

PRESENT: Cllrs: T Mewies (Chair), J Baverstock, A Bird, A Doyle, A Kenyon, J Molloy, D Harris, D Boardman, B Dewfall, D Harris

ALSO, PRESENT: Simon Davies (Town Clerk)

APOLOGIES: Cllr A Monk, B Mead, S Milestone

0697. EVACUATION PROCEDURES: Noted

0698. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Apologies noted.

0699. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

- a. None
- b. None
- c. None

0700. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS OR PUBLIC: It was resolved to exclude the press and public from item 0716.

0701. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME: No Submissions

0702. MINUTES OF FULL COUNCIL (FINANCE AND GENERAL) MEETING HELD TUESDAY 10th December 2024: Council resolved to approve the Minutes from the 10th December 2024 meeting.

0703. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES: Cllr Boardman requested an update on Active Nation processing South Gloucestershire Leisure Vouchers and repairs to equipment (including notifications).

0704. PAYMENTS FOR INFORMATION: Noted

0705. INCOME & EXPENDITURE REPORTS: Noted

0706. BANK RECONCILIATIONS: Noted

0707. BUDGET 2025-2026: The Clerk presented the proposed budget, as recommended by the Accounts and Budget Working Group. The Council noted the budget headings and 'Total Dwellings by Council Tax Band'.

RESOLVED: To implement the budget for 2025-2026 as recommended, and to increase the budget for 'Christmas Activities' to £15k (from the Community Development Fund).

RESOLVED: To approve the Precept for 2025-2026 of £978,523

0708. BRITISH CYCLE SPEEDWAY UPDATE: The Clerk updated the Council on progress, and to approve the quote for works in line with the Council's Financial Regulations.

RESOLVED: To approve the quote from Velosolutions in accordance with Financial Regulation 5.13.

RESOLVED: The Town Clerk to pursue quotes to remove and re-establish the outdoor gym equipment from the centre of the track.

0709. RESURFACING THE PLAYAREA (ROUNABOUT): The Council considered quotes to provide a new surface around a piece of equipment in the play area.

RESOLVED: To approve Redlynch to provide the replacement surface, provided confirmation on the material used being recycled.

- 0710. GROUND MAINTENANCE CONTRACT:** The Council discussed the provision of ground maintenance from South Gloucestershire Council.
RESOLVED: The Council to accept the quote for works during 2025-2026, and for the Deputy Clerk investigate providing the service from the Open Spaces Team during the year.
- 0711. CUSTOMER AND COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT FUND - GWR:** The updated the Council on a potential grant to refurbish the skateboard park, with a GWR theme. The grant scheme has short application window until 31st January 2025. Suggested projects were the Skateboard Park refresh and a train themed play equipment.
RESOLVED: The Council to apply for a grant to provide a refresh of the Skateboard Park, with a GWR/railway theme. Application to be taken forward by the Town Clerk and Open Spaces Team. (5 voted for, 4 voted against).
- 0712. FILTON FESTIVAL:** The Council debated a tender for the Filton Festival 2025 and reviewed the process from 2024.
RESOLVED: To establish a Task and Finish Group to update the Festival Tender, and for the Town Clerk to release for quotation.
- 0713. FACE UPDATE:** The Town Clerk updated the Council on a meeting with FACE to discuss further youth provision. Matter to be discussed at Full Council.
- 0714. FILTON FESTIVAL:** The Council debated a tender for the Filton Festival 2025 and reviewed the process from 2024.
RESOLVED: To establish a Task and Finish Group to update the Festival Tender, and for the Town Clerk to release for quotation.
- 0715. STAFFING UPDATE:** The Clerk updated the Council on the following:
- a. Town Clerk Support Officer – confirmed as Peach Jones, who will start with the Council on 27th January 2025.
 - b. Deputy Clerk – First stage interviews on 17th January 2025
 - c. Open Spaces Ranger (Ecology) – Recruiting to start beginning of February 2025
- 0716. CONTRACTOR SCORING:** The Council discussed the requirement to score contractors as part of an ongoing due diligence process. Town Clerk to report to next Finance and General Purposes meeting in February 2025.
- 0717. NEXT MEETING:** The Council noted the next Finance and General Purposes Committee will meet on 11th February 2025.