EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

Finance Committee

Meeting at Exmouth Town Hall at 6pm on Thursday 19th February 2026

Present:

Councillors	A Sadiq (Chairperson)	S Gazzard
	G Deasy	O Davey
	P Stott	M Williamson
	A Woodward	

Officers:

Lisa Bowman, Town Clerk / Responsible Financial Officer.
Victoria Talbot, Finance Officer

F25/37. Apologies

Cllrs D Poor, M Hall, F Caygill, C Nicholas, J Whibley, D Conduit

F25/38. Public Forum

N/a

F25/39. Finance Committee meeting minutes

It was proposed by Cllr A Woodward, seconded by Cllr O Davey and unanimously agreed that the minutes from the previous meeting on Thursday, 20th November 2025 should be approved.

F25/40. Matters arising from previous minutes

N/a

F25/41. Declarations of pecuniary interests and dispensations

Cllr P Stott - family member part of Exmouth Smallbore Rifle Club (grant application)
Cllr S Gazzard - on Exmouth in Bloom's committee (SLA application)
Cllr A Woodward – on EMCo's committee (SLA application)

F25/42. To resolve that the press and public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of item(s) in Part B of the agenda as it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I, Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972

It was agreed under Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 to exclude the press and public from Part B of the meeting, on the basis that if they were present during the business to be transacted there would be a likelihood of disclosure of exempt information, within the meaning of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.

F25/43. Report from the Responsible Financial Officer

2025/26 Budgetary Control:

Year to date costs have exceeded revenue budget for the following cost centres codes:

- 4113-102 – Civic Events – VE Day costs.
- 4131-110 – Christmas Tree & Lights – purchase of replacement lights.
- 4226-112 - Gate to plate event.
- 4424-112 – Visit Exmouth – Visit South Devon marketing costs increase.
- 4005-201 – Recruitment costs – Due to the recruitment of maternity cover for the Finance Officer.
- 4021-201 – Phones/internet – due to increase in full fibre broadband costs.

Bank balances were noted as follows:

Account name	**Statement Date**		**Balances**
Community Account	20/11/2025	£	156,499.76
Business Current Account	31/12/2025	£	5,000.00
Active Saver	31/12/2025	£	853,797.92
Total		**£**	**1,015,297.68**

Exmouth Town Council investments were noted as follows:

£100,000 was invested in CCLA Investment in Jan 2016.
£343,000 was invested in CCLA Investment in Jan 2020.
£357,000 was invested in CCLA Investment in Dec 2022.
£317,458 was invested in CCLA Investment in Dec 2025.
Total: £1,117,541.68

As at 31 December 2025, a total amount of £2,132,839.36 was held in bank accounts and investments under the name of Exmouth Town Council. This amount is broken down as follows:

General Reserves:	£	232,608.41
Earmarked Reserves:	£	842,521.65
CIL:	£	1,219,489.13*
Working Revenue:	-£	161,779.83*

** The £400k payment to Dinan Way has come out of working revenue, and an adjustment will be made at year end to transfer this from CIL reserves.*

The balances of the charitable trust funds and project funds held on behalf of others were also noted. It was noted that the Committee should consider what Garth Gibson and BIG funds could be spent on in the future.

F25/44. To receive and approve the Statement of Income and Expenditure against budget and the payment lists / reconciliation of accounts against bank statements.

The RFO presented the statement of income and expenditure to Members, together with the payment lists for the previous three months. The following expenditure was noted in each month:

- October 2025: **£524,058.01** was expended. This was comprised of £400k Dinan Way contribution, Sept payroll, rent, insurance, CCTV monitoring, flower towers and grass cutting.

- November 2025: **£49,543.67** was expended. This was comprised of Maer toilet costs, insurance, Christmas lights, grant payments and roadsweeper lease payments.

- December 2025: **£454,781.06** was expended. This was comprised of £317k CCLA share purchase, Oct & Nov payroll, further Christmas light costs, recruitment fees and Winter Festival fees.

Cllr Pauline Stott proposed, seconded by Cllr Mark Williamson and it was agreed by all that the Statement of Income and Expenditure against budget and the payment lists / reconciliation of accounts against bank statements be approved.

F25/45. SLA Applications
Members reviewed applications from a number of organisations and following discussion, Cllr Olly Davey proposed, Cllr Steve Gazzard seconded and it was unanimously agreed to award service level agreements as follows:

Applicant	Purpose	Amount Awarded
A. Citizens Advice East Devon	Core activities	£8,000.00
B. Exmouth & District Community Transport Group	Core activities	£5,908.98
C. Exmouth Beach Rescue	Core activities (courses for training & qualifications)	£1,000.00
D. Exmouth Gateway Club	Core activities	£3,000.00
E. Exmouth In Bloom	Core activities	£6,000.00
F. Exmouth Museum	Solicitors' fees for changing status from charity to Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)	-
G. Exmouth Musical Theatre Company	Core activities	£1,500.00
H. Exmouth Town Concert Band	Core activities (rehearsal space & musical pieces)	£1,500.00
I. Exmouth Town Football Club	Repairs to flood lights for Devon air landing site.	£3,500.00
J. Exmouth Youth Theatre	Core activities	£2,000.00
K. National Coastwatch Institution Exmouth	Core activities	£1,000.00
L. Open Door	Community hub activities	£7,000.00

M. Transition Exmouth	Website redevelopment for digital engagement	-

Total £40,408.98

F25/46. Grant Applications

Applicant	Purpose	Amount Awarded
Exmouth Smallbore Rifle Club	Insulating walls in the range to provide warmer conditions and cut down on bills	£1,500.00

Proposed: Cllr M Williamson Seconded: Cllr A Woodward

Agreed to fund this out of reserves.

F25/47. To approve withdrawal of £40,000 from William Adams Westwood Charity for payment to Resthaven

Proposed: Cllr M Williamson Seconded: Cllr O Davey

Part B

F25/48. Exmouth Town Hall

Councillors considered and approved a recommendation in respect of Exmouth Town Hall.

Proposed: Cllr S Gazzard Seconded: Cllr O Davey

Resolved: to approve a recommendation in respect of Exmouth Town Hall.

F25/49. Date of next meeting: Thursday, 7th May 2026

The meeting concluded at 7:05 pm.

Signed .....

Date .....

(Chairperson)