

MINUTES OF THE WELLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL FINANCE MEETING HELD AT COURT FIELDS SCHOOL ON MONDAY 7 JUNE 2021 AT 5.15 PM

PRESENT: Councillor M Lithgow (Mayor),
Councillors M Barr, A Govier, J Lloyd, M McGuffie, S Pringle-Kosikowsky, V Stock-Williams, J Thorne

IN ATTENDANCE: Councillor N Powel-Brace
David Farrow (Town Clerk), Annette Kirk (Deputy Clerk), Alice Kendall (Deputy RFO & Assistant Clerk)
1 member of the press

55 APOLOGIES

Although not on the Committee, Councillors Booth and Hunt had informed the Clerk that they would be arriving later for the Full Council meeting

56 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Govier and Lloyd have a standing personal interest declaration relating to MTMIT, the Council's IT consultant, being a former customer of the company.

Councillor Thorne has a standing personal interest declaration relating to MTMIT, the Council's IT consultant, being a personal friend of the company owner.

In addition, Councillor Govier declared a personal interest in item 6a (report from Wellington Community Counselling) as his wife is a volunteer for the organisation.

57 MINUTES

RESOLVED to approve and formally adopt the minutes of the Finance meeting held on 4 May 2021.

58 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public were present.

59 GRANTS

No grant applications had been received since the last meeting.

(a) Grants Summary

Grants paid in the 2021-22 year listed below were noted.

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| | £ |
| Wellington Mills CIC | 2,500.00 |
| Transition Town Wellington | 1,446.17 |
| | ----- |
| Total | £ 3,946.17 |

60 SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENTS (SLA)

(a) Wellington Community Counselling for 2020-21

A feedback report following an SLA payment made in October 2020 was circulated and so noted.

(b) Reminiscence Learning

Following a meeting of Councillors appointed at the Finance meeting in April (Councillors Stock-Williams, Pringle-Kosikowsky, McGuffie and Barr), it was recommended that a total of £13,500 be awarded over three years (£4,000 year one, £4,500 year two and £5,000 year three). A draft agreement was circulated.

RECOMMENDED to Full Council that the agreement be accepted.

(c) Citizens Advice

At the Finance meeting in May, a grant award of £5,000 was agreed as the first of 3 SLA payments. The terms were discussed at the above mentioned meeting. It was recommended that £5,000 per year be secured for three years (total £15,000). A draft agreement was circulated.

RECOMMENDED to Full Council that the agreement be accepted.

61 ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS

(a) TO NOTE AND APPROVE THE BANK RECONCILIATION AS AT 1 JUNE 2021

RESOLVED to note and approve the bank reconciliation.

(b) TO NOTE AND APPROVE EXPENDITURE FOR 27 APRIL – 1 JUNE

RESOLVED to note and approve the expenditure.

(c) TO NOTE AND APPROVE INCOME RECEIVED FOR 27 APRIL – 1 JUNE

RESOLVED to note and approve the income.

(d) TO NOTE AND APPROVE THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE AGAINST THE BUDGET FOR THE 2021-22 YEAR AS AT 1 JUNE 2021

RESOLVED to note and approve the budget report.

62 DEBIT CARDS

After some discussion, it was agreed that other options be explored, i.e. a pre-paid card option or the opening of a separate account with a restricted balance that the cards can be linked to. This will be reported to the next meeting.

63 2021-22 BUDGETARY REVIEW

The Town Clerk and Deputy RFO had reviewed the Budget for 2021-22. Proposed changes, including items to be spent from a drawdown of general reserves, were detailed a report circulated with the agenda.

RECOMMENDED to Full Council that the changes be accepted.

64 TO APPROVE DELEGATED SPENDING FOR POSSIBLE NEW DOG BINS

Two representations had been received from residents in the new Longforth Farm development requesting that dog bins be installed. Locations have been informally discussed and permission needs to be sought from the area’s Management Company which is in progress. To avoid further delay, it was that the Council give Officers delegated spending authority for up to two new bins at a cost of £376 each.

RESOLVED to give Officers delegated spending authority for two dog bins. However, it was agreed that Officers pursue some kind of funding from the Management Company in the first instance. It was also asked that the Section 106 agreement be checked to see if some provision should have been made for bins in the estate. Information from the audit carried out by Somerset West & Taunton Council will also be obtained and plotted onto the Parish Online system so any gaps can be identified.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 5.50 pm.

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Councillor Mark Lithgow
Mayor