



Notification of Draft
Decisions Monday, 6 October 2025

**Notice of Draft
Decisions of Cabinet Member for Finance Decision Meeting -
Monday, 6 October 2025**

1. Cabinet Member Introductions

Councillor Patrick Coleman, Cabinet Member for Finance, welcomed the public to the meeting. The purpose of the meeting was stated as being to make recommendations for the use of funds collected from the Rissington Road Car Parking Tourism Levy in Bourton-on-the-Water for 2025/26.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no interests declared by Members or Officers.

3. Officer Overview of the Report

The Executive Director introduced the report explaining that the decision was to agree the recommend funding for the agreed community projects.

The key points raised were:

- There were recurring annual expenditures including the cost of employing the Village Warden and joint funding projects to refresh the village green and parking enforcement
- Following the 2025 public consultation, 9 highest ranked projects were chosen to receive funding from the Bourton-on-the-Water Tourism parking Levy.
- The recurring annual expenditures total £39,733 whilst the consulted 2025/26 projects totalled £64,790. The total expenditure for 2025/26 would be £104,523.

4. Confirmation of Comments

There were no comments made.

5. Public Questions

There were no public questions.



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7. Decision

The Cabinet Member for Finance considered the recommendations within the report and noted to approve the recommendations in the interests of economic community success. The Cabinet Member resolved to approve the funding of the following Projects, listed in order of preference resulting from the 2025 public consultation process in relation to the use of funds from the Bourton-on-the-Water Tourism Parking Levy:

1. Commissioning of a Visitor Traffic Management Strategy (estimated cost £35,000),
2. Installation of rubber matting for the Melville and Naight play areas (estimated cost £860),
3. Provision of additional Parking Enforcement between Christmas and New Year (estimated cost £530),
4. Set up and removal of Village Green railings for protection of the Green from November to March (estimated cost £900),
5. Engineering works on the footpath adjacent to Jubilee Orchard, to improve drainage (estimated cost £8,000),
6. Repainting of the benches in the Village centre (estimated cost £4,000),
7. Repair of the paths around the Village Green (estimated cost £5,000),
8. Resurfacing of the bonded area underneath circular benches on the Village Green (estimated cost £7,500), and
9. Purchase of materials for volunteers to use to make gravel footpath improvements; particularly the Conigers and Manor Field footpaths (estimated cost £3,000).

The Cabinet Member for Finance approved the funding of the recurring annual expenditure from the Bourton-on-the-Water 2025/26 Tourism Parking Levy receipts:

10. The cost of employing the Village Warden (£20,444),
11. The cost of providing the Village Warden with a Small Projects budget (£500),
12. Joint (50%) funding of the annual refresh of the Village Green (£9,957), and Joint (50%) funding of the provision of additional Parking Enforcement (£8,832).

8. Cabinet Member Introduction

Councillor Patrick Coleman, Cabinet Member for Finance, welcomed the public to the meeting. The purpose of the meeting was stated as being to determine ten new applications and thirteen renewal applications for Discretionary Rate Relief submitted under Section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 for the financial years 2023/2024, 2024/2025 and 2025/2026



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9. Declarations of Interest

The Cabinet Member for Finance declared a membership of Cotswold Canals Trust.

10. Officer Overview of the Report

The Business Manager for Environment, Revenues and Welfare introduced the report explaining that Cotswold District Council had the power to consider granting, on an individual basis, Discretionary Rate Relief to non-profit making organisations and organisations suffering financial hardship.

Ten new applications had been received and there had been thirteen renewal applications for Discretionary Rate Relief in relation to business rates liabilities for the 2023/24, 2024/25 and 2025/2026 financial year.

If the Rate Relief was to be awarded, it was demonstrated that that would result in a loss on non-domestic rates income of £24,783.50 for the financial year 2025/26.

11. Confirmation of Comments

There were no comments discussed.

12. Public Questions

There were no public questions.

13. Cabinet Member Questions

The Cabinet Member for Finance requested further information on the criteria used to make the decision whether to be able to grant Rate Relief to organisations.

The Business Manager for Environment, Revenues and Welfare explained that those charitable organisations and those with a community interest received an 80% relief from the government and were looking to receive discretionary Rate relief on the remaining 20%.

Each applicant needed to submit their accounts and decisions were based on the balance of their funds. If they held sufficient funds to continue trading for twelve months then they would not normally be eligible to receive additional rate relief as they would have sufficient funds to pay their business rate liability .



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Some applicants were designated as approved for a '10% top up' rather than the full 20% relief.

It was asked whether late applications were accepted. It was explained that whilst not encouraged, some organisations had not been aware of the relief available from the previous year and their applications had been considered.

14. Decision

The Cabinet Member for Finance considered the recommendations within the report and agreed the Discretionary Rate Relief to support those charitable organisations where the entities were carrying out activities which either support the Council's priorities or have provided evidence of financial circumstances which met the criteria. Where refusal was given the reserves were sufficient to meet the financial performance.

The Cabinet Member for Finance **approved** the following Discretionary Rate Relief applications for:

1. Big Yellow Bus Company
2. North Cotswold Food Bank
3. Heart Safe Clinic Academy (six accounts)
4. Palmer Hall Management
5. Churn Project Ltd
6. Headspace
7. Cirencester Opportunity Group
8. SLM Community Leisure Charity Trust (three accounts)
9. New Brewery Arts (two accounts)
10. Brimpsfield Village Hall
11. Cirencester Citizens Advice
12. Bourton-on-the-Hill Old School Village Hall
13. Lechlade Library Ltd

The Cabinet Member for Finance refused applications for:

14. The Cotswolds Canals Trust
15. Didmarton Village Hall & Community Committee

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Closing Date for Call-In: 14 October 2025

Action Embargoed until: 15 October 2025