**DITCHLING PARISH COUNCIL**
Ditchling Village Hall 18 Lewes Road Ditchling East Sussex BN6 8TT
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# Minutes of the Ditchling Parish Council Finance Committee Meeting held at the Parish Office, Ditchling Village Hall, Ditchling on Thursday 8th October 2026 at 2.30pm

Present: Cllrs Sansom (Chair) Madden and Orme

Tracey Euesden (Clerk)

Public Participation:

No members of the public were present.

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| 1. | **Apologies for absence.** Apologies were received from Cllr Farrands. |
| 2. | **Declarations of interest.** There were no declarations of interest. |
| 3. | **To Approve the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 27th November 2025.** The Minutes were **APPROVED** and signed by the Chair. |
| 4. | **To consider budget scenarios for 2027 2028 ahead of the public exhibition planned for 31st October 2026**. Cllr Sansom had produced a spreadsheet for the budget including scenarios which allow for the crossings project to be staggered over 1, 2 and 3 years. The projected level of reserves for each scenario was all within the SAPPP Practicioner's Guidance of between 3 and 12 months of operating budget and Cllr Orme commented that scenario C (all completed in 1 year) was feasible. Whilst this option would leave the reserves at the low end of the SAPPP Guidance, it would avoid further inflation and extra costs for separate contracts as well as extra Officer time.<br>It was agreed that one of this committee's objectives is to make recommendations regarding the budget and precept that enables to council to carry out its priority projects.<br><br>Cllr Sansom agreed to draft a note explaining the group's deliberations in time for the full council meeting on 27th October and a further meeting of this committee would be arranged for after the public exhibition being planned for 31st October to decide upon its recommendations regarding the 2027 2028 budget and Precept. |
| 5. | **To review earmarked reserves.** Earmarked reserves to be reviewed at the next meeting. |
| 6. | **To arrange next meeting.** To be held on 10th or 12th November at 2.30pm depending on Cllr Farrands' availability. |

The meeting closed at 3.15 pm.