BENSON PARISH COUNCIL
Parish Hall, Sunnyside, Benson, Wallingford. OX10 6LZ
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Minutes of the meeting of the Benson Parish Council Finance Committee held on Monday 6th July 2026 at 6pm

Present:	Cllr Jordan (Chair)	(RJ)
	Cllr Pattison	(BP)
	Cllr Baylis	(PB)
	Cllr Murray	(PM)
	Nicola Copland	(CLK)
Proper Officer:	Anna Field	(RFO)

1. **Election of Chair –** Rob Jordan was elected as Chair
2. **Apologies and note of absence** – Cllr Skeels
3. **Adoption of Terms of Reference –** The Terms of Reference dated 15th July 2025 were adopted.
4. **Declarations of Interest** – Cllr Jordan signed re item 5
5. **Public Session –** there were no members of the public present
6. **Minutes of the last meeting –** The minutes of the Finance Committee meetings held on 12th May and 21st May 2026 were agreed as a true record of the meeting by the members who attended
7. **Funding –** The library are seeking £4156. There were questions about their accounts. RFO to make enquiries — RFO

   BANG are seeking £2268 to fund more hours for Tracey Comber. It was felt that further detail was needed about exactly what Benson would get in terms of events and time. She will be invited to a pre Full Council meeting to explain. The funding is likely to come from reserves. — CLK
8. **Internal Audit –** the final internal audit report for 2026-26 was received and the action points were noted.

   Full Council to note receipt of final Internal Audit report from 2025-26 and the action points contained therein — CLK
9. **Internal Auditor –** RFO put forward 2 proposals received from potential internal auditors, now required due to the closure of Council Audits who we have used for several years. Proposals were received from Mulberry and LCC.

   Recommendation to Full Council to appoint Mulberry Local Authority Services Ltd for an initial three year period. — CLK
10. **Tennis Club –** RFO reported the latest communication with the Tennis Club and with Zurich.

    RFO to ask for fuller information on the Tennis Club plans for pay per play courts — RFO

    RFO to continue dialogue with Zurich to see if there is a potential claim.

11. **DWH Green Spaces –** PM has informed DWH that tranche 2 will not be accepted unless tranche 1 has been legally transferred and the commuted sum released. PM

PM to investigate the inclusion of the roadside hedging and trees and the financial impact of taking them out.

12. **War Memorial Drop Kerb –** RFO has prepared a grant application from the War Memorials Trust. However it is apparent we will not get much of a contribution as the works are not directly to the war memorial itself RFO

13. **Solar Panels –** the committee confirmed that the Full Council resolution still stands and the project should be progressed with a grant application CLK

14. **Vote to exclude the general public from the remainder of this meeting pursuant to section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 because of the sensitive nature of the business to be transacted under the agenda** unanimous

The recruitment of a new Assistant Clerk was discussed

15. **Any Other Business and Items for the Next Agenda**

Recommendation to Full Council to engage with Mackenzie Wheeler as the preferred supplier for architectural services for the Pavilion project, as chosen through the Contract Finder tender process CLK

Date of Next Meeting – 15th September 2026