

BUCKFASTLEIGH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 15th April 2026 at 7.00pm.

Present: Councillors: Paul Georghiades (Chair), Steven Burch, Ron Fox and Judith Hart (Town Clerk).

In attendance: Cllr Sue Clarke

Press: None

26/01. Apologies for absence: Cllr John Bailey

26/02. Councillors invited to declare any interests:

No interests to declare

26/03. To approve and sign the minutes from the Finance Committee held on 18th November 2025:

Minutes by signed by Cllr Georghiades

Action: Cllr Clarke reported that she has been unable to secure a meeting with the Chair of The Bungalow Youth Project to discuss the potential use of The Bungalow for Victoria Park and swimming pool events.

26/04. Initial discussion following receipt of one larger grant applications with recommendations to full Council:

Application not received.

26/05. To receive the draft End of Year Accounts and Bank Balances 2025/26 pending internal audit:

- Draft accounts
- Bank Reconciliation 31 March 2026
- Assets Register 2025/26
- Grant Allocations Report 2025/26

The Clerk explained various income and expenditure budgets for 2025/26 including the cost of the Christmas lights without any significant donations. Members agreed that residents and businesses should be consulted regarding the future of the lights display.

26/06. Following completion of the internal audit (pending), proposal to reimburse Town Hall emergency funding to the Town Council Business Reserve from the 2025/26 surplus:

Action: Recommendation to full Council to transfer £6,000 from the Town Council 2025/26 surplus to the Town Council Business Reserve following the internal audit this month.

26/07. Questions and comments from the public: No public in attendance.

26/08. Items requiring urgent attention:

Members raised concerns regarding the actual cost of taking over the public toilets and how this

may be to the detriment of other Town Council service and funding provision. There appears to be consensus from the public to retain the toilets without a suitable alternative and both Ashburton and Buckfastleigh have delivered petitions to Teignbridge District Council regarding the decision to close so many across the Teignbridge area.

Members agreed that there are a number of problems that require discussion and agreement before making any final commitment and other options should be explored.

Cllr Clarke suggested that further feedback from residents is required although the Council is committed to toilet provision.

Cllr Burch: We need to develop other options rather than just a “yes” or “no” response and that this is all dependent upon raising the Council Tax. Other assets and the cost of running these will need to be discussed too.

Meeting closed at 7.31pm.

DRAFT