Dunnington Parish Council

FINANCE, STRATEGY AND AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 7 September 2026 at 7.00pm
Held in the Tower Room, Dunnington

Present Cllr Dykes (Chair), Cllr Ruston, Cllr Jackson, Cllr Anderson, Cllr Major, Cllr Shaw
In Attendance The Clerk S Durham

F26/9/1 – Formalities
1.1 Apologies for absence
All members present.
1.2 Minutes
The minutes of the Finance, Strategy and Audit Committee meetings held on **6 July 2026** and **3 August 2026** were considered and confirmed as a true and accurate record.
1.3 Declarations of Interest
No declarations of interest were received.
1.4 Dispensation requests
No dispensation requests were received.

F26/9/2 – Exclusion of the Press and Public
No members of the press or public were present.

F26/9/3 – Public Participation
No members of the public were present.

F26/9/4 – Banking and Finance
The Committee noted the bank reconciliations for July and August 2026.
The balances noted were:

- **31 July 2026:** £146,141.16
- **31 August 2026:** £129,791.23

The Committee also discussed the general position of the Council's finances and upcoming payments.

F26/9/5 – Draft Budget
The draft budget for **2027/28** was discussed.
Cllr Dykes led a discussion on the larger budget items and anticipated payments. The need to ensure sufficient provision for ongoing expenditure and consistency across budget sections was noted.
The Committee discussed the funding position for the Playpark. Cllr Jackson suggested the Playpark Group provide an update on the position following the report from Rospa.
The availability of **grant funding** for the playpark was also discussed. The Clerk is to write to members of the Playpark Group regarding grants and funding opportunities as well as their proposal for Playpark apparatus updates/repairs.
Cllr Shaw suggested that **cycle lane funding** should also be investigated as a possible source of funding.
Members were reminded to notify the Clerk of any additional expenditure or items that they consider should be included in the 2027/28 budget.
The budget will be considered further at the **October Finance meeting**.

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The possibility of future expenditure by the Scouts was also raised, including any costs they anticipate for the next financial year. **Action: Clerk to contact the Scouts regarding this.** The Committee also discussed Wi-Fi and the possibility of holding future meetings at a later time**. Action: Clerk** to contact the Scout leader to establish whether the Council could use the venue for meetings, potentially with a 7.30pm start.

F26/9/6 – Land Registry

Cllr Dykes provided an update on the outstanding Land Registry matters.
Further information is awaited before the matter can be progressed.

F26/9/7 – Village Cross Update

An update was provided regarding the Village Cross and the insurance matter.
The insurance company is content for the Council to wait for the required information.
Cllr Dykes has contacted the stone mason regarding the requested **cross-section drawings**. and the Council is currently awaiting a response before submitting to CYC.

F26/9/8 – Trees

The Committee discussed a concern raised by a resident regarding trees on **Intake Lane**.
A tree specialist has inspected the tree and another tree specialist will be inspecting the tree with a full report provided for consideration at the full council meeting on the 14 09 2026.

F26/9/9 – Playpark

The Playpark was discussed in the above Budget item, including potential funding requirements and grant opportunities.
The Committee noted that further work with the Playpark Group would be required before proposals could be brought back to Council.

F26/9/10 – Staffing

This item was deferred to full council 14.09.2026

F26/9/11 – In Bloom

The arrangements for the winter planting were discussed, however a quotation had not been received therefore will be brought back to the Full council meeting 14.09.2026

F26/9/12 – Financial Approvals/Authorisations

12.1 Work/services

Three companies had been approached and two quotes were presented for consideration on cutting of the Playpark Hedge, Village Green Allotments and Undergate Field Allotments
RESOLVED to accept quotation from T Johnson £1585.00 + VAT **TOTAL £1902**

12.2 Payments for approval

The following payments were considered and **APPROVED** as recorded below.

a. £1333.37 Clerk Wage APPROVED
b. £10.49 Microsoft 365 August APPROVED
c. £ 280.00 Hello Technology Yearly APPROVED
d. £ 114.00 Fusion Systems 2 year domain subscription APPROVED
e. £ 10.00 Top Up Mobile Clerk APPROVED

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f. £ 28.20 YLCA Training (Cllr Ruston) APPROVED
g. £291.60 Spectrum Signs/ Banners Village Show APPROVED
h. £84.00 Spectrum Signs Hassacarr APPROVED
i. £20.00 YLCA Advert APPROVED
j. £31.50 Prizes Village Show (Cllr Ruston) APPROVED
k. £5.00 Village Show crafts (Cllr Ruston) APPROVED
l. £12.45 Hassacarr self closing spring (A Wilson) APPROVED
m. £43.63 Hassacarr Treated Board (A Wilson) APPROVED
n. £172.99 Indeed (Cllr Dykes) APPROVED

12.3 Direct debits noted for August 2026.

£11.95 Unity Bank Charges
£16.43 Business Stream - Scottish Water
£0.23 Business Stream - Scottish Water
£74.62 CYC Garage Rent
£91.00 Nest Pension

12.4 Payments received in August 2026 noted.

£28.00 Allotment Rent
£69.00 Allotment Bond and part rent

It was noted that a payment was still awaited from CYC for the Ward Grant.
The Clerk will follow this up and send confirmation where required.
It was noted 3 Allotment plots remained unpaid. Allotment group are aware. **Action Clerk** to send final reminders.
The Clerk will also provide/confirm the relevant Unity account number as necessary to the two council members who cannot access online banking.

Date of Next Meeting
The next meeting is scheduled for **Monday 5 October 2026**, time and venue unknown yet, until a response is received by the Clerk from the Scouts leader

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