Gwennap Parish Council
RFO Report to the Finance Committee

Period: 1 April 2026 to 31 July 2026

1. Income and Expenditure
Income and expenditure are currently tracking well against the approved budget for 2026/27, and there are no significant variances requiring action at this stage.

Cemetery income is currently lower than might normally be expected at this point in the financial year. However, cemetery fees can vary considerably throughout the year and historically tend to increase during the winter months. I therefore do not currently consider this to be a cause for concern.

2. Budget Monitoring
Overall, the Council's expenditure remains in line with the approved budget. There are no significant budget pressures identified at present and **no changes to the 2026/27 budgets are considered necessary**.
There are also no budget virements recommended at this time.

3. Cash Balances
The Council's cash balances remain as expected and are sufficient to meet its current financial commitments.
The second instalment of the Council's 2026/27 precept is expected to be received in early October. This will further strengthen the Council's cash position for the remainder of the financial year.

4. Earmarked Reserves
The Council's reserves remain in a good position.

During the period, **£3,081 was spent from reserves on repairs to the bus shelter at Crofthandy**.

A CIL grant application has been submitted for approximately **£23,000 towards new playground equipment**. If the application is successful, the Council will not need to use the funds currently set aside in reserves for this purpose. The relevant reserve can then be reviewed and potentially allocated for other appropriate future projects, subject to Council approval.

At this stage, I do not recommend any changes to the existing earmarked reserves.

5. Budget Planning 2027/28
Initial budget planning for 2027/28 will need to take account of any projects or expenditure that Members wish to undertake during the next financial year.

Members are therefore asked to identify any proposed projects, improvements or other significant expenditure that they would like considered for inclusion in the 2027/28 budget.

At present, I foresee no other significant financial pressures for the coming financial year, although this will be reviewed as part of the budget-setting process.

6. RFO's Overall Assessment

The Council's financial position remains sound. Income and expenditure are broadly in line with budget, cash balances are satisfactory, and reserves remain at a healthy level.

Recommendation: The Finance Committee is asked to note the report and recommend that no changes are made to the 2026/27 budget or earmarked reserves at this time.