

Minutes of Finance Panel Meeting – 12th January 2026

Present : Cllr J. Paige, Cllr J. Honeybill, Cllr G. Phillips, Cllr A. MacGarry, Cllr N. McCarten, Cllr C. Elliott, Cllr A. Evans, Cllr K. Bryan, Cllr R. Hughes.

Also present : Nicole Beaumont (Clerk), Catrin Willetts (Minutes taker).

1. Apologies : Cllr Ll. Griffiths, Cllr P. Jones.

2. Declaration of Interest : None.

3. Cllr Phillips chaired the budget review :

Councillors discussed in detail the budget for each department and asked for the following amendments to be made :

Dpt 1 Café – A line to be added for insurance costs to be apportioned to the café.

Dpt 2 Allotments and Grounds – To chase Powys County Council regarding ownership of Garsiwn allotment wall that needs repairing.

Dpt 3 Market – To remove question from note 6.

Dpt 4 Toilets – To remove question from note 9. Insurance apportionment to be revised. Cleaning line to be amended to £8,400 in line with accurate cleaning costs. Grants to instal payment gates for toilets should be received and used in this financial year so not needed in next year's budget.

Dpt 5 Town Clock – Insurance apportionments to be checked and defibrillator expenses to be put into MTC's (Dpt 6) budget line.

Dpt 6 Machynlleth Town Council – Defibrillators from all other departments budget lines to be added to this Dpt. Wages line to be corrected and to include 4% rise in line with inflation. Project toilets by the Plas Remembrance Gardens to be removed. Staff training needs to be verified and costed. Bad debts removed as they will fall in this financial year. Computer hardware upgrades to be added to IT maintenance line.

Dpt 7 Hen Stablau – Agreed.

Dpt 8 Y Plas – Windows project should be complete by end of this financial year so is to be removed. To remove defibrillator line and taken to Dpt 6. Utilities line to be increased to £40,000. Wages to be checked and to include 4% extra.

Councillors discussed the importance of conveying the reasons why increases are necessary, including the decline in Machynlleth of the number of Band D households being the median on which Council tax is calculated.

These recommendations will be taken to the Full Council meeting on 26th January 2026 for Councillors to agree the Proposed Precept demand.

4. Next Finance panel meeting will be on 13th April 2026 at 6.30pm in the John Edwards room at Y Plas.