



Newark TOWN COUNCIL

FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MINUTES

Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on Wednesday, 18th February 2026, at 7.00 pm, in the Council Chamber, at the Town Hall.

Membership Present:	Councillor	S Crosby (Chairman)
	Councillors	I Brown D Campbell T Collier B Corrigan (Vice-Chairman) E Cropper S Dickinson L Geary J Kellas D Ledger (Ap) D Moore G Rix N Ross L Roulstone M Skinner M Spoons P Taylor
Apologies for Absence:	Councillors	D Ledger
Officers Present:	Town Clerk Deputy Town Clerk	Matthew Gleadell Anna Lawson
	One member of the press was present, and no members of the public were in attendance.	
Venue:	Committee Room, Newark Town Hall	

Cllrs Skinner and Brown arrived 7.02 pm.

FGP050/25/26 Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on Wednesday, 28th January 2026

The Minutes (as above) were proposed by Cllr N Ross, seconded by Cllr S Dickinson, and **AGREED** and **APPROVED** unanimously.

FGP051/25/26 Declarations of Interest

Declarations of Interest were made by Cllrs Campbell, Cropper, Geary, Roulstone and Ross in relation to Item 5, Newark Community Gardens.

FGP052/25/26 Payment Schedule

The payment schedule was proposed by Cllr B Corrigan, seconded by Cllr M Spoor, and **NOTED**.

FGP053/25/26 Newark Community Gardens Request

A request has been received to use areas of Beaumont Gardens to create a Community Garden.

Discussions took place regarding a range of matters, including the location and the project's funding and cost.

There were also discussions as to whether it should be considered by the Environmental Sub-Committee.

It was proposed by Cllr B Corrigan and seconded by Cllr L Geary to **DECLINE** the current request. The group are to consult with the Environment Sub Committee to identify alternative sites. A vote was held with 11 Agreed, 2 Against and 3 Abstentions.

The request was therefore **DECLINED**, with any further proposals to be considered by the Environmental Sub-Committee.

FGP054/25/26 Terms of Reference for Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

The proposed Terms of Reference for the Neighbourhood Planning Steering Group were considered following the Planning Committee's approval.

Several major amendments were proposed to the original document. It was also proposed that all members be invited to join the steering group meetings.

This was proposed by Cllr J Kellas and seconded by Cllr M Skinner, that, following the amendments, the Steering Group be opened to all members. This motion was **AGREED** upon unanimously.

FGP055/25/26 New Twin Town Proposal

Cllr B Corrigan explained the background of the proposal to form a new twinning relationship with Ostroh in the Ukraine. Similar to those currently in place with Emmendingen and Sandomierz.

Extensive discussion took place in relation to the following.

- whether there should be a 'Friendship' rather than 'Twinning' agreement.
- Staff capacity to undertake this additional role.
- Whether this kind of action is relevant in current circumstances.

Cllr B Corrigan proposed that the motion wording be changed from 'Twinning' to 'Friendship.'

It was proposed by Cllr B Corrigan, and seconded by Cllr L Geary, for Newark to join with Ostroh, Ukraine, in a Friendship Agreement. A vote was held with 10 Agreed, 3 Against and 3 Abstentions.

Therefore, it was **AGREED** that Newark would commence the steps to enter into a Friendship Agreement with Ostroh in the Ukraine.

9.00 pm It was proposed by Cllr B Corrigan, and seconded by Cllr D Moore, to **suspend Standing Orders** for 30 minutes, which was **AGREED** unanimously.

FGP056/25/26 Market Stalls, Market Charging and Market Consultation

Cllrs M Spoons, S Crosby, N Ross, I Brown, P Taylor and D Moore made a declaration of interest as a Newark & Sherwood District Councillor. Newark and Sherwood District Council are the landowner of the Market Place.

The motion included four recommendations.

- Approve the commissioning of a prototype market stall, in order to address ASB in the Market Place.
- To approve the proposed market stalls charges during the market relocation.
- Note the plans for a consultation with market traders.
- Support the allocation of £125,000 in earmarked reserves towards future maintenance costs of the market.

This motion and the various recommendations were discussed at length. It was proposed that the recommendations be accepted in full and voted on as a block.

This was proposed by Cllr D Campbell and seconded by Cllr M Spoons. A vote was held with 11 Agreed, 5 Against and 0 Abstentions so the proposal was **AGREED** to accept the recommendations.

Meeting Closed:	21.13 pm	Next Meeting:	Wednesday 11th March 2026
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