

MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 24th NOVEMBER 2020 VIA ZOOM AT 7.30PM.

PRESENT: Cllrs. R.Lewin (Chair), Davies, Hill, Josephson, T Lewin, McNally, Williams & Wogan

APOLOGIES: Cllr. Moore

NOT PRESENT:

IN ATTENDANCE: The Clerk and Asst. Clerk. Julia Jason, Neil G, Katie Herald, Ffion Thomas, Amanda Edwards, Rebecca Rainbow, Georgia Taylor, District Cllr. Patterson-Vanegas and Parish Cllrs. Pritchitt and Summers as members of the public

285/20 PUBLIC QUESTIONS Julia Jason, Ffion Thomas, Amanda Edwards and Georgia Taylor spoke in favour of reopening the recycling site. Various questions were asked and answered where possible.

286/20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were given and accepted from Cllr. Moore due to family issues

287/20 TO DECLARE ANY INTERESTS OR REQUEST DISPENSATION PERTAINING TO THE ITEMS BELOW

Name	Min. No.	Category of Interest	Reason
None			

288/20 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 7TH JULY 2020

The minutes of the meeting held on 7th July 2020 were proposed for acceptance by Cllr. T Lewin seconded by Cllr. McNally and signed as a true record.

No objections were made to deletion of the digital transcripts of the above meetings.

289/20 CLARIFICATION OF (NON-CONFIDENTIAL) ACTIONS FROM LAST MEETING

None

290/20 CLERKS REPORT ON MATTERS NOT REQUIRING A DECISION

Because of the crisis, there was little to report. Financial matters are mentioned below. Lease issues are unchanged from the previous meeting: billing to the pre-school has restarted. Most staff are at their usual duties: the youth staff have been redeployed in helping Gages and in maintenance work. The financial impact of the crisis has affected mainly Property & Assets. NOTED

291/20 FINANCIAL REPORT to month 8.

This had been circulated in advance and was NOTED.

292/20 LIST OF PAYMENTS

The List of Payments had been circulated in advance and was **APPROVED**.

Unity Trust from 25 th June to 17 th November 2020	£ 189,778.79
HSBC from 30 th June to 17 th November 2020	£ 5,397.98
Pockit Card – David O’Driscoll 25 th June – 17 th November 2020	£ 1,330.77
Pockit Card – Carolyn Coomber 25 th June – 17 th November 2020	£ 1,347.53
Pockit Card – Gages 1 st June – 17 th November 2020	£ 4,141.05
Pockit Card – Youth 1 st June – 17 th November 2020	£ 451.86
TOTAL	£ 202,447.98

293/20 BANK RECONCILIATION & COUNCIL INVESTMENTS

The bank reconciliation and Council investments as at 31st October 2020 had been previously circulated and NOTED. It was NOTED that the Chairman of Finance & Policy Committee had not been able yet to check and sign the last few reconciliation statements due to the office being closed to visitors during the pandemic.

294/20 DRAFT COMMITTEE BUDGET FOR 2021/22

This had been previously circulated, and a few queries were answered. Cllr. R Lewin proposed that the draft budget be adopted. This was seconded by Cllr. Josephson and AGREED

295/20 TO CONSIDER UPDATING THE COUNCIL’S SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

Cllr. McNally advised that he, along with Cllrs. Hill and Moore were working on updating the existing policy. He said that the Policy was slightly out of date, but amendments should give more clarification. He advised that staff and Councillors should not be using social media to post – or enter discussion - without the permission of a social media administrator (who would need to be formally designated).

Their draft would hopefully be ready to be presented at the next meeting.

Cllr. McNally also suggested that the Communications Policy should be revisited and asked the Clerk to forward the present policy to the Personnel Committee for consideration.

296/20 TO CONSIDER WHETHER THE COUNCIL SHOULD ACTIVELY ENGAGE IN THE GOVERNMENT ‘KICKSTART’ PROGRAMME

Details of the scheme had been previously circulated. This was discussed and Cllr. T Lewin proposed that the any candidates offered by Sussex Chamber of Commerce for the three identified placements be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr. McNally and AGREED.

297/20 TO CONSIDER A GRANT APPLICATION

An application for a grant had been received from Victim Support.

Cllr. McNally proposed that a grant be given of £ 150. This was seconded by Cllr. Josephson.

Cllr. R Lewin counter proposed that a grant be given of £ 300. This was seconded by Cllr. McNally and AGREED with 1 against.

The Members of public were asked to leave the meeting before the following matter was discussed.

CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

Minute number 298/20 is attached as a Confidential minute.

299/20 CORRESPONDENCE

None

300/20 TO NOTE ITEMS TO BE REFERRED TO COMMITTEE OR FULL COUNCIL

None

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

SIGNED:..... DATE.....

(Chairman)