

**KIDDERMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL
FINANCE AND OVERVIEW COMMITTEE**

**Minutes of the meeting held on 11th August 2026 in the
Council Chamber, Kidderminster Town Hall**

Present: Councillors: Steve Hollands (Chair), John Beckingham, Liam Carroll, George Connolly, Bernadette Connor, Helen Dyke, Doug Hine, Shazu Miah, Fran Oborski and Mary Rayner.

In Attendance: Hugh Peacocke, Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
Christopher Pugh, Corporate Services Manager

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: None, all present.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

2. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Nil

3. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 16th July 2026 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.

4. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS

The meeting received the cash book reports detailing income and expenditure from 1st April 2026 to 30th June 2026.

The income for the quarter totalled £1,358,487.02 (including VAT) and the main elements were as follows:

i.	Precept:		£ 760,990.00
ii.	Town Hall:	Events:	£229,527.43
		Concessions:	£15,806.97
		Room Hire:	<u>£ 6,240.00</u>
		Total Town Hall:	£ 251,574.40
iii.	Loan Instalment:		£ 49,975.00
iv.	NLHF grant:		£ 46,730.95
v.	VAT refund:		£ 44,452.52
	Total:		£ 1,153,722.87

The expenditure for Quarter 1 totalled £1,260,060.09 (including VAT) of which:

i.	Transfer to Investment fund:	£ 500,000.00
ii.	Payroll:	£ 158,887.86
iii.	WFDC Payments:	£ 133,242.98
iv.	Loan Charges:	<u>£ 109,052.04</u>
	Total:	£ 901,182.88

The CEO responded to members' queries regarding various payments.

It was agreed that for future meetings, Members would be requested to raise their queries in advance, so that officers would have the full information required available for the meeting.

The meeting was satisfied that improper use of Council business cards was reducing. The CEO said that he was satisfied that there were no fraudulent or unaccounted payments and that processes continue to improve now that the accounting function has been brought in-house. He said that he and the accounts team would continue to work on this.

The CEO would check if in future the information could be supplied in spreadsheet format, including cost centres.

RESOLVED: To Approve expenditure for Quarter 1 totalling £1,260,060.09 (including VAT)

5. BUDGET MONITORING QUARTER 1, 2026-27

The Committee received the budget monitoring report for Quarter 1, financial year 2026-27 from 1st April 2026 to 30th June 2026. It was noted that due to the level of activity with Town Hall events that both income and expenditure were higher than projected; however, taken overall, it was expected that the budgeted surplus could be achieved.

RESOLVED: To Approve the budget monitoring report for Quarter 1, financial year 2026-27.

6. FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Received and noted.

Members discussed the change of direction in the re-organisation plans at District Council level, following the announcement that there would be 2 unitary authorities for Worcestershire. They requested the CEO to invite the District Council Leader and CEO to meet the members of this committee for an informal discussion on the District Council's plans and direction of travel regarding the proposed Worcestershire northern unitary authority

The Meeting closed at 7.05 pm.

Signed: _____
Chairman

Date: _____