

FOLKESTONE TOWN COUNCIL

**MINUTES of the Grants Committee Meeting held at Folkestone Town Council
Offices, Town Hall, 1-2 Guildhall Street, Folkestone on
Thursday, 3 September 2026 at 7.00 p.m.**

PRESENT:

Councillors, Jane Darling, John Renshaw, Bridget Chapman, Christine Dickinson, Lucy McGirr, Jackie Meade, Roger West and Nicola Keen.

APOLOGIES:

Councillors Abena Akuffo-Kelly, Laura Davison, Adrian Lockwood, Tim Prater, Belinda Walker and Pater Gane.

ABSENT:

Councillors Kieran Leigh, Charles Bain Smith, Connor McConville and Liz McShane

OFFICERS PRESENT:

Liz Timmins – Communities & Grants Officer

169. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors were asked to receive apologies from Councillors.

RESOLVED: To accept the Apologies from Councillors Abena Akuffo-Kelly, Laura Davison, Adrian Lockwood, Tim Prater, Belinda Walker and Pater Gane.

Proposed: Councillor Roger West

Seconded: Councillor John Renshaw

Voting: F: 8, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

170. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Keen declared a personal interest in the Folkestone Rescue LTD

171. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

RESOLVED: To appoint Cllr Nicola Keen Chair for the Committee for the 2026/27 Municipal Year.

Proposed: Councillor

Seconded: Councillor

Voting: F: 5, Ag: 0, Ab: 2

172. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR

RESOLVED: To appoint Cllr John Renshaw Vice Chair for the Committee for the 2026/27 Municipal Year.

Proposed: Councillor Roger West
Seconded: Councillor Nicola Keen
Voting: F: 7, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

173. GRANTS COMMITTEE MINUTES

The Committee was asked to receive the Minutes of the Meeting of the Grants Committee held on 5 February 2026 and to authorise the Chair of the Committee to sign them as a correct record.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meetings of the Grants Committee held on 5 February 2026 be received and that the Chair of the meeting be authorised to sign them as a correct record.

Proposed: Councillor John Renshaw
Seconded: Councillor Roger West
Voting: F: 7, Ag:0 , Ab: 1

174. REVIEW OF THE TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Committee made no changes to the Terms of Reference.

175. TOWN GRANT APPLICATIONS

Applicants requesting Town Grants of over £1,000 gave short presentations and answered any questions from the Committee members.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

The remainder of the Agenda classified item 7 as disclosing exempt information under Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) thereby excluding the press and public from the meeting whilst this item is debated.

176. TOWN GRANTS

Town Grant applications were assessed on merit against five categories by each Councillor. Scores were then accumulated to calculate the award.

Resolved: Councillors voted for the following application, Fourth Wall Folkestone CIC to receive £0 award as it was felt that they did not fully meet the criteria of the Grants Policy Guidelines:

Proposed: Councillor Bridget Chapman
Seconded: Councillor Lucy McGirr
Voting: F:8, Ag:0 , Ab:0

Resolved: Councillors voted on the remaining applications receiving the amounts noted in the table below:

PROSPECTIVE RECIPIENT	PURPOSE	FINAL AWARD AMOUNT
Strange Cargo	Residents platform	£2,000.00
With Ibby	With Ibby Caribbean Festival 2027	£1,200.00
South Kent Mind	Healthy Eating on a Budget	£1,200.00
Compass Music CIC	Compass Festival	£1,500.00
Folkestone Live CIC	Folkestone Live Festival of Theatre and Comedy	£1,000.00
Folkestone Rescue LTD	Inshore Rescue Boat	£2,500.00
Fourth Wall Folkestone CIC	Fourth Wall Folkestone Podcast Dissemination stage in Preparation of a Future Exhibition	£0.00
St Michaels Community Society Limited	The St Michaels Street Green Link	£2,500.00
Folkestone Fringe	Charts and Catches: Magic Carpets Exhibition and Beat	£500.00
Twirlstars	Hall Hire	£1,250.00
All Souls Church	Replacement Heating System	£1,500.00
The Folkestone Performing Arts Company	Community Theatre Session	£100.00
Folkestone Film Documentary Festival	Folkestone Documentary Festival 2026	£1,000.00

Proposed: Councillor Bridget Chapman
 Seconded: Councillor John Renshaw
 Voting: F:8, Ag:0 , Ab:0

177. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday, 4 February 2027. The Meeting concluded at 9.18pm

Chair

Date