



## Minutes of Meeting of the Finance and Compliance Committee held on 16 March 2026 at 6.30 pm Hybrid Meeting at the Ostreme Centre & via Teams

**Councillors Present:** Rob Marshall (Chair), Tim Zhou, Ian Scott, Sara Keeton, Carrie Townsend Jones, Martin O'Neill, Richard Jarvis and Phil Keeton.

**Officers Present:** Kerry Grabham – CO Ian Hughes – CSO

<b>FI2603-01</b>	<b>Apologies:</b> None
<b>FI2603-02</b>	<b>Declarations of Interest:</b> Cllr Townsend Jones who was not present when declarations of interest were initially declared, subsequently declared a personal interest in relation to a grant application as she is friend of the applicant Hazel Israel ( <b>FI2603-08</b> refers).
<b>FI2603-03</b>	<b>Minutes of the Previous Meeting of the Committee</b> To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 16 <sup>th</sup> February 2026 as a true record.  <b>RESOLVED</b> to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 16 <sup>th</sup> February 2025 as a true record.
<b>FI2603-04</b>	<b>Outstanding Actions from Previous Meeting</b> Outstanding actions outlined by the CSO.  <b>RESOLVED</b> outstanding actions updated, and new actions to be recorded in 'outstanding action' report by CSO.
<b>FI2603-05</b>	<b>Budget Monitoring Reports to 31/01/2026 - Paul Beynon, RFO Reports attached.</b>  Financial reports prepared by RFO Paul Beynon, had previously been circulated to councillors. No queries regarding these reports were raised prior to the meeting.  <b>RESOLVED</b> to approve the above reports



<p><b>FI2603-06</b></p>	<p><b>Linden Church Trust Grant Application</b>          Grant Application for £6,000 to contribute towards the running costs of West Cross Youth Club</p> <p>The Chair, Cllr Marshall, highlighted key aspects of the application. Committee members were supportive of this application who noted that this application was only for one year, when the previous application had been for three years. Committee members believed that a rise in the amount sought was due to inflation and the success of the scheme, attracting a large number of participants.</p> <p><b>RECOMMENDED</b> That a Grant Application to Linden Church for £6,000 be awarded to contribute towards the running costs of West Cross Youth Club</p> <p>From <b>Budget FC1</b> Small and Medium Grants.</p>
<p><b>FI2603-07</b></p>	<p><b>HWV Collective CIC Grant Application</b>          Grant Application for £2,000 to widen access to practical STEM learning for young people in Mumbles/Swansea through a small-scale prototype programme.</p> <p>The Chair, Cllr Marshall, highlighted key aspects of the application. A number of committee members contributed to the discussion that ensued. Overall whilst supportive of the scheme concerns were raised that there was insufficient information from the applicant. In addition, members considered that MCC grants were not suitable for educational programmes of this kind, and that an application would be more favourably viewed once a 'trial' or 'pilot' programme had taken place and properly assessed.</p> <p><b>RECOMMENDED</b> Not to grant an application for £2,000 to widen access to practical STEM learning for young people in Mumbles/Swansea through a small-scale prototype programme.</p> <p>Cllr Townsend Jones joined the meeting at 6.38pm</p>



<p><b>FI2603-08</b></p>	<p><b>Bantani Cymru CIC Grant Application</b> Grant Application for £2,200 to contribute to Cynefin Project at Oystermouth Castle.</p> <p>The Chair, Cllr Marshall, highlighted key aspects of the application. Cllr Townsend Jones who was not present when declarations of interest were noted (<b>FI2603-02</b> refers) declared a personal interest in this application as she is friend of the applicant Hazel Israel.</p> <p>Committee members were supportive of this application who considered that whilst educational, the focus of the project concerned furthering knowledge of local heritage and Oystermouth Castle in particular.</p> <p>Members would have appreciated further information and clarification; however, they believed the project addressed the needs of young people across a wide age range and that the project appeared to be taking place outside of term time.</p> <p><b>RECOMMENDED</b> That a grant application for £2,200 to Bantani Cymru CIC be approved to contribute to the Cynefin Project at Oystermouth Castle.</p> <p>From <b>Budget FC1</b> Small and Medium Grants.</p>
<p><b>FI2603-09</b></p>	<p><b>Mumbles Bowls Club Grant Application</b> Grant Application for £800 to contribute towards the maintenance costs of the bowling green.</p> <p>The Chair, Cllr Marshall, highlighted key aspects of the application. A number of committee members were concerned that Mumbles Bowls Club were seeking this application with a large amount of money in their bank account.</p> <p><b>ACTION</b> CO to write to applicant seeking clarification on their bank balance and last year's application to be checked for similar queries.</p> <p><b>RECOMMENDED</b> To defer this application until May Meeting pending outcome of the above action.</p>



<p><b>FI2603-10</b></p>	<p><b>Internal Audit Interim Audit Report</b></p> <p>The CO had previously circulated the Interim Internal Audit Report to members. The CO highlighted key aspects to members before addressing questions.</p> <p>The Chair, Cllr Marshall noted the views of members that both the CO and RFO had been commended within the report for the way that recommendations had been carried out. In particular the manner in which issues connected to The Hub at Underhill were dealt with, were described as exemplary. The Committee’s thanks to both the CO and RFO to be noted.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> To accept the findings of the Interim Internal Audit Report</p>
-------------------------	---

**Meeting Finished at 7.10pm**

**Next meeting: 18<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

DRAFT