

**Minutes of the meeting of the Finance Monitoring Committee  
held in the Council Chamber, Whitworth Civic Hall on  
Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2025 at 7pm.**

**Members Present:**

Cllr Whitehead (Chair)

Cllr Chorlton

Cllr Neal

Cllr Ritson

Clerk of the Council: Miss R Hodson

Business Admin Apprentice: Miss A Luxton

No members of the public were present.

**1. To receive apologies.**

Apologies were received from Cllr Burton and Cllr Greenwood who were unwell and Cllr Ritson kindly agreed to substitute.

**2. To consider the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2025, and to approve them by the signature of the Chairman as a correct record.**

It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2025, copies of which had been circulated to each member, were correct and should be approved by the signature of the Chairman as a correct record. This was moved by Councillor Neal and seconded by Councillor Chorlton.

**3. To consider budget versions 4b and 4c for 2026-2027 and receive suggestions from members for projects to consider for the next financial year.**

Councillors discussed Local Government Reorganisation and elections, and the budget versions 4b and 4c for 2026-2027. Councillors suggested

- To postpone the provision for 7.5 hours a week for a gardener at National Living wage.
- Amendments were suggested to increase the provision for Christmas Lights, benches for the MUGA and Parliament Week.
- Keep 60 hours of office work per week.

This resulted in a proposed precept of £88,913, £35.48 per Band D equivalent using the 25/26 council tax base, which is an increase of £1.63 or 4.8%. Rossendale Borough Council have been contacted regarding the 26/27 council tax base, and this will be amended once the figures are available.

**4. Any other business.**

Councillors requested that the Local Government Reorganisation working group feedback in the next Finance Monitoring Committee meeting.

**5. To set the date for the next meeting**

The next meeting will be arranged in the New Year.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7:45pm.