



Ashington Town Council  
Town Hall, 65 Station Road  
Ashington  
Northumberland  
NE63 8RX

15<sup>th</sup> June 2026

### **To all Members of the Council**

You are hereby summoned to attend the **FINANCE AND GENERAL SERVICES COMMITTEE** in **THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 65 STATION ROAD, NE63 8RX**, on **Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2026**, commencing immediately after the **FULL COUNCIL MEETING**, no earlier than at **6:20pm**.

The agenda for the meeting is set out below, along with supporting documents. If you have any questions about any of the items on the agenda, please contact the office.

The meeting is open to the press and public. As per the agenda and our standing orders, any resident wishing to speak should contact us prior to the meeting.

Regards

**Sarah Eden**  
**Executive Officer/RFO**

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### **AGENDA FOR THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**

#### **1. WELCOME BY THE CHAIR**

Welcome by Cllr Lynne Grimshaw

#### **2. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR**

In accordance with Standing Orders, to receive nominations for Vice-Chair of the Finance and General Services Committee of Ashington Town Council, and in the event of more than one Councillor being proposed and seconded, to take a vote and elect the Councillor with the majority.

#### **3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The Chair to receive any items put forward by members of the public and to put questions to or draw relevant matters to the attention of the Council. This is for a period of 15 minutes overall and is limited to 3 minutes per person.

*Please email/telephone the office with questions on items on the agenda no later than 5.00pm on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2026.*

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<https://www.facebook.com/ashingtontowncouncil>

<https://www.instagram.com/ashingtontc/>

#### **4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

To receive and sign as a true record, the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2026 (enc)<sup>i</sup>

#### **5. CLERK AND OFFICER UPDATES**

To receive an update on items actioned since the previous meeting (enc)<sup>ii</sup>

#### **6. BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE 2026/27**

##### **a) Budget Report 2026/27 (June)**

To receive an updated budget and expenditure report (enc)<sup>iii</sup>

##### **b) Bank Reconciliation**

To receive the latest Bank Reconciliation, month ending 31<sup>st</sup> May 2026 (enc)<sup>iv</sup>

##### **c) Schedule of Accounts Paid**

To receive a schedule of accounts and endorse those accounts paid since 1<sup>st</sup> April 2026 (enc)<sup>v</sup>

#### **7. CCTV MEETING, 20<sup>th</sup> MAY 2026**

To receive and note the report, and address any questions to Committee Members (enc)<sup>vi</sup>

#### **8. ANNUAL GRANTS 2026/27**

To receive the recommendations of the Grant Funding Group in respect of Annual Grants to individual organisations, and to formally agree grant sums to organisations in accordance with the Council's Annual Grant Guidelines (to follow)<sup>vii</sup>

*Members are reminded that if they have not already declared an interest in any grant application on this agenda, they must do so now. A member with a disclosable pecuniary interest, or another interest which requires withdrawal, must leave the meeting before that application is considered, unless a dispensation has been sought and approved in advance. Participation without a valid dispensation would be unlawful.*

#### **9. ADDITIONAL ONE-OFF FUNDING FOR WANSBECK VALLEY FOOD BANK AND NORTHUMBERLAND CITIZENS ADVICE** (placed on the agenda by Cllr John Tully)

To agree the Council awards an additional £5,000 each to Wansbeck Valley Food Bank and Northumberland Citizens Advice for 2026/27, on top of the £5,000 each recommended to them through the Annual Grants Scheme. The additional £10,000 would be funded from the underspend in this year's Annual Grants budget arising from the Grant Funding Working Group's recommendations (enc)<sup>viii</sup>

#### **10. SECOND ROUND OF ANNUAL GRANTS 2026/27 – WINTER WARM HUBS AND WINTER COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES** (placed on the agenda by Cllr caroline Ball)

***Please note this item will only be considered if Agenda Item 9 is not carried, as both proposals rely on the same identified underspend.***

To agree that the Council uses any underspend in this year's Annual Grants budget, arising from the Grant Funding Working Group's recommendations, to reopen the Annual Grants fund for a one-off second round with a specific focus: winter warm hubs and winter community activities, with awards capped at £2,000 per project (enc)<sup>ix</sup>

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**11. FUNDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A JUNIOR PARKRUN FROM THE YOUTH FUNDING BUDGET** (placed on the agenda by Cllr Caroline Ball)

To consider and agree a £4,300 contribution from the Youth Funding Budget towards the establishment of a Junior parkrun in Ashington (enc)<sup>x</sup>

**12. SMALL GRANTS AWARD INCREASE TO £1,000**

To receive a recommendation from the Grant Funding Working Group to agree an increase in the small grants maximum award to £1,000 per application from the second funding round (15<sup>th</sup> July 2026), subject to review of the budget position ahead of the third round on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2026 (enc)<sup>xi</sup>

**13. REDIRECTION OF COMMITTED FUNDING – WARD COUNCILLOR ENHANCEMENTS SCHEME – NORTH SEATON COMMUNITY CENTRE** (placed on the agenda by Cllrs Glyn Davis, Karl Green and Jim Lang)

To seek Council approval to redirect £1,000 of committed funding from the Ward Councillor Enhancements Scheme towards a cinema system at North Seaton Community Centre, forming part of a total project cost of £3,116.39 inclusive of £2,000 from County Cllr Karl Green's Members' Local Improvement Scheme (MLIS) funding, subject to confirmation of funding and placement of equipment order (enc)<sup>xii</sup>

**14. NCC LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN PROGRAMME 2026-2029**

To receive feedback on the priorities put forward by Ashington Town Council and suggest any further communications to be taken forward by respective County Cllrs (enc)<sup>xiii</sup>

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## **ENCLOSURES**

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- i Draft Minutes of the FGS – 12<sup>th</sup> May 2026
- ii Clerk and Officers Update
- iii Budget & Expenditure Report
- iv Bank Reconciliation, 31<sup>st</sup> May 2026
- v Accounts Schedule, from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2026 to date
- vi CCTV Meeting, 20<sup>th</sup> May 2026
- vii Recommendations for Annual Grants to organisations for the 2026/27 year
- viii Proposal – Cllr John Tully – Redirection of Annual Grants underspend
- ix Proposal – Cllr Caroline Ball – 2<sup>nd</sup> Round Annual Grants
- x Proposal – Cllr Caroline Ball – Junior parkrun
- xi Small Grants Proposal
- xii North Seaton Community Centre
- xiii LTP Plan Programme Feedback 2026-29

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