



Financial Statement (In lieu of Accounts) Period April 1st 2025 – 31st March 2026

Officers:

Andrew Ingram and Ian Rose (Co-Chairs)
Sue Ingram (Secretary)
Nicola Stingelin (Treasurer)

Statement prepared by:

Nicola Stingelin, Treasurer
Address: 6, Swanbrook Court, Bridge Avenue, Maidenhead SL6 1YZ

Introduction

The Maidenhead Neighbourhood Forum (“MNF”) accounting period April 1st 2025 – 31st March 2026 covered a specific set of activities: to take the Plan from a mature draft to an adopted version, and to then hopefully see the Plan being put forward by RBWM in a Referendum. All these activities were successfully negotiated. This resulted in the acceptance in a meeting of 21st April 2026 by the RB~~WM~~~~MAW~~ Council of the affirmative result of the referendum, with RBWM agreeing to formally ‘make’ the Maidenhead Neighbourhood Plan part of the Development Plan for the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead.

MNF Financial Affairs 2025-2026

MNF is an unincorporated body. Funding for the establishment of Neighbourhood Plans comes from a central government grant awarded via its agent Groundwork UK on behalf of Locality. Locality requires that grants be paid to an incorporated body. MNF have accordingly entered into an agreement with Maidenhead Waterways Restoration Group (FoMW), a Registered Charity No. 1119150 under which FoMW has been acting as ‘accountable body’, holding and administering grant funding awarded on a year-by-year basis to MNF.

The Management Committee reviewed at the beginning of the 2025-2026 accounting period the specific activities that lay before MNF from the point of view of finances. MNF decided not to submit an application to Groundwork UK for further funding. The maximum

available would have been £ 666.24 (the remaining balance from the £20,000.00 that was available for conducting the whole process).

Accordingly, the 2025-2026 end-phase of the project saw only one financial transaction in the period, namely fulfilling the contractual requirement to repay the unused balance of grant funding received, i.e. £ 666.24 to Groundwork UK. The FoMW financial year closing balance for MNF has been confirmed by FoMW as being £00.00.

The Treasurer has informed FoMW that their role as MNF's accountable body services are is no longer needed; the MNF – FoMW agreement can now be terminated as of the end of the 2025-2026 financial year.

The Management Committee would like to express their sincere thanks to Mr Richard J. Curry, Associate Member of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants, for his past work in scrutinising the various draft accounts laid before him, which included the transactions by FoMW in its role as accountable body for MNF.

The Management Committee would also like to express their sincere thanks to FoMW, particularly their treasurer Mr. Mark Loader, for their-his work and support over the years.

The Neighbourhood Planning (Referendums) Regulations 2012

This Regulation deals with spending and donations incurred whilst campaigning for a NP referendum. It states that the maximum amount a campaign organiser (i.e. MNF) may spend on a campaign is £2,362 plus $(0.059p \times N)$, where, 'N' is the number of electors on the relevant register. This amounts to £4,649.19 for MNF. It is an offence for a campaign organiser (such as MNF) to exceed the referendum expenses limit and, if found guilty, would be liable to a fine of up to £5,000 and/or imprisonment for up to 12 months.

The regulations state that a campaign organiser is advised to submit a statement of expenses after the vote to the Counting Officer to avoid any issues. The attached statement was submitted by the MNF Treasurer; receipt was acknowledged by Wendy Allum, Electoral Services Team Leader on 24th March 2026, who undertook to add it to the referendum file in case the Returning Officer has queries. No further correspondence has been received by the Treasurer.

Signed:

Chairperson

Treasurer

Date:  June 2026

Date: June 2026

19TH MARCH 2026 REFERENDUM ON THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN FOR MAIDENHEAD

To: The Counting Officer, RBWM Town Hall, Maidenhead SL6 1RF

From: Nicola Stingelin-Giles, Maidenhead Neighbourhood Forum Treasurer

Maidenhead Neighbourhood Forum Treasurer's Report on Referendum Campaign Expenses

The Neighbourhood Planning (Referendums) Regulations 2012 states that the total referendum campaign¹ expenses incurred by a campaign organiser² must not exceed the referendum expenses³ limit; a formula is provided to calculate this limit: £ 2,362 + (0.09xN⁴). RBWM Electoral Services Team Leader Wendy Allum kindly calculated the applicable limit as provided a total of £4,649.19 and advised MNF of this in her e-mail of 6-March 2026.

- The Treasurer confirms that the referendum expenses incurred by the Maidenhead Neighbourhood Forum in the conduct of their referendum campaign has not exceeded this limit.

The Treasurer remains at the disposal of The Counting Officer in case there are any questions.

Nm Stingelin-Giles

Nicola Stingelin-Giles PhD, MBA
Maidenhead Neighbourhood Forum Treasurer
24th March 2026

¹ "Referendum campaign" means a campaign conducted with a view to promoting or procuring a particular outcome in relation to the question to be asked in a referendum.

² A "campaign organiser" is an individual or body by whom, or on whose behalf, referendum expenses are incurred in connection with a referendum campaign.

³ The term "referendum expenses" is defined in Schedule 2 of the 2012 Regulations and includes

- advertising of any nature (whatever the medium used),

- unsolicited material sent to voters.

- the provision of general information about the referendum

⁴ Where N refers to the number of entries in the relevant register.