



Maintaining integrity, accountability, and a respectful environment is essential to ensuring effective and transparent decision-making.

**PF/170 APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Cowell, Ginger and Hepworth.

**PF/171 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

None declared.

**Declaration of Conflicts of Interest**

None declared.

**Declarations of Personal Interest**

<u>Councillor</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Reason</u>
D. Childs	15	Ludlow Community Hospital League of Friends
D Lyle	15	Representative on Outside Body Ludlow Community Hospital League of Friends – Steering Group

**PF/172 PUBLIC OPEN SESSION (15 minutes)**

There were no members of the public or press present.

**PF/173 UNITARY COUNCILLORS' SESSION**

There were no Unitary Councillors present.

**PF/174 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED RO/MT (Unanimous)**

That the minutes of the Policy and Finance Committee meeting held on the 24<sup>th</sup> November 2025, be approved as a correct record, and signed by the Chair.

**PF/175 ITEMS TO ACTION**

**RESOLVED RO/DL (Unanimous)**

That the items to action from the Policy and Finance Committee meeting held on the 24<sup>th</sup> November 2025, be noted.

**PF/176 FINANCE INFORMATION****RESOLVED RO/MT (Unanimous)**

That the Cash Book Payments, Income and Reconciliation, Barclaycard Payments, Income and Reconciliation, Petty Cash Payments, Income and Reconciliation, Public Sector Deposit Fund Payments, Income and Reconciliation, and Income Cash Book Payments, Income and Reconciliation for October and November 2025; and PayPal Payments, Income and Reconciliation, and Electric Vehicle Charging Payments, Income and Reconciliation, October 2025, be received.

**PF/177 AGED DEBTORS****a) Debtors Report****RESOLVED RO/MT (Unanimous)**

That the Debtors report be received.

**PF/178 AGED DEBTORS****b) Debtors Explanation Report****RESOLVED RO/MT (Unanimous)**

That the Debtors Explanation Report be received.

**PF/179 POLICY REVIEW – CORPORATE GOVERNANCE POLICY****RESOLVED RO/MM (Unanimous)**

That the two separate documents provided, be drafted into one document with tracked changes. The review of the Corporate Governance Policy be deferred to the next meeting.

**PF/180 FINANCIAL REGULATIONS****RECOMMENDED RO/MM (Unanimous)**

That Financial Regulation 5.15 be amended to include the following bullet point:-

- “except that any commitment to incur expenditure on obtaining legal advice shall require consultation with the Chair of the Council (or Deputy Chair in the absence of the Chair) or of the Chair of the Policy and Finance Committee.”

**PF/181 HEDGE CUTTING CONTRACTOR****RESOLVED MT/RO (Unanimous)**

That the information regarding contractor expenditure for hedge cutting be received and it be noted that officers are satisfied that in the current circumstances the use of contractors is essential.

**PF/182 ASSET OF COMMUNITY VALUE****RESOLVED RO/DC (Unanimous)**

That the Council supports the Community Right To Bid nomination for Ludlow Community Hospital as an Asset of Community Value and that the Mayor and Town Clerk draft a response to be circulated to Committee members prior to submission.

**PF/183 SHROPSHIRE COUNTY PENSION FUND****RECOMMENDED MT/RO (Unanimous)**

That the Actuarial Valuation Employers Contribution Rate of 16.8% for 2026/27, 2027/28 and 2028/29, be approved.

**PF/184 BUDGET TASK AND FINISH GROUP****a) Notes – 20<sup>th</sup> November 2025****RESOLVED MT/RO (Unanimous)**

That the notes of the Budget Task and Finish Group meeting held on the 20<sup>th</sup> November 2025, be received.

**PF/185 b) Notes – 8<sup>th</sup> January 2026****RESOLVED RO/MT (Unanimous)**

That the notes of the Budget Task and Finish Group meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> January 2026, be received.

**PF/186 c) Recommendations****RECOMMENDED RO/MT (Unanimous)**

That:-

- a) General Reserves in excess of 3 and up to 12 months of the value of the Precept, be approved.

- b) the final budget of £1,295,579.00 for 2026/27, be approved.
- c) the precept of £946,655.00 for 2026/27, be approved.
- d) the Budget Task and Finish Group continues to meet after the annual budget is set to develop more detailed specifications and costings for the Projects/EMR Action Plan.
- e) Earmarked Reserves funds be moved as follows:-

<b>EMR No.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Action</b>
321	Capital Reserve Henley Orchard	£2,213.34	Release to General Fund
	General Fund	£2,213.34	Increase EMR:323 Neighbourhood Fund from General Reserves
322	EMR Public Toilets	£26,478.00	Release to General Fund
	General Fund	£26,478.00	Set up site specific EMRs (Castle Street / Smithfield / Linney) and increase each EMR from General Reserves according to a detailed specifications and costings from the Projects / EMR Action Plan.
325	EMR Play Areas Fund	£51,072.00	Release to General Fund
	General Fund	£51,072.00	Set up site specific EMRs for Wheeler Road, Linney and Houseman Play Areas and increase each EMR from General Reserves according to a detailed specifications and costings from the Projects / EMR Action Plan.
327	EMR Skatepark	£997.00	Release to General Fund
	General Fund	£997.00	Increase Wheeler Road Play Area EMR from General Reserves
334	EMR Wheeler Play Area Resurface	£2,000.00	Release to General Fund
	General Fund		Increase Wheeler Road Play Area EMR from General Reserves
341	EMR Signage	£7,117.00	Release to General Fund
	General Fund	£7,117.00	Increase site specific EMRs for Wheeler Road, Linney and Houseman Play Areas from General Reserve according to a detailed specifications and costings from the Projects / EMR Action Plan.

353	EMR Contingency Fund	£55,004.00	Release to General Fund
	General Fund	£55,004.00	Set up Churchyard Walls Legal Costs EMR and increase from general reserves.
362	EMR Grant Match Funding	£20,000.00	Release to General Fund
	General Fund.	£20,000.00	Increase EMR:363 Neighbourhood Plan from General Reserves
366	EMR Legal and Reg Compliance	£30,000.00	Release to General Fund
	General Fund	£145,000.00	Increase Churchyard Walls Legal Costs EMR to a total of £200,000.00 form General Reserves.
368	EMR Mem Bench/Plaque Maintenance	£195.00	Release to General Fund
	General Fund	£195.00	Increase EMR: 342 Street Furniture from General Reserve.

**PF/187 SCAFFOLDING****RESOLVED RO/MT (Unanimous)**

That the Town Wall scaffolding report be noted and quotations will continue to be sought.

**PF/188 INSURANCE TASK AND FINISH GROUP****RESOLVED RO/MT (Unanimous)**

That:-

- a) the notes be amended to include the attendance of the Mayor.
- b) the notes be amended to include Gallaghers Client Directors full name.
- c) the notes of the Insurance Task and Finish Group meeting held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2025, be received.
- d) a copy of the note defining insured council activities be held on the insurance file for future reference.

**PF/189 CCLA PUBLIC SECTOR DEPOSIT FUND INVESTMENT****RESOLVED RO/DL (Unanimous)**

That the CCLA Public Sector Deposit Fund Investment statements for November and December 2025, be noted.

**PF/190 NON DOMESTIC RATES CHALLENGE**

**RESOLVED RO/DL (Unanimous)**

That the receipt of the final rates refund, relating to the Buttercross, in the sum of £30,022.43, be noted

The meeting closed at 7.59pm

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Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

N.B. Closed Session Minutes will NOT be issued for this meeting.