

FINANCE & ESTABLISHMENT SUB-COMMITTEE (Budget Setting 2027-28)
SAFFRON WALDEN TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the FINANCE & ESTABLISHMENT SUB-COMMITTEE (Budget Setting 2027-28) MEETING held on Tuesday 8 September 2026 at 2.30pm in the Town Hall, Saffron Walden.

Present Councillors: Curtis, de Vries, Freeman (Chair) and Porch

Officers: Town Clerk, Responsible Finance Officer (RFO) and Operations Manager

Public: None

Budget 007-26	Apologies for absence Apologies received from Cllrs Asker, Coote, Eke and McLellan. Absent Cllr Abercrombie.
Budget 008-26	To receive any Declarations of Interest Cllr Freeman declared a generic nonpecuniary interest as a Uttlesford District Councillor.
Budget 009-26	Minutes of the last meeting The 27.07.2026 minutes were agreed and signed.
Budget 010-26	Budget Training Officers provided an overview of the budget setting processes
Budget 011-26	Date and time of Next Meeting Committee noted the next meeting is proposed for Wednesday 16 September at 2pm in the Town Hall. Following a review of the budget papers at this meeting and in light of the decision reached by Committee, it was agreed that a meeting was not required for September and an October meeting would only be required if the draft budget was challenged by either F&E (at the Sept meeting), or Full Council (at the October meeting).
Budget 012-26	Confidential Item – Exclusion of Press and Public (Part II meeting) Resolved that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 (as extended by s.100 of the Local Government Act 1972), the public and accredited representatives of newspapers be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

Budget 013-26	Budget and supporting papers Committee received and discussed the following reports: (a) First draft standstill budget (b) Assumptions and possibilities report, annotating the basis under which the first draft budget is presented (c) EMR budget (d) Projected income Unanimously resolved: (a) To adopt the principles of the first draft budget as presented with a caveat that the Budget Sub-Committee reconvenes on receipt of the Band D housing figures. (b) That if there are surplus monies (from the Band D Housing Figures) monies are to be allocated to the Ear-Marked Reserves. (c) To recommend adoption of the first draft budget to the September F&E meeting (and subsequently to October Full Council meeting). (d) To cancel the proposed Sub-Committee meeting scheduled for Wednesday 16 September at 2pm and that the Sub-Committee need only reconvene once the Band D numbers were received, so that these could be formally allocated accordingly.
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Meeting Closed 3.45pm