



**Minutes of the Finance & General meeting held
Thursday 23rd April 2026**

Present Councillors: B. Clark (Chair), C. Walker, R. Butler, (3 councillors present).

Apologies: M. Wordsworth, D. Oxley

Absent: None

Proper Officer: Sarah Wilkinson

There was one member of the public in attendance

The meeting started at 6.30pm

FG/2026/071 To receive and note reasons for absence.

Reasons received and noted for M. Wordsworth and D. Oxley

FG/2026/072 To receive declarations of personal and pecuniary interest¹ for members and officers

None declared

FG/2026/073 To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any)

No written requests for dispensation have been received.

FG/2026/074 To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate

There are no requests for dispensation to grant.

FG/2026/075 To receive and approve the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 19th March 2026

Resolved:- That the Committee approved the minutes of Thursday 19th March 2026 as a true record of the meeting, the Chairman preceded to sign the bottom of each page to confirm they are an accurate record.

Voting:- 3 Councillors present, all voted in favour.

Chairperson Initial



Thurcroft Parish Council

Gordon Bennett Memorial Hall, Green Arbour
Road, Thurcroft, Rotherham, S66 9DD

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FG/2026/076 To identify any agenda items which may be considered following the exclusion of the press and public, due to the confidential nature to be discussed. Under Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, S1 (2))

Agenda items FG/2026/88 is confidential

FG/2026/077 Public Participation Session

One member of the public was in attendance. Issues raised regarding the cemetery, which will be discussed at full council next week.

TRAINING

FG/2026/078 To discuss any training and development for councillors and employees and consider any further action

Resolved: New joiner legislation booked for the new cemetery warden including health & safety, manual handling and data protection.

FINANCE

FG/2026/079 To receive and note the payment and receipts report for March 2026

The Clerk presented the payments and receipts report for March 2026 for all councillors to check. Report was noted.

FG/2026/080 To receive and note the bank reconciliations for March 2026

The Clerk presented the Bank Reconciliations for March 2026. The Clerk and Chair signed the reconciliations. The committee noted the update.

FG/2026/081 To receive any grant applications received by the council and consider any further action

Grant application received from Shaz Biggins for £1800 for outreach work at Thurcroft Cemetery. Finance recommends approving the application in principle, but the actual programme of works to be discussed further at full council.

Voting:- 3 Councillors present, all voted in favour.

FG/2026/082 To receive an update regarding the investment account with the CCLA

Resolved: Clerk confirmed that £2445.67 in interest had been received for March 2026 on our CCLA investment.

FG/2026/083 To review the current business rates bill from RMBC

Chairperson Initial



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Resolved: Business rates have increased by over £4000 from 25-26 to 26-27. Current bill for 26-27 £5299.73 for the Gordon Bennett Memorial Hall. Rates have been reclassified and we have lost the small business relief we received last year. Clerk to write to Wards Councillors to raise the issue of poor communication from RMBC regarding the increase, and to write to RMBC directly to show our disapproval of the increase. Bill to remain outstanding until we have an adequate response from RMBC.

FG/2026/084 To receive an update on the 25-26 AGAR

Resolved: Internal Audit has been completed. Final report has been shared with finance. The council have no outstanding actions and passed the assertion 10 requirement. The only issue identified was section D – Budgeting reports were not included in the first 6 months of the year, but this was rectified from September's meetings onwards.

POLICY

FG/2026/085 To adopt the recommended Health & Safety policy

Resolved: Proposed policy accepted with a change of wording from village hall to Gordon Bennett Memorial Hall.

Voting:- 3 Councillors present, all voted in favour

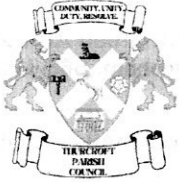
GENERAL

FG/2026/086 To discuss the fees for the repairs identified from the cemetery topple test

Resolved: Topple test has been carried out and works are needed on 200+ headstones. Notices have been left on affected graves. The grave owners will have 6 months to contact Winks or their own preferred stone mason to fix the memorial. Cemetery warden to map the affected graves and office staff to cross reference with the list provided. Office staff to write to all affected grave owners where possible, explaining that works are needed. A check will be carried out in October, and all graves still requiring fixing to be noted. Clerk to obtain quotes in October to action all remaining works, which can then be factored into the budget set in November for approved works to be carried out in the 27-28 financial year. This will allow grave owners 12 months to rectify the issues before the council potentially take over the remaining repairs.

Voting:- 3 Councillors present, all voted in favour

Chairperson Initial:



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FG/2026/087 To discuss the fees from the suggested new user group

Resolved: It is recommended that the new user group may hire the Gordon Bennett Memorial Hall at a cost of £10 per hour, 8.30-11.30 on Saturday mornings. User group is a local run sports club for 3-6-year-olds and 7-10-year-olds.

Voting:- 3 Councillors present, all voted in favour

COMPLAINTS

FG/2026/088 CONFIDENTIAL SESSION - To receive any complaints received by the council and consider any further action

One new complaint received regarding the closure of the cemetery gates. Complaint to be discussed at full council meeting next week. Clerk to note the complaint on the complaints and compliments log.

FG/2026/089 To note the latest report for complaints and compliments for the council and discuss any concerns

Report noted.

FG/2026/090 To notify the clerk of matters for inclusion on the agenda of the next meeting

Nothing to note.

FG/2026/091 To confirm the date and time of the next Finance & General Committee will be provisionally held on Thursday 21st May 2026 at 6:30pm in the Council Chamber of the Gordon Bennett Memorial Hall

The Chair provisionally shared the date and time of the next meeting, which will be confirmed at the annual meeting on 14th May 2026, and brought the meeting to a close.

The meeting closed at 19:34pm

Committee Meeting Date

To be agreed at the annual meeting 14TH May 2026

Chairperson Initial: