

Hardwick Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 14 January 2026 at 7.00 pm
Held at The Cabin at St Mary's, Hardwick

Present: Councillors: A Gill (Chairman), J Armisen, I Giddings, P Joslin and S Rose.

In attendance: Mr B Stoehr (Acting Clerk).

Open public session including reports from the County and District Councillors

None.

1. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Awoyinka (family engagement) and Coxall

2. Declarations of interest

None.

2.2 To receive written requests for dispensation and grant any as appropriate for items on this agenda

None received.

3. To review the budget for financial year ending 31 March 2026 against receipts and payments and to consider any outstanding projects or spending and to make arrangements for these and to consider and earmark any reserves

The draft budget for FY 2026 was reviewed. There were no items to earmark which had not been already agreed.

4. To consider a budget for FY2027 based on historic costs and existing contracts and proposals by Councillors

Cllr Rose presented the draft figures.

The Chairman reported on the Clerk's request for a sabbatical and the requirement for an Acting Clerk. The Parish Council unanimously wished the Clerk all the best.

RESOLVED to appoint Ben Stoehr as Acting Clerk while the Clerk was on sabbatical and he was asked to keep a log of hours.

Cllr Armisen left the meeting at 7.28 pm.

4.1 Proposal that the Council having established in the last few years a transfer from the annual budget to the Community Centre building reserve of £25,000 considers a similar transfer from 2026/27 funds

4.2 Proposal that the Council having Council previously agreed that all interest receipts would go to a special reserve for s106 projects since most of the interest arose from s106 funds received the Council should consider continuing with this.

4.3 Proposal that that the Council should again consider increasing the precept per household by inflation or thereabouts (currently running at 3.6%).

These items were taken together. Consideration was given to Cllr Rose's draft figures as circulated.

Noting Hardwick Happening's report on its finances no budget was required and if they made a request for financial support it could be taken from the contingency budget or general reserves.

It was noted that Shanie Leonard is now the new chair of HSSC.

The streetlights by St Mary's are to be allocated to the S106 streetlight fund.

5. To approve a budget for FY2027

RESOLVED that the budget for FY2027 be approved as appended. (Prop SR, 2nd IG, unanimous)

6. To set and demand the precept required for the Parish Council to balance its budget

RESOLVED to set and demand from the District Council a precept of £90,300, representing a 3.5% increase for the Band D equivalent, being the amount required by the Parish Council to balance the budget for FY27. (Prop SR, 2nd PJ, unanimous)

7. **Closure of meeting**

The updated asset register is to be updated

There being no other business, the meeting was closed by the Chairman at 8.05 pm.

SignedChairmandate

APPROVED