

METHWOLD PARISH COUNCIL

Finance Meeting
Tuesday 9th December 2025 at 7.30pm in Peggy's Room

Present: Cllr French, Cllr. Grassick, Cllr. Riches, Cllr. Senior, Cllr. Minkler.

1. Apologies for absence accepted from Cllr. Thomas, Cllr. O'Ware, Cllr. Horton, Cllr. Rodriguez.
2. Cllr. Grassick proposed to approve the minutes from the meeting held on 22nd October 2025, Cllr. Riches seconded. As Cllr Minkler and Cllr Senior were not present at the October meeting these minutes could not be approved at this meeting – carried forward to the next meeting.

3. Current Financial position as of end of November 2025

Current Account total on 28th November 2025	£	28,014.74
Tracker Account total on 28th November 2025	£	30,719.83
Saver Account (CIL & S 106) total on 28th November 2025	£	60,282.09
Emergency Reserve Fund 28th November 2025	£	26,031.77
Total	£	145,048.43

4. Bank Reconciliation for November 2025

Opening balance on Spreadsheet 1st April 2025	£	4,962.24
Add Receipts	£	117,417.58
Less Payments	£	94,365.08
Balance on 28th November 2025	£	28,014.74
Total	£	28,014.74

5. Budget for 2026/27 discussed and approved.
6. Precept 2026/27 – slides to show the Precept requirement for 2026/27

The Clerk took the members through the slides

1. Running costs for the parish council 2025/26
2. Projects for 2026/27
3. Precept % increases
4. CIL Funding held in account
5. S106 Funding held in account

The Precept is based on 646.8 Band D houses in the parish.

With the running costs and the requirement for projects in 2026/27 including the funds already available in the accounts, the requirement is £106,367.82, this does not leave any room for increases to costs that we do not already know about.

The members agreed that the Precept should be increased by 20%, this will take the Precept to £114,489.70.

This is a total increase of £19,081.61 or £29.50 per year for a Band D house, £2.46 per month/12 months. A standard Tesco meal deal costs £3.85, an americano coffee in Costa costs £3.80 for a standard size. Cllr Minkler proposed that a 20% increase to Precept is taken to the main meeting for approval, Cllr. Grassick seconded the motion.

Date the approved application must be sent to BCKLWN is 31st January 2026 for payment in 2 parts - April 2026 and October 2026

7. Financial Reserves Policy – This document was prepared by the Clerk, members agreed that this is a useful document and will be updated as required.

8. Any other business

The Chairman requested that thanks to the Clerk/RFO are minuted for all accounting, the Clerk makes complex financial matters simple to understand.

Barclays – the parish council used to be on a zero charges account but Barclays have decided not to offer this service anymore and parish councils are going to be charged £8.50 per month our Business Account – plus charges for transactions. Other parish councils use Unity Trust, their charges start at £6.00 per month. This has been looked at in the past, but the decision made to remain with Barclays who at the time did not charge for the current account. This will be looked at in more detail in the new year.

9. To make recommendations to full council for approval at the meeting on 11th December 2025

10. To receive further reports/items for the next agenda

11. Date of next meeting – 8th January 2026 at 6.30pm in Peggy's Room

Meeting ended 8.15pm