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Wimborne Minster Town Council

The Town Hall, 37 West Borough, Wimborne, Dorset, BH21 1LT

Minutes of the Finance and Governance Committee 19 November 2024

7pm in the Committee Room, Wimborne Minster Town Hall, 37 West Borough, Wimborne, Dorset BH21 1LT.

Present:

Councillors: C Brown, D Burt, J Hart (Town Mayor), R Nash, I Sandy and S Wheeler (Deputy Town Mayor).

Officers: L Harrison (Town Clerk) and G Singleton (Finance Manager).

Members of the public: three (representatives from Wimborne War on Waste and Councillor A Roberts).

FG/2024/13 Election of Chairman

Councillor Burt proposed Councillor Wheeler was appointed Chairman for the meeting, seconded by Councillor Sandy, all in favour. **Resolved**

FC/2024/14 Election of Vice Chairman

Councillor Wheeler proposed Councillor Wheeler was appointed Vice Chairman of the Committee, seconded by Councillor Hart, all in favour. **Resolved**

FC/2024/15 Apologies for absence

Councillors Bartlett (business) and Morgan (non-business) provided apologies. Councillor Nash proposed to approve apologies, seconded by Councillor Brown, all in favour. **Resolved**

FG/2024/16 Declarations of interest and dispensations

Councillor Brown (member of Wimborne Militia and the Town Crier) declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 7 (draft budget 2025 2026) and Councillor Hart declared an interest in item 8 (ii) (previously worked with the applicant).

FG/2024/17 Public participation

It was agreed to move item 8 (iii) up to the next item of business (Community grant application from Wimborne War on Waste). The representatives from War on Waste provided information on their application and answered question from councillors. Councillor Nash proposed to approve the grant application request for £200, seconded by Councillor Hart, four in favour, two abstentions. **Resolved**. The two representatives thanked the Committee and left the meeting.

FG/2024/18 Committee minutes 15 October

Councillor Nash proposed to approve the minutes as a correct record to be signed by the Chairman, seconded by Councillor Hart, all in favour. **Resolved**

FG/2024/19 Finance reports

The bank statements, reconciliations and list of payments and receipts for October 2024 were reviewed. Councillor Wheeler proposed to approve these reports and the Chairman authorised to initial, seconded by Councillor Brown, all in favour. **Resolved**

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The income and expenditure report from 1 April to 31 October 2024 was noted.

FG/2024/20 Internal Auditor report

The Internal Auditor's report from the first visit for 2024 2025 was considered and noted. The Town Clerk confirmed the current Councillor Allowance and Expenses Policy included policy detail about Town Mayor's allowance, production for receipts and the name of the Policy was to be amended. Councillor Nash proposed to move £300,000 from the Council's current account to the CCLA Deposit Fund, seconded by Councillor Wheeler, all in favour. **Resolved**

FG/2024/21 Draft budget 2025 2026

The draft budget was discussed and amendments agreed to the following cost codes – 110/4105, 110/4125, 110/4400, 110/4755, 120/4195, 140/4345, 300/4025, 300/4035, 150/4375 and 600/4700. The increase in the insurance cost for 2025/2026 was noted. Councillor Wheeler proposed to recommend to Full Council the draft budget for 2025 2026 based on the agreed amendments, a total income figure of £205,762, total expenditure figure of £820,466 and precept of £614,704. Seconded by Councillor Nash, all in favour. **Resolved**

FG/2024/22 Community Grant Scheme applications

The Town Clerk reminded Councillors of the current grant budget overspend and any further spend would need to come from general reserves. It was also confirmed that Walford Mill Education Trust had not submitted an application but an application had been received from a charity called Mosaic for the Committee to consider.

The Committee considered the application from Little Lives. Considering the charities accounts Councillor Wheeler proposed to not support the request, seconded by Councillor Nash, all in favour. **Resolved**

The Committee considered the application from Millstream Theatre. Councillor Brown expressed support in terms of the work he had witnessed by the charity with local residents. Councillor Burt proposed to support the request for £450, seconded by Councillor Brown, three in favour, two against and one abstention. **Resolved**

The Committee considered the application from Mosaic. Councillor Burt proposed to part support the request with a grant payment of half (£750), seconded by Councillor Sandy, three in favour, two against and one abstention. **Resolved**

FG/2024/23 Card reader update

The Town Clerk confirmed the Town Council was able to purchase an independent card reader via a payment service from four suppliers compatible with our current bank account and previous information from the bank supplied to the Committee had been incorrect. It was agreed office staff would research options and report back to the Committee.

FG/2024/24 Insurance renewal

It was agreed to refer this item to Full Council.

FG/2024/25 Next meeting and close of meeting

The next Committee meeting date (11 February 2025) was noted and the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.24pm.

Signature of Chairman: 

Date: 12/2/25