MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 10th NOVEMBER 2026 IN THE GARDEN ROOM OF THE COMMUNITY CENTRE AT 7.30PM.

PRESENT: Cllrs. Gilbert, Eichner, Killick, la Djoi, Summers, Waters & Williams

APOLOGIES: Cllr. Volkers

NOT PRESENT:

IN ATTENDANCE: The Clerk & Deputy Clerk.

151/26 PUBLIC QUESTIONS
None

152/26 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
Apologies had been received from Cllr. Volkers (family matters).

153/26 TO DECLARE ANY INTERESTS OR REQUEST DISPENSATION PERTAINING TO THE ITEMS BELOW

Name	Min. No.	Category of Interest	Reason
Cllr. Waters	166/26	DPI	Financial interest in the asset

154/26 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 15th SEPTEMBER 2026
Cllr. Killick proposed that the minutes of the meeting of 15th September 2026 be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr. Waters and AGREED

155/26 REVIEW OF ACTIONS FROM LAST MEETING
Noted. It was noted that Cllr. Christie could not attend this meeting to give an update on the proposed purchase of a water purifier.

156/26 CLERKS REPORT ON MATTERS NOT REQUIRING A DECISION
This had been previously circulated and was NOTED.

157/26 FINANCIAL REPORT
This had been previously circulated and was NOTED

158/26 LIST OF PAYMENTS
The List of Payments had been circulated in advance and was APPROVED.

Unity Trust from 9th Sept – 4th November 2026	£113,533.75
Pockit Card – David O'Driscoll 2nd Sept – 4th November 2026	£ 550.17
Pockit Card – Carolyn Coomber 2nd Sept to 4th November 2026	£ 197.02
Pockit Card – Gages 2nd Sept to 4th November 2026	£ 2,295.45
Pockit Card – Youth 9th Sept to 4th November 2026	£ 773.64
Total	£117,350.03

159/26 BANK RECONCILIATION & INVESTMENTS
These had been previously circulated and were NOTED

160/26 QUOTE FOR WORKS
Quotes for the playpark fencing replacement had been received and were considered and discussed. Cllr. Gilbert proposed that quote B be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr. Williams and AGREED.

161/26 FINANCE & POLICY DRAFT BUDGET FOR 2027-28
This had been previously circulated and was discussed.
Cllr. Eichner proposed that the 'Chairs fund' of £ 250 be removed for this year. This was seconded by Cllr. Killick and AGREED.
Cllr. Gilbert proposed that the amended draft budget be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr. Eichner and AGREED.

162/26 SIX-MONTH FEEDBACK FORMS
The Kindness Corporation – This was NOTED – No further feedback required.
Forest Row Junior Football Club– This was NOTED. No further feedback required.
Forest Row Twinning Association – This was NOTED. No further feedback required.

163/26 GRANT APPLICATIONS
Ashdown Woodturners Association – Cllr. Summers proposed that a grant of £ 500 be given. This was seconded by Cllr. Eichner and AGREED.
SS Peter & James Hospice – Cllr. Killick proposed that a grant of £ 500 be given. This was seconded by Cllr. Summers and AGREED.
Forest Row Energy Cooperative – After discussion, Cllr. Killick proposed that this application be deferred and a representative be asked to attend the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr. Gilbert and AGREED.

164/26 COMMUNITY CENTRE AVAILABILITY FOR HOME SCHOOLING
In the absence of Cllr Marshall, this was deferred until a further meeting.

165/26 UPDATED POLICY FROM CHRGS
The AI policy was discussed. Cllr. Eichner proposed that the new policy be adopted with an option for further control, and a restriction be added that AI generated images should not be used by Councillors. This was seconded by Cllr. Killick and AGREED with 2 abstentions.

Cllr. Waters left the meeting.

CONFIDENTIAL MINUTE
Minute no. 166/26 is attached as a confidential minute

167/26 TO NOTE ITEMS TO BE REFERRED TO COMMITTEE OR FULL COUNCIL
None

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

SIGNED:..... (Chairman) DATE.....