



Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance Committee Held on Thursday 24th June 2021 at 7pm

Present:

Councillors:

Tim Horton (TH)
Roger Beattie (RB)
Matt Reid (MR)
Ian Hill (IH)
Steve Bolingbroke (SB)

Officer:

Kristina Tynan (KT)

15/21 Election of Chairman

IH nominated TH and MR seconded. There were no other nominations.

Resolved: That Tim Horton be elected as Chairman.

16/21 Apologies for absence

Richard Dorney-Savage

17/21 Election of Vice-Chairman

MR nominated IH and RB seconded. There were no other nominations.

Resolved: That Ian Hill be elected as Vice-Chairman.

18/21 Approval of Minutes

Resolved: That the Minutes from the Meeting on the 25th March 2021 which were received by Council on 11/5/2021 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

19/21 Matters Arising

There were none other than agenda items.

20/21 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest notified.

21/21 Update on Existing Issues

I Play – TH reported that this issue has been discussed in the Operations Committee as Playdale have offered to remove the unit and give a discount of new equipment. IH stated that the Ops Committee have asked for some further information regarding this. TH said that he wished to bring this matter to the attention of this committee as it will have financial implications in this financial year and hoped that at the appropriate time Finance would allow this to come out of the recently released money of some £38,000. He stated that to date the only demand on this money is for the tree management plan work.

22/21 Budget

1. **Income and Expenditure 2020/2021** – SB has produced pie charts of this information which has been emailed to all Councillors. This information will be in the next edition of the Watlington Times and it will be put on our website and Facebook pages at the same time.

2. **Budget 2021/2022** – The Clerk is currently updating this. Once she has 3 months of data, an update will be sent out to Members

3. **Climate Action Budget** – The Finance Committee to facilitate the following:

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL: That:

a. The £2,000 budgeted in 20/21 and 21/22 for Watlington Climate Action Group is reclassified as a Carbon Reduction Projects Grant and is open to any Watlington Group wanting to fund a project aimed at achieving the 2030 target.

b. That a further £1,000 of the annual grant budget is ring fenced as an Environment Projects Grant open to any local group (e.g. WEG) wanting to fund a project to protect the local environment and that the Finance Committee agreed to use the £1500 which was unspent budget from 2020/21 to be used for this purpose in 2021/22.

c. That, subject to WCAG and WEG agreement, the Chalk Stream film proposal be considered for funding as an Environmental Project and a grant of £1000 be allocated to this proposal.

23/21 Financial Issues

1. **Car Park Hill Road** – KT reported that the invoice and letter have now been completed and will be sent to the businesses. TH said that the Co-op have said that they will be £5 of the outstanding amount but this has not yet been received. KT stated that she has sent two follow emails but will call Heather Bates direct. They have not formally accepted or payment plan.

2. **CIL Update and Any Actions**– SB said that there is a meeting of the Major Projects/CIL group coming up. The Strategy Committee have recommended to Full Council that the Project Process be agreed.

3. **To purchase membership to the Community Transport Association** – TH stated that having some expert advice will be really useful for the Watlington Community Transport Group which has recently been expanded. They have already given some free advice, but TH thought it important that WPC are a member of this, and they have given a discount from the usual price of £400.

Resolved: That we purchase membership to the CTA at a cost of £120 pa.

4. **Earmarked Reserves as at 31/3/021** – to note the paper that was circulated with the agenda. It was noted that at the 31/3/2021 our earmarked reserves were £86,000.

Resolved: That we look at these in the September meeting to see if some are still needed or if better use could be made of the funds and rationalize them.

24/21 Review of Policies/ToR

Risk Register Review 2021/2022– IH has sent out a draft register.

Resolved: That MR and IH review this document for the September meeting.

25/21 Staff Issues

1. **Discussion on remit for staff pay issues** – TH said that this should be a discussion at the September meeting but asked if in principle any increases should be backdated to 1 April 2021. NALC pay tables would be used.

2. **Staff Reviews** - These last took place in 2019.

Resolved: That the Clerks review be undertaken by MR and TH. MR and KT to review the other members of staff.

26/21 Correspondence/Information

There was no correspondence that needed discussion.

27/21 Any Other Business

CO2 Monitor – MR said he has purchased one for his home and it is very useful. It was agreed that KT purchased one for the office

28/21 Confidential Session

Resolved: THAT THE COMMITTEE GO INTO CONFIDENTIAL SESSION IN ACCORDANCE TO THE STATEMENT BELOW TO DISCUSS THE NEXT AGENDA ITEM.
As discussion is needed on the negotiations.

29/21 Sports Field Rent Review.

The Meeting closed at 8.45pm

Items for the Future Meetings

1. Preferred Contactors List
2. Tendering Process