BEXHILL-ON-SEA TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of the meeting of the **BEXHILL-ON-SEA TOWN COUNCIL FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE**
Held in the **BEXHILL SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB, EVERSLEY ROAD, BEXHILL-ON-SEA**
On **Wednesday 15th July 2026** at **6:00pm**

PRESENT: Cllr Byrne, Cllr Huseyin, Cllr Peters, Cllr Timpe, Cllr Wilson.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: M Webber, RFO; L Muhilathithan, Civic Admin; One Videographer; 0 Members of public.

00102 TO ELECT CHAIR

Cllr Peters nominated Cllr Wilson for Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee.

It was **RESOLVED** to elect Cllr Wilson as Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee.

00103 TO ELECT VICE-CHAIR

Cllr Byrne nominated Cllr Peters for Vice-Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee.

It was **RESOLVED** to elect Cllr Peters as Vice-Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee.

00104 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were none.

00105 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and approve apologies for absence with reason from Cllr Crotty, Cllr El and Cllr Winter.

Cllr Timpe suggested Councilors with constant absences should be expected to provide a better reason for why they cannot attend the meetings.

Discussion ensued.

All comments regarding Councillor meeting attendance were noted of and will be passed on to the Town Clerk.

00106 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Cllr Byrne declared an interest as a member of Rother District Council.
Cllr Timpe declared an interest as a member of Rother District Council.

00107 CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were none.

00108 MINUTES

To approve the minutes of the following meeting:

a) Wednesday the 13th May 2026.
Cllr Wilson requested it be noted that he voted against the proposed motion of £2,200 during the discussion of the grants, and note his mention of a potential backstop.
It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting of Wednesday the 13th May 2026.

00109 GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

a) To receive bank reconciliation at the end of Quarter 1 – 30.6.2026

Discussion ensued.

The Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee will come to the Hub to sign the Bank Reconciliation.
It was **RESOLVED** to approve the bank reconciliation for the end of Quarter 1. - 30.6.2026

b) To consider budget position including variance report.
It was **RESOLVED** to approve the budget position including variance report.

c) To receive payment listing as of April – June 2026.
    I. April - £515,138.48

II. May - £74,767.63
III. June - £124,740.61

Discussion ensued.

Cllr Willson declared an interest as a resident of a rural area.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the payments listings as of April – June 2026.

d) To receive balance sheet, including ear-marked reserves as of 30th June 2026.
Discussion ensued.
It was **RESOLVED** to approve the balance sheet, including ear-marked reserves as of 30th June 2026.

00110 GRANTS AND DONATIONS

a) To consider grants as per Appendix F.
Cllr Peters suggested moving the discussion of item 9B before the discussion of item 9A.

It was **RESOLVED** to discuss item 9B before item 9A.

b) To receive review of Grants and Donations Policy report.

It was **RESOLVED** to move this item forward in the agenda at 18:45pm.

Discussion ensued.

It was **RESOLVED** to have two policies, one for events and one for everything else; this will be brought to the next Finance and Audit Committee meeting.
It was **RESOLVED** to set up a working party to draft the new policies; Cllr Byrne, Cllr Huseyin and Cllr Timpe will be members of the working group.

Discussion of item 9A, Appendix F was re-visited at 19:01pm.

Cllr Huseyin proposed overriding the current Grants and Donations Policy to award grant money to the two applicants.

It was **RESOLVED** to award the following grants:

i. Common Clay CIC: £2,071
ii. Space for Yew CIC: £370

00111 INVESTMENT BANK ACCOUNTS

a) To consider allocating a portion of the investment bank accounts to general reserves.

The Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) proposed re-investing £450,000. £250,000 to go into the CCLA, this would still be accessible but with a higher interest rate. £200,000 to go into short-term investment. Request delegated authority to choose the most suitable account with a good interest rate.

Discussion ensued.

The Committee proposed reviewing the Investment Policy in the next meeting of the Finance and Audit Committee.

It was **RESOLVED** to move £250,000 into the CCLA, £200,000 into another short-term investment account, chosen by the RFO, and to review the Investment Policy in the next meeting of the Finance and Audit Committee.

00112 RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES

There were none.

00113 MOTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

There were none.

00114 CORRESPONDENCE AND MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

There were none.

00115 RISK REGISTER

a) To consider any new risks for future mitigation.

There were none.

00116 OVERVIEW OF ANNUAL INTERNAL CONTROL TASKS OF THE COUNCIL

January	**Submit Precept to Rother District Council**
February	**Review Standing Orders/Financial Regs and policies for Full Council AGM, obtain three quotes for insurance policy renewal**
March	**Review annual financial risk assessment**
April	**Complete year end accounts and AGAR, produce annual report, insurance policy renews,**
May	**AGM, adoption of policies, internal audit, review asset register**
June	**Approval of AGAR, review internal controls, complete internal audit**
July	**Electors rights period, Annual VAT return**
August	**RFO to begin budget drafting**
September	**Committees prepare budget forecasts, F&GP review salary budgets**
October	**Committees prepare budget forecasts**
November	**F&A review committee forecasts and prepare budget for full council review**
December	**Full council approve annual budget**

00117 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 14th OCTOBER 2026

All motions for the next meeting of the Finance and Audit Committee on the 14th October 2026 must be received by the 3rd October 2026.

The meeting closed at 19:15pm.

Date...

Signed...................................