



DITCHLING PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Ditchling Parish Council Finance Committee Meeting held at the Parish Office, Ditchling Village Hall, Ditchling on Tuesday 27th November 2025 at 2.30pm

Present: Cllrs Farrands, Godley, Madden and Orme (Chair)

Tracey Euesden (Clerk)

Public Participation:

No members of the public were present.

1.	Apologies for absence. All members of the committee were present.
2.	Declarations of interest. There were no declarations of interest.
3.	To Approve the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 12th November 2024. The Minutes were APPROVED and signed by the Chair.
4.	To Consider Interim Internal Audit Report and Recommendations. The report had been distributed and NOTED . Cllr Orme commented that the result of the audit was very satisfactory: the internal auditor stated that " <i>no issues were found that require attention within the scope of the audit</i> " and so made no recommendations for improvement.
5.	To Consider Precept and Draft Budget 2026/2027 to include councillors' comments or proposals and make recommendation to Full Council. Cllr Stapleton had submitted a proposal that the Budget for traffic calming measures be set at £25,000 and had also proposed that sums of £5,000 each should be set aside for professional advice on proposals for the Pavilion and for the potential of the transfer of assets from Lewes District Council as part of the Local Government reorganisation. Cllr Orme expressed reservations about increasing the precept levels beyond 9% to cater for Cllr Stapleton's suggestions. He pointed out that the proposed budget includes provision for traffic related projects and for professional advice. Responding to Cllr Godley's enquiry about expenditure in general, Cllr Orme commented that the budget wasn't a spending plan and that decisions regarding additional expenditure from general reserves could be taken by the council as and when appropriate. It was AGREED that the draft budget be RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL to Full Council with an increase of 9% on the Precept for 2026 / 2027.
6.	To Review Asset List. The Fixed Asset List was reviewed. The Defibrillator Cabinet and newly installed Speed Indicator Devices had been added and the photocopier removed.
7.	To Review Savings Accounts. It was noted that the Financial Services Compensation Scheme limit would be increased to £120,000 from December. Cllr Godley described the benefits and

	features of CCLA Public Sector Deposit Fund and suggested that this be considered as a potential vehicle for the council's money.
8.	Next meeting date. To be advised.

The meeting closed at 3.30 pm

DRAFT