councillor Richmond	* Councillor Woods
L Councillor Schofield	

\* Present    # Absent & No Apology Received    0 Apology for Absence    L Late

Also in attendance:

Rita Tong – Executive Officer

Sarah Moore – Finance and Administration Manager

Leanne Walmsley - Fleet Carnival

#### **PF FEBRUARY 2026 ITEM 1            APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Members received and accepted the apologies as noted above.

#### **PF FEBRUARY 2026 ITEM 2            DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor declared an Other Registerable Interest in Agenda Item 7 on the grounds she is a volunteer for the Repair Café.

#### **PF FEBRUARY 2026 ITEM 3            QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were no questions from the public.

#### **PF FEBRUARY 2026 ITEM 4            MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the Policy and Finance Committee held on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2025 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

#### **PF FEBRUARY 2026 ITEM 5            QUARTERLY FINANCIAL MONITORING REPORT**

Members considered the quarterly reports for the period ending 31 December 2025.

Reports for 2024/25 as at 31 December 2025:

- a. Q4 Income & Expenditure Account
- b. Q4 Budget Monitoring Report

- c. Balance sheet as at 31 December 2025
- d. List of Purchase Ledger Payments
- e. List of Debtors
- f. Harlington Performance Totals

**RESOLVED**

- a. To receive and accept the Quarterly Report and accounts for the period ending 31 December 2025.
- b. That the Executive Officer develop a proposal, following discussion with an Ancells Farm Community Centre hirer, for a revised charging arrangement for their use of the Centre, to be brought back to Members for consideration.

**PF FEBRUARY 2026 ITEM 6 INVESTMENT REPORT**

Members considered the investment report for the period ending 31 January 2026.

<b>Account</b>	<b>Funds</b>
HSBC Current Bank Account	£258,899.47
HSBC Savings Account	£1,223,078.51
Nationwide Business Instant Saver	£417,939.5
CCLA Public Sector Deposit Fund	£3,075,837.76
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£4,975,755.24</b>

**RESOLVED**

To note the balances held in the Fleet Town Council Accounts.

**PF FEBRUARY 2026 ITEM 7 GRANTS**

Members considered three grant applications for grant funding and received a record of grants awarded for 2025/26

**RESOLVED**

- a) Members resolved to award the following grants:
  - 1. Fleet Carnival - £1,000 to go towards costs in celebrating the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the event to come out of the 2026/27 grants budget and paid in April 2026.
  - 2. Fleet Repair Café - £630 grant aid in kind for room hire at The Harlington in 2026/27. Grant to come out of the Greening Fleet budget.
  - 3. Fleet Lions – subject to approaching Hart District Council first, to award up to £580 for the purchase of protective jackets. Grant to come out of 2026/27 grants budget and paid in April 2026
- b) To note the record of grants awarded for 2025/26.

**PF FEBRUARY 2026 ITEM 8 CYBER ESSENTIALS**

Members considered the reports from the Finance & Administration Manager regarding Cyber Essentials compliance and the provision of Council-owned devices.

Members discussed the type of devices that could be issued to Councillors. It was noted that while iPads were generally considered more secure, Android devices could potentially be used. Members agreed that further costings should be obtained to compare suitable device options.

Members also discussed the current use of personal mobile phones for accessing Council emails. It was recognised that, if the Council were to move to a fully supported device model, the cost of providing supported mobile phones would also need to be factored into any proposal.

Members acknowledged that Council-provided devices would offer a higher level of security and support Cyber Essentials compliance, although they might be less convenient for some users.

It was further noted that any decision would need to be applied consistently. Members agreed that issuing devices would need to be an “all-or-nothing” approach, as providing devices to only some Councillors would undermine the security benefits.

The Finance & Administration Manager confirmed that the Council’s IT provider, Cloudy IT, could restrict access so that only approved devices were able to access Council systems and data. This would allow the Council to prevent access from personal devices if a Council-issued device model were adopted.

Members also noted that some Councillors may choose not to access the digital system. In such cases, non-confidential papers would remain available via the Council website, and paper copies of agenda packs could continue to be collected from the office where required.

**RESOLVED**

That the Finance & Administration Manager be requested to prepare a further report to Full Council covering the matters discussed, including device options, associated costs, and implementation considerations.

**PF FEBRUARY 2026 ITEM 9                      CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY**

Members reviewed the updated Climate Change Policy and noted that the timeframes within the policy would require monitoring, as it was unlikely the Council could achieve the 2035 target and Government targets may also change.

Members therefore requested that, within the Monitoring and Review section, the review period be amended from every three years to annual review.

**RESOLVED**

Subject to the amendment above, the *Climate Change Policy* was approved.

**PF FEBRUARY 2026 ITEM 10                      COMMUNICATIONS & SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY**

Members reviewed the *Communications & Social Media Policy* which combines the existing *Computer Use and Communications Policy* and *Internet / Email / Social Media Policy*.

**RESOLVED**

Members approved the new *Communications & Social Media Policy*.

**PF FEBRUARY 2026 ITEM 11                      SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND ADULTS AT RISK POLICY**

Members reviewed the updated Safeguarding policy and requested the following amendments be made:

- Section 6 – remove reference to Town Clerk

- Section 9 – change to Third Party Services

**RESOLVED**

Subject to the amendments above, the *Safeguarding Children and Adults at Risk Policy* was approved.

**PF FEBRUARY 2026 ITEM 12      ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Cllr Holt placed on record his sincere thanks to all Committee Members for their time, hard work and dedication throughout the current Administration, and for the positive contribution they have made to the Committee’s work.

**PF FEBRUARY 2026 ITEM 13      DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Policy and Finance Committee will be held on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2026 at 7pm in the Harlington.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.26pm.

**Signed:** .....      **Date:** .....  
**Chairman**