



Meeting pack

Full Council Meeting – Budget 2025-2026

6th January 2025

Contents

Agenda item		
		Agenda
5		Budget & Precept Report
8a		Grants Working Group Report



Councillors named below are summoned to attend the **Full Council Meeting** to be held in
Gallery 1, Castle Park Arts Centre, Castle Park, Frodsham, WA6 6SE on
Monday 6th January 2025 at 7pm

Members of the press and public are welcome to attend. The meeting will be audio recorded.

Town Clerk:

Jo O'Donoghue

Dated: 18th December 2024

Meeting 5

1. Apologies and reasons for absence

To receive apologies and note reasons for absence from members.

2. Declarations of interest

To note any declarations of interest on items which are on the agenda.

3. Public participation

Members of the public are invited to speak on items which are on the agenda in accordance with FTC policy on public speaking at meetings.

4. Local Government Finance Settlement

To note that council tax referendum principles will not be set for local (parish and town) councils in 2025/26.

5. Budget/Precept Report 2025-2026

To note the report provided by the Town Clerk.

6. Budget 2025-2026

To consider approval of the budget recommendations for 2025-2026 as detailed in the Budget/Precept report (item 5).

7. Precept

To consider approval of the precept request 2025-2026

8. Grant Scheme 2024-2025

(a) To note the report from the Grants Working Group Meeting held on 4th December 2024.

(b) To approve the recommendations of the Grants Working Group as follows: Main Street Memory Café (£1,200); Frodsham News Forum (£600); Frodsham Sings Community Choir (£500); National Childbirth Trust Mid Cheshire Branch (£300); Frodsham Business Network (£500); Weaver Sailing Club (£1,000).

9. Next Meeting

27th January 2025

10. Close of meeting

Council Budget and Precept Report

It is recommended that the council sets a budget of . The agreed total budget amounts to £332,946 based on the recommendations from the council's committees as follows:

- **Finance & General Purposes Committee:** £202,884
- **Amenities Committee:** £89,862
- **Events Committee:** £40,200

Budget Offsets and Income

The budget of £332,946 will be partially offset by anticipated income of £31,300. This strategy reduces the need for higher precept requests and ensures efficient use of council funds.

Earmarked Reserves

It is recommended that the Council allocates earmarked reserves totalling £127,922 to fund various projects and ongoing commitments for the upcoming year. Reserves to be allocated as follows:

Project/Item	Amount (£)
FTC Office	30,000.00
Burial Ground Extension	30,676.00
Replacement Christmas Lights	15,000.00
Play Area Refurbishment	20,000.00
Elections	7,246.00
Churchfields Safety Flooring	17,000.00
Community Orchards	5,000.00
Town Clocks	3,000.00
Memorial Tree	20,000.00
TOTAL	147,922

General Reserves and Precept Calculation

To ensure financial stability, the council maintains general reserves equivalent to three months of expenditure, estimated at £83,237.

The council has an anticipated year-end balance of £268,840, which will be combined with the expected additional income of £31,300. These funds will offset the total budget and earmarked reserves requirement of £564,105 (i.e. £332,946 + £147,922 EMR + £83,237 general reserves).

Resulting Precept Request:

After accounting for these offsets, it is recommended that the Council set the precept request for 2025/26 at £332,946.

Council Tax Impact (Band D and Other Bands)

The approved precept results in a reduced council tax charge for residents:

- **2024/25 Taxbase:** 3,776.1
- **2025/26 Band D charge:** £79.88
- **2024/25 Band D charge:** £93.71
- **Percentage change in Band D charge:** reduction of 14.8%

Breakdown of Council Tax Charges by Band: The charges for each council tax band for 2025/26 are detailed below, along with the changes from the previous year:

Band	Ratio	Charge (£)	Change from 2024/25 (£)
A	6/9ths	53.25	-9.22
B	7/9ths	62.13	-10.76
C	8/9ths	71.00	-12.30
D	9/9ths	79.88	-13.83
E	11/9ths	97.63	-16.90
F	13/9ths	115.38	-19.98
G	15/9ths	133.13	-23.05
H	18/9ths	159.76	-27.66

Conclusion

The council's budget strategy for 2025/26 reflects a prudent approach to managing financial resources. By leveraging anticipated year-end balances and additional income, the council has been able to reduce the precept requirement while also lowering the Band D charge by 14.8%.

The allocation of earmarked reserves ensures that funds are dedicated to critical community projects and infrastructure improvements, aligning with the council's commitment to enhancing services and facilities for residents.

Appendices:

Appendix A provides a detailed breakdown of the budget allocations across various expenditure codes and committees for the financial year 2025/26.

Appendix B shows an estimate of year end balances to 31st March 2024.

Appendix C provides a comparison with the previous 2 years.

APPENDIX A – 2025-2026 Budget

Finance & General Purposes Budget

		2025-2026	EMR
100	Establishment		
4000	Staff Salaries (net)	£53,000.00	
4030	PAYE and NI	£17,000.00	
4040	Pension	£21,000.00	
4060	Expenses - Staff	£1,000.00	
4070	Training - Staff	£1,000.00	
4110	Bank Charges	£100.00	
4120	Audit Fees	£2,000.00	
4130	Professional Fees Legal	£2,500.00	
4131	Professional Fees Accountant	£2,000.00	
4140	Subscriptions & Memberships	£2,700.00	
4150	Insurance	£4,000.00	
4160	Stationery	£500.00	
4170	Postage	£600.00	
4180	Telephone & Broadband	£1,200.00	
4190	Photocopier	£600.00	
4200	Website	£1,300.00	
4210	IT	£5,000.00	
4212	Office Equipment	£1,000.00	
4213	Office Cleaning	£2,284.00	
4240	CPH Rent	£6,000.00	£30,000.00
4250	CPH Rates	£1,000.00	
4270	Advertising	£100.00	
4400	Professional Fees H R	£1,500.00	
4511	Storage Facility	£1,000.00	
4613	Neighbourhood Plan	£0.00	
	TOTAL ESTABLISHMENT	£128,384.00	£30,000.00

		2025-2026	EMR
101	Civic & Democratic		
4080	Chairman's Allowance	£500.00	
4090	Training - Councillor	£1,000.00	
4260	Public Consultations	£2,000.00	
4810	Elections	£0.00	£7,246.00
4823	Room hire	£2,000.00	
4824	Joint surgery	£1,000.00	
	TOTAL CIVIC & DEMOCRATIC	£6,500.00	£7,246.00

		2025-2026	EMR
107	Discretionary Expenditure		
4220	Grant Scheme	£7,500.00	
4513	Over 70s	£20,000.00	
4519	Frodsham Youth Association	£15,000.00	
4730	Christmas Festival	£15,000.00	
4731	Freedom of the Town	£500.00	
4732	Promoting Frodsham	£10,000.00	
	TOTAL DISCRETIONARY EXP	£68,000.00	
	TOTAL F&GP 2024-2025	£202,884.00	£37,246.00

		2025-2026	EMR
140	Events		
4321	D-Day 2024		
4700	Town Meetings	£200.00	
4710	Festival of Walks	£2,000.00	
4720	Remembrance Day	£100.00	
4722	Halloween	£2,000.00	
4723	Christmas Lights (switch on)	£2,000.00	
4730	Christmas Festival (additional exp)	£0.00	
4731	Care in the Community	£400.00	
[code]	VE-Day 2025	£3,000.00	
[code]	Easter Trail	£2,500.00	
[code]	Food & Drink Festival (June)	£3,000.00	
[code]	Frodsham Festival (August)	£20,000.00	
[code]	Event for volunteers (Sept)	£5,000.00	
	TOTAL EVENTS EXPENDITURE	£40,200.00	£0.00

		2025-2026	EMR
170	Amenities		
2021	Grounds Maintenance SLA	£36,000.00	
4514	Winter Gritting	£3,000.00	
4516	War Memorial maintenance	£1,000.00	
4517	CCTV	£5,500.00	
4760	Play areas add works	£4,000.00	
4802	Annual RoSPA	£350.00	
4803	Play Area repairs/refurb	£0.00	£20,000.00
4804	Tree Works	£3,000.00	
4805	Hob Hey Wood	£3,000.00	
4806	Defibrillator Maintenance	£1,000.00	
4807	Replacement (Xmas) tree lights	£0.00	£15,000.00

		2025-2026	EMR
4808	Daffodil Bulbs	£600.00	
4809	Rent (Townfield Lane)	£1,100.00	
4811	Street Furniture	£1,000.00	
4812	Xmas Light Bulbs	£1,000.00	
4813	Additional grounds maintenance	£4,000.00	
4814	Manley Road Copse	£500.00	
4815	Marshlands	£2,000.00	
4816	Active Travel Development Fund	£6,000.00	
4817	Climate Action	£5,000.00	
4818	Churchfields Safety Flooring	£0.00	£17,000.00
4819	Accessible Play Equipment	£5,000.00	
4999	Ship Street Play Area	£350.00	
5100	Community Orchards	£0.00	£5,000.00
8000	Town Clocks	£0.00	£3,000.00
[code]	Memorial Tree		£20,000.00
	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£83,400.00	£80,000.00

		2025-2026	EMR
135	Allotments		
4140	Subscriptions & Memberships	£55.00	
4210	IT software	£0.00	
4320	Maintenance	£300.00	
4600	Utilities	£120.00	
	TOTAL ALLOTMENT EXPENDITURE	£475.00	£0.00

		2025-2026	EMR
130	Cemetery		
4140	Subscriptions & Memberships	£100.00	
4210	IT	£500.00	
4250	Rates	£1,607.00	
4320	Maintenance	£1,200.00	
4550	Plaques & Memorials	£500.00	
4560	Waste Removal	£1,080.00	
4600	Utilities	£1,000.00	
4601	Burial Ground Extension	£0.00	£30,676.00
	TOTAL CEMETERY EXPENDITURE	£5,987.00	£30,676.00

TOTAL AMENITIES BUDGET	£89,862.00	£90,676.00
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	2025-2026	EMR
TOTAL BUDGET	£332,946.00	£127,922.00

APPENDIX B – Estimates to 31/03/2025

Finance & General Purposes Budget

		2024-2025 to 30/11/2024	2024-2025 to 31/03/2025
100	Establishment		
4000	Staff Salaries (net)	£35,036.00	£46,714.67
4030	PAYE and NI	£11,474.00	£15,298.67
4040	Pension	£13,063.00	£17,417.33
4060	Expenses - Staff	£424.00	£565.33
4070	Training - Staff	£534.00	£1,000.00
4110	Bank Charges	£25.00	£100.00
4120	Audit Fees	£776.00	£776.00
4130	Professional Fees Legal	£828.00	£2,500.00
4131	Professional Fees Accountant	£850.00	£850.00
4140	Subscriptions & Memberships	£2,665.00	£2,665.00
4150	Insurance	£3,544.00	£3,544.00
4160	Stationery	£233.00	£300.00
4170	Postage	£0.00	£400.00
4180	Telephone & Broadband	£1,104.00	£1,472.00
4190	Photocopier	£478.00	£637.33
4200	Website	£840.00	£1,120.00
4210	IT	£4,234.00	£5,645.33
4212	Office Equipment	£687.00	£687.00
4213	Office Cleaning	£1,827.00	£2,436.00
4240	CPH Rent	£4,500.00	£6,000.00
4250	CPH Rates	£1,058.00	£1,058.00
4270	Advertising	£0.00	£0.00
4400	Professional Fees H R	£1,261.00	£1,681.33
4511	Storage Facility	£551.00	£734.67
4613	Neighbourhood Plan	£878.00	£878.00
	TOTAL ESTABLISHMENT	£86,870.00	£114,480.67

		2024-2025 to 30/11/2024	2024-2025 to year end
101	Civic & Democratic		
4080	Chairman's Allowance	£0.00	£500.00
4090	Training - Councillor	£235.00	£500.00
4260	Public Consultations	£0.00	£0.00
4810	Elections	£0.00	£0.00
4823	Room hire	£987.00	£1,316.00
4824	Joint surgery	£0.00	
	TOTAL CIVIC & DEMOCRATIC	£1,222.00	£2,316.00

		2024-2025 to 30/11/2024	2024-2025 to 31/03/2025
107	Discretionary Expenditure		
4220	Grant Scheme	£0.00	£7,500.00
4513	Over 70s	£1,060.00	£20,000.00
4519	Frodsham Youth Association	£15,000.00	£15,000.00
4730	Christmas Festival	£15,000.00	£15,000.00
4731	Freedom of the Town	£250.00	£250.00
4732	Promoting Frodsham	£603.00	£1,500.00
	TOTAL DISCRETIONARY EXP	£31,913.00	£59,250.00
	TOTAL F&GP 2024-2025	£120,005.00	£176,046.67

		2024-2025 to 30/11/2024	2024-2025 to 31/03/2025
140	Events		
4321	D-Day 2024	£1,804.00	£1,804.00
4700	Town Meetings	£0.00	£0.00
4710	Festival of Walks	£2,000.00	£2,000.00
4720	Remembrance Day	£125.00	£125.00
4722	Halloween	£1,072.00	£1,072.00
4723	Christmas Lights (switch on)	£0.00	£2,000.00
4730	Christmas Festival (additional exp)	£0.00	£500.00
4731	Care in the Community	£0.00	£220.00
[code]	VE-Day 2025	£0.00	£0.00
[code]	Easter Trail	£0.00	£0.00
[code]	Food & Drink Festival (June)	£0.00	£0.00
[code]	Frodsham Festival (August)	£0.00	£0.00
[code]	Event for volunteers (Sept)	£0.00	£0.00
	TOTAL EVENTS EXPENDITURE	£5,001.00	£7,721.00

		2024-2025 to 30/11/2024	2024-2025 to 31/03/2025
170	Amenities		
2021	Grounds Maintenance SLA	£23,294.00	£36,046.00
4514	Winter Gritting	£0.00	£1,500.00
4516	War Memorial maintenance	£0.00	£0.00
4517	CCTV	£0.00	£5,000.00
4760	Play areas add works	£0.00	£2,000.00
4802	Annual RoSPA	£0.00	£350.00
4803	Play Area repairs/refurb	£767.00	£767.00
4804	Tree Works	£402.00	£402.00
4805	Hob Hey Wood	£537.00	£3,000.00
4806	Defibrillator Maintenance	£886.00	£1,000.00
4807	Replacement (Xmas) tree lights	£0.00	£0.00

		2024-2025 to 30/11/2024	2024-2025 to 31/03/2025
4808	Daffodil Bulbs	£556.00	£556.00
4809	Rent (Townfield Lane)	£0.00	£1,100.00
4811	Street Furniture	£0.00	£1,000.00
4812	Xmas Light Bulbs	£0.00	£500.00
4813	Additional grounds maintenance	£2,228.00	£3,378.00
4814	Manley Road Copse	£0.00	£2,000.00
4815	Marshlands	£0.00	£0.00
4816	Active Travel Development Fund	£0.00	£0.00
4817	Climate Action	£0.00	£0.00
4818	Churchfields Safety Flooring	£0.00	£0.00
4819	Accessible Play Equipment	£0.00	£0.00
4999	Ship Street Play Area	£1,005.00	£7,416.00
5100	Community Orchards	£0.00	£1,000.00
8000	Town Clocks	£16,332.00	£16,632.00
	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£46,007.00	£83,647.00

		2024-2025 to 30/11/2024	2024-2025 to 31/03/2025
135	Allotments		
4140	Subscriptions & Memberships	£55.00	£55.00
4210	IT software	£507.00	£507.00
4320	Maintenance	£15.00	£300.00
4600	Utilities	£85.00	£113.33
	TOTAL ALLOTMENT EXPENDITURE	£662.00	£975.33

		2024-2025 to 30/11/2024	2024-2025 to 31/03/2025
130	Cemetery		
4140	Subscriptions & Memberships	£100.00	£100.00
4210	IT	£90.00	£90.00
4250	Rates	£822.00	£822.00
4320	Maintenance	£972.00	£1,200.00
4550	Plaques & Memorials	£153.00	£500.00
4560	Waste Removal	£738.00	£984.00
4600	Utilities	£495.00	£660.00
4601	Burial Ground Extension	£0.00	£0.00
	TOTAL CEMETERY EXPENDITURE	£3,370.00	£4,356.00

TOTAL AMENITIES BUDGET	£50,039.00	£88,978.33
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	2024-2025 to 30/11/2024	2024-2025 to 31/03/2025
TOTAL BUDGET	£175,045.00	£272,746.00

APPENDIX C – Annual budgets

Finance & General Purposes Budget

		2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026
100	Establishment			
4000	Staff Salaries (net)	£70,000.00	£63,000.00	£53,000.00
4030	PAYE and NI	£12,463.00	£23,100.00	£17,000.00
4040	Pension	£20,000.00	£23,100.00	£21,000.00
4060	Expenses - Staff	£0.00	£0.00	£1,000.00
4070	Training - Staff	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	£1,000.00
4110	Bank Charges	£0.00	£100.00	£100.00
4120	Audit Fees	£1,500.00	£2,000.00	£2,000.00
4130	Professional Fees Legal	£2,000.00	£2,500.00	£2,500.00
4131	Professional Fees Accountant	£0.00	£2,000.00	£2,000.00
4140	Subscriptions & Memberships	£2,200.00	£2,200.00	£2,700.00
4150	Insurance	£3,000.00	£4,000.00	£4,000.00
4160	Stationery	£300.00	£200.00	£500.00
4170	Postage	£600.00	£600.00	£600.00
4180	Telephone & Broadband	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	£1,200.00
4190	Photocopier	£700.00	£700.00	£600.00
4200	Website	£1,300.00	£1,300.00	£1,300.00
4210	IT	£4,750.00	£4,750.00	£5,000.00
4212	Office Equipment	£0.00	£500.00	£1,000.00
4213	Office Cleaning	£0.00	£1,200.00	£2,284.00
4240	CPH Rent	£6,000.00	£6,000.00	£6,000.00
4250	CPH Rates	£1,500.00	£1,500.00	£1,000.00
4270	Advertising	£100.00	£100.00	£100.00
4400	Professional Fees H R	£2,000.00	£1,500.00	£1,500.00
4511	Storage Facility	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
4613	Neighbourhood Plan	£3,000.00	£1,000.00	£0.00
	TOTAL ESTABLISHMENT	£135,413.00	£145,350.00	£128,384.00

		2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026
101	Civic & Democratic			
4080	Chairman's Allowance	£500.00	£500.00	£500.00
4090	Training - Councillor	£1,500.00	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
4260	Public Consultations	£1,000.00	£2,000.00	£2,000.00
4810	Elections	£7,246.00	£0.00	£0.00
4823	Room hire	£500.00	£600.00	£2,000.00
4824	Joint surgery	£0.00	£0.00	£1,000.00
	TOTAL CIVIC & DEMOCRATIC	£10,746.00	£4,100.00	£6,500.00

		2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026
107	Discretionary Expenditure			
4220	Grant Scheme	£5,000.00	£7,500.00	£7,500.00
4513	Over 70s	£18,000.00	£18,000.00	£20,000.00
4519	Frodsham Youth Association	£15,000.00	£15,000.00	£15,000.00
4730	Christmas Festival	£10,000.00	£15,000.00	£15,000.00
4731	Freedom of the Town		£500.00	£500.00
4732	Promoting Frodsham		£10,000.00	£10,000.00
	TOTAL DISCRETIONARY EXP	£48,000.00	£66,000.00	£68,000.00
	TOTAL F&GP 2024-2025	£194,159.00	£215,450.00	£202,884.00

		2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026
140	Events			
4321	D-Day 2024	£0.00	£3,000.00	
4700	Town Meetings	£200.00	£200.00	£200.00
4710	Festival of Walks	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	£2,000.00
4720	Remembrance Day	£500.00	£100.00	£100.00
4722	Halloween	£1,500.00	£1,800.00	£2,000.00
4723	Christmas Lights (switch on)	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	£2,000.00
4730	Christmas Festival (additional exp)	£0.00	£500.00	£0.00
4731	Care in the Community	£0.00	£300.00	£400.00
[code]	VE-Day 2025	£0.00	£0.00	£3,000.00
[code]	Easter Trail	£0.00	£0.00	£2,500.00
[code]	Food & Drink Festival (June)	£0.00	£0.00	£3,000.00
[code]	Frodsham Festival (August)	£0.00	£0.00	£20,000.00
[code]	Event for volunteers (Sept)	£0.00	£0.00	£5,000.00
	TOTAL EVENTS EXPENDITURE	£6,200.00	£9,900.00	£40,200.00

		2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026
170	Amenities			
2021	Grounds Maintenance SLA	£36,000.00	£36,000.00	£36,000.00
4514	Winter Gritting	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	£3,000.00
4516	War Memorial maintenance	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
4517	CCTV	£4,750.00	£5,000.00	£5,500.00
4760	Play areas add works	£0.00	£4,000.00	£4,000.00
4802	Annual RoSPA	£350.00	£350.00	£350.00
4803	Play Area repairs/refurb	£10,000.00	£0.00	£0.00
4804	Tree Works	£3,000.00	£3,000.00	£3,000.00
4805	Hob Hey Wood	£2,000.00	£3,000.00	£3,000.00
4806	Defibrillator Maintenance	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
4807	Replacement (Xmas) tree lights		£5,000.00	£0.00
4808	Daffodil Bulbs	£0.00	£600.00	£600.00

		2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026
4809	Rent (Townfield Lane)	£1,100.00	£1,100.00	£1,100.00
4811	Street Furniture	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
4812	Xmas Light Bulbs	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
4813	Additional grounds maintenance	£2,000.00	£4,000.00	£4,000.00
4814	Manley Road Copse	£1,000.00	£500.00	£500.00
4815	Marshlands	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	£2,000.00
4816	Active Travel Development Fund	£30,000.00	£8,000.00	£6,000.00
4817	Climate Action	£10,000.00	£10,000.00	£5,000.00
4818	Churchfields Safety Flooring	£17,000.00	£17,000.00	£0.00
4819	Accessible Play Equipment	£10,000.00	£0.00	£5,000.00
4999	Ship Street Play Area	£0.00	£7,416.00	£350.00
5100	Community Orchards	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
8000	Town Clocks	£5,000.00	£15,000.00	£0.00
	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£139,200.00	£126,966.00	£83,400.00

		2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026
135	Allotments			
4140	Subscriptions & Memberships	£0.00	£55.00	£55.00
4210	IT software	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
4320	Maintenance	£300.00	£300.00	£300.00
4600	Utilities	£0.00	£50.00	£120.00
	TOTAL ALLOTMENT EXPENDITURE	£300.00	£405.00	£475.00

		2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026
130	Cemetery			
4140	Subscriptions & Memberships	£0.00	£100.00	£100.00
4210	IT	£500.00	£500.00	£500.00
4250	Rates	£1,490.00	£1,607.00	£1,607.00
4320	Maintenance	£1,200.00	£1,200.00	£1,200.00
4550	Plaques & Memorials	£500.00	£500.00	£500.00
4560	Waste Removal	£1,080.00	£1,080.00	£1,080.00
4600	Utilities	£1,200.00	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
4601	Burial Ground Extension	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
	TOTAL CEMETERY EXPENDITURE	£5,970.00	£5,987.00	£5,987.00

TOTAL AMENITIES BUDGET	£145,470.00	£133,358.00	£89,862.00
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	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026
TOTAL BUDGET	£345,829.00	£358,708.00	£332,946.00



Grants working group meeting – 4th December 2024 @ 6.30pm via Zoom

Report provided by: Jo O'Donoghue FSLCC (Town Clerk)
Date: 12th December 2024

Attended by: Cllrs H Hayes, D Critchley, J Critchley, P Lowrie & L Sumner

Overview

Frodsham Town Council (FTC) Grants Scheme supports local organisations and individuals that promote social inclusion, enhance the social, cultural, and economic well-being of Frodsham, and achieve excellence in their activities. For 2024, a budget of £7,500 is allocated. The scheme prioritises smaller voluntary groups with annual incomes under £10,000 and no paid staff.

Grant Categories

The scheme operates two categories for grant awards:

1. Community Organisations

Organisations applying in this category must meet the following criteria:

- Governance: Have a constitution (or similar governing document).
- Financial Management: Maintain a bank or building society account that requires at least two signatories for withdrawals.
- Planning and Impact: Demonstrate clear objectives, effective planning, and budgeting.
- Community Focus: Ensure that the majority of beneficiaries are residents of Frodsham.

2. Individuals

Applicants in this category must meet the following criteria:

- Be a member of a recognised group or organisation connected with the cultural activity they are applying to participate in.
 - Demonstrate that the activity has the potential to benefit the local community.
 - Show they have the potential to achieve the highest level in their chosen activity.
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Applications Received *(see Appendix A for full details)*

FTC received 9 applications, totalling £10,738, from the following organisations:

1. Main Street Memory Cafe
2. Association of Frodsham Townfield Allotments
3. Frodsham News Forum
4. Frodsham Sings Community Choir
5. Cheshire Pottery
6. Castle Park Print Club
7. National Childbirth Trust (Mid Cheshire Branch)
8. Frodsham Business Network
9. Weaver Sailing Club

2 further applications (from Castle Park Arts Centre and Frodsham Players) were received after the deadline of 29th November 2024.

Recommendation

1. Frodsham Town Council accept the recommendations of the Grants Working Group and award the following grants: Main Street Memory Café (£1,200); Frodsham News Forum (£600); Frodsham Sings Community Choir (£500); National Childbirth Trust Mid Cheshire Branch (£300); Frodsham Business Network (£500); Weaver Sailing Club (£1,000).
 2. To place the remaining funds of £3,400 into an earmarked reserve for Events Committee to allocate to external events taking place before 31st March 2024.
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GRANT APPLICATIONS 2024-2025

Organisation name	Project details	Total cost	Amount requested	Amount recommended
1. Main Street Memory Café	Music sessions for people living with Dementia and their carers. We would like to offer our guests attending the café music sessions every month - music plays a fundamental part in people living with dementia and memory loss and is a power connector. Costs incurred will be £100.00 per session.	£1,200	£1,200	£1.200
2. Association of Frodsham Townfield Allotments	To help support our annual Open Day events to raise awareness of our allotments and raise much needed funds. We need to provide collapsable tables and gazebos and a gas barbeque. Raised funds goes towards the annual upkeep of our site (tracks, hedges, meadows, orchard, etc) The project will only be funded bit by bit over some years as our existing funds allows. Your funding will allow us to expand our annual Open Day as of 2025.	£605	£605	£0 ¹
3. Frodsham News Forum	As an initial initiative it is planned to produce an 8-page (A4) colour printed newsletter that will contain news, information and features written and collated by the volunteer editorial team. This will also be available as a pdf download on a website to be launched at the same time as the initial newsletter. We are currently working to a print target date of mid-December 2024 for the initial newsletter, after which we will review feedback before progressing to subsequent editions which we would aim to eventually produce on a monthly or bi-monthly basis dependent on funding. In maintaining a high level of editorial content that is truly independent, we are not seeking advertising revenue, although we will of course acknowledge the support of funders of the publication. Our initial target for funding to produce the first edition and to start to plan for the second one is £ 1000. This will cover the professional design and production of the newsletter, together with the website domain and hosting costs for this period.	£1,000	£600	£600
4. Frodsham Sings Community Choir	Community Impact: Over the past decade, Frodsham Sings has raised over £20,000 for local charities, with £4,000 raised in 2023 alone. Our members each year democratically select charities to support, focusing on small, local organizations that make a tangible difference in our community. This year, we are proud to support Will To Work and OPAL, both of which provide essential services to our local population. Current Need: To enhance our performance capabilities, in 2022/3 we fundraised for a battery-powered amplifier and speaker, which we successfully purchased 11/23 for approximately £650. However, the iPad we currently use to access our backing tracks is now eight years old and no longer supported by Apple and associated apps. This has led to technical glitches, including instances where multiple tracks play simultaneously—an issue that detracts from our performances – we may be pretty good but not that good! (we use Apple products as they have certain Music related apps not available on Android tablets) Proposed Solution:	£799	£500	£500

¹ It was noted that the organisation has received grant funding from other external organisations

	<p>To address this issue, we seek funding for a new iPad Air 13 inch (approximately £799). While our ideal choice would be an iPad Pro, costing c£1100, we believe the iPad Air will sufficiently meet our needs. We seek a grant of c£500, which would significantly ease allow us to focus our fundraising efforts on supporting local charities.</p> <p>Conclusion:</p> <p>Your support will not only help to improve our choir's performance quality which continues but also enable us to continue our mission of giving back as much as possible to the community.</p>			
5. Cheshire Pottery	<p>My proposal is to run a 6 week pottery course aimed at over 55's isolated, starting in Jan on Tuesday morning 10.30-12.30. I will not advertise this group my normal methods but approach charities who will help to fill the class. The participant will make a vessel such as a bowl, vase and a mini make.</p> <p>Week 1 Learn new skills, start main project of a vessel using a speed coiling method</p> <p>Week 2 Work on main project and develop skills</p> <p>Week 3 Finish main project and make test tiles/ test pinch pots</p> <p>Week 4 Test glazes & mini make of plate/mug/tealight house</p> <p>Week 5, Mini make and decorating using sgraffito method</p> <p>Week 6 Glazing work</p> <p>I have over 10 years Teaching experience teaching in High Schools and 2 years teaching in the community. I have workshop insurance with public liability.</p>	£720	£720	£0 ²
6. Castle Park Print Club	<p>I am an artist resident at Castle Park Arts Centre. I rent studio space at the centre but also manage Castle Park Print Club. The club is a collection of 12 artists (including me) that meet to practice the art of printmaking and share cost. We have been operational for 2 years.</p> <p>Club activities include printmaking, exhibiting and running workshops. We also offer experience days and regularly host guests with disabilities. I, along with the club, have provided workshops for the centre (including taster sessions sponsored by CWAC) We have been asked to develop a programme of workshops for 2025 to tie in with the Art Centre's Art Strategy that is aimed at increasing interest in the creative arts and is focussed towards isolated and vulnerable groups in the community.</p> <p>It is with this in mind that I am making this application. I run the club financially with contributions from members, so the application is made on an individual basis. The Club can provide a number of workshops with our existing equipment, but unable to provide a full range of workshops without purchasing additional equipment. It is with this in mind that the application is made.</p> <p>The idea would be to provide affordable workshops (see later section re other sources of funding) during 2025 and beyond as the equipment can be used well into the future. The idea would be to produce 'Tetra Pak' prints. It is basically the inside of fruit juice and soya milk cartons that are hard to recycle or dispose of – a sort of creative recycling. We have developed a relationship with local business Whitmore and White and the Centre's café and they supply their used cartons for our use – a way of promoting a greener use of a waste product.</p>	£400	£302	£0 ³

² It was noted that Cheshire Pottery is run by an individual as a business

³ It was noted that Castle Park Print Club benefits a limited number of individuals

<p>7. National Childbirth Trust Mid Cheshire Branch</p>	<p>NCT Mid Cheshire Branch is setting up a cloth nappy library for parents to receive support and advice about cloth nappies as well as offer low cost hire of cloth nappy kits so that they can sample different types before purchasing these. Reusable cloth nappies can be a more sustainable and economical alternative to disposable nappies, particularly if they are used for more than one child. The up-front costs of purchasing reusable nappies can be expensive and it can be challenging for parents to decide which type of nappies are most suited to their child. A nappy library allows parents to trial a selection of different cloth nappies in order to make the best choice for their family.</p> <p>NCT Mid Cheshire covers all the way from Frodsham to Northwich, however, the base for this nappy library will be Frodsham. The nappy librarian will visit local baby and toddler groups to let parents know about the service and use online advertising as well.</p> <p>The branch has received a donation of some nappies to help us start this library, however, we do need some additional nappies so that we can offer a wider selection of nappy options as well as storage containers to complete the kits.</p> <p>We hope to start off with 2 Birth to Potty cloth nappy kits and 1 newborn cloth nappy kit and we plan to charge a small fee for using the nappy library to help us cover the costs of keeping the nappy library running and help it grow. We initially plan to hire out kits at a cost of £10 for 4 weeks which would include 25 cloth nappies, 20 reusable wipes, 2 wet bags and a nappy bin. Any users of the nappy library would also have a one-on-one introduction session with the nappy librarian prior to any loans. The nappy library will be open to anyone living locally and there would be no obligation to join the NCT.</p>	<p>£337</p>	<p>£337</p>	<p>£300⁴</p>
<p>8. Frodsham Business Network</p>	<p>Frodsham Business Network (FBN) has been instrumental in fostering a vibrant and supportive business community within Frodsham. Established in 2024, our network facilitates bi-monthly gatherings that bring together local business leaders and entrepreneurs to share ideas, collaborate, and support each other's growth. To further enhance our reach effectiveness, we are seeking financial support from the Frodsham Town Council. We are applying for a total of £2,500, which is earmarked for two critical development areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Website Development - £2,000: To ensure sustainability and expand our impact, developing a dedicated website for the FBN is essential. This platform will serve as a central hub for information, event registration, member resources, and more. A professional, user-friendly website will significantly enhance our visibility and accessibility, attracting more local businesses to our network. 2. Event Materials - £500: To maintain the quality and professionalism of our events, we require funding for essential materials such as flyers and name badges. These materials are vital for effective communication and networking, helping guests navigate our events smoothly and fostering a sense of community and belonging. <p>Website Development: The creation of a website is crucial for our long-term success and expansion. It will provide a scalable platform through which we can reach a wider audience, offer resources, and streamline event management. This digital presence is not only important for visibility but also for credibility in today's increasingly online business environment.</p>	<p>£2,500</p>	<p>£2,500</p>	<p>£500⁵</p>

⁴ The grant is to be used through the Frodsham Branch meetings held at Coco's Playbarn

⁵ The grant is provided for events to be held in Frodsham and on the proviso that the group formulate a constitution and a dedicated bank account with 2 signatories

	<p>Event Materials: Investing in high-quality event materials enhances the experience for attendees, making our events more engaging and professional. Flyers help spread the word and attract a diverse group of participants, while name badges facilitate better networking and interaction among attendees.</p> <p>Conclusion: The Frodsham Business Network is committed to enhancing the economic environment of Frodsham by supporting its local businesses. With the council's financial support, we can further professionalise our services, broaden our reach, and continue to provide significant value to the local business community.</p>			
9. Weaver Sailing Club	<p>The project is to provide adequate life jackets and wetsuits for children to be safe in the River Weaver for on-water activities and experiences at Weaver Sailing Club. We cannot expect parents or schools to fund for ever growing youngsters & last year we requested €5,000 to fund two school groups of 30 children each & gratefully received €900 which was spent thoughtfully.</p> <p>The purpose for which this grant is requested is for 36 wetsuits and 42 life jackets to help us achieve our goal. Last year we bought 24 children sized wetsuits & 18 life jackets in the ales at a discount. The grant for this project provides social inclusion, building individual skills and would help s move towards larger groups. The 3rd Frodsham Sea Scouts use our facilities but have their own gear.</p>	£3,974	£3,974	£1,000
TOTAL			£10,738.00	£4,100