

MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 14th MARCH 2023 IN THE GARDEN ROOM OF THE COMMUNITY CENTRE AT 7.30PM.

PRESENT: Cllrs. Spackman (Chair), T Lewin, Summers, Waters, Williams & Wogan

APOLOGIES: Cllr. Davies, Josephson, R Lewin, Tyler

NOT PRESENT:

IN ATTENDANCE: The Clerk

19/23 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

None.

20/23 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. Davies (unwell), Josephson (away), R Lewin (family), Tyler (holiday).

21/23 TO DECLARE ANY INTERESTS OR REQUEST DISPENSATION PERTAINING TO THE ITEMS BELOW

Name	Min. No.	Category of Interest	Reason
Cllr Williams	32/23	Personal	Trustee of FRSGA
Cllr Wogan	32/23	Personal	British Legion representative on FRSGA

22/23 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 22nd NOVEMBER 2022

Cllr. Spackman proposed that the minutes of the meeting of 22nd November 2022 be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr. Williams and AGREED

There were no objections to the deletion of the digital transcript of that meeting.

23/23 CLARIFICATION OF (NON-CONFIDENTIAL) ACTIONS FROM LAST MEETING: None raised.

24/23 CLERKS REPORT ON MATTERS NOT REQUIRING A DECISION

1. Grant to the Frow Show. The organisers had provided receipts for the complimentary bus service for which the grant had been requested.
2. Market arrangements A suitable candidate had been interviewed and appointed on a self-employed basis. She would begin with the April market. The May market had been cancelled because of the Coronation.
3. The role of the Community Warden had been discussed by the Personnel Committee, who had also met with the warden to ascertain his views. A recommendation would be put to Full Council.

The Clerk also reminded the meeting that the pre-election 'purdah' period would begin as from next Monday, which would limit the decisions and proposals which Council could consider.

25/23 SUMMARY FINANCIAL REPORT to end February

This had been previously circulated and was NOTED. There were no queries raised

26/23 LIST OF PAYMENTS

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

Unity Trust from 10 th November 2022 to 7 th March 2023	£190,156.91
Pocket Card – David O'Driscoll	£ 503.80
Pocket Card – Carolyn Coomber 1 st November 2022 to 7 th March 2023	£ 502.41
Pocket Card – Gages 1 st November 2022 to 7 th March 2023	£ 4,012.00
Pocket Card – Youth 1 st November 2022 to 7 th March 2023	<u>£ 1,126.71</u>
TOTAL	£196,301.83

27/23 BANK RECONCILIATIONS & COUNCILS INVESTMENTS

This had been previously circulated and was NOTED

28/23 TO NOTE FINANCIAL REPORTS FROM FROWRESOURCE CIC

The Clerk informed the meeting that no reports were now necessary since FrowResource had on 8th March repaid the loan in full with interest. Cllr T Lewin proposed that FrowResource be given a vote of thanks for their prompt payment, and the Committee expressed appreciation of their efforts

29/23 TO CONSIDER & RESOLVE ON A REQUEST FROM FOREST ROW FESTIVAL

The Festival had submitted a written request for use of the Green in June this year, and a grant request for assistance with the costs of rubbish removal and security fencing. A combined account for 2022 and budget for 2023 was distributed to the meeting. After some discussion the Members resolved as follows:

- 1. Cllr Spackman proposed that the Council give permission for the use of Foresters Green as requested provided that a Health & Safety officer is nominated, all necessary licenses are obtained and that the music finishes on Saturday at 11:00pm, and on Sunday at 10:00pm with the bar closing at 10:30pm. Seconded by Cllr T Lewin and AGREED
- 2. Cllr T Lewin proposed that the grant of £732 requested by the Festival be granted in full. Seconded by Cllr Waters and AGREED with one abstention

The Committee also expressed the wish that the Festival organisers liaise with the Coop as to the provision of security at the shop entrance to prevent theft.

30/23 TO CONSIDER & RESOLVE ON FINANCIAL ISSUES ARISING FROM THE CRITTALL WINDOW REPLACEMENT PROJECT

There was a lively discussion of the options in this matter, with a consensus that the official response to the listed building application had made matters disappointingly complicated. In conclusion Cllr Spackman proposed that an approach be made to Crittall Windows Ltd to provide a quote for like-for-like replacements and then reconsider the matter. Seconded by Cllr T Lewin and AGREED

31/23 TO CONSIDER A GRANT APPLICATION FROM CAB

Cllr Williams proposed that this be granted in full. Seconded by Cllr T Lewin and AGREED

32/23 TO CONSIDER & RESOLVE ON THE GRANT POSITION OF THE SPORTS GROUND ASSOCIATION

This was discussed at some length, with Cllr Williams providing an account of recent dealings with East Sussex County Council. It appears the SGA will now only lease the land on which the pavilion sits, but will continue to maintain the playing surfaces for public (and club) use. The need for application paperwork was recognised, but in view of the imminent financial year-end, Cllr Spackman proposed: "For the present financial year, in consideration of the previous arrangements, the Council shall pay to the Sports Ground Association the sum of £2.500 for the maintenance of the open space for the benefit of the community, on the understanding that in future years a different procedure shall prevail" Seconded by Cllr Waters and AGREED (Cllrs Williams & Wogan did not vote)

33/23 TO RECEIVE AND ADOPT A REVISED SAFEGUARDING POLICY

Two small textual amendments were identified. Cllr Wogan propose that subject to those amendments, the draft policy should be adopted. Seconded by Cllr T Lewin and AGREED

34/23 TO RECEIVE AND ADOPT A REVIEWED YOUTH SERVICE POLICY (INCLUDING ANTI-BULLYING SUPPLEMENT)

Cllr Wogan proposed that these be adopted. Seconded by Cllr T Lewin and AGREED

35/23 TO NOTE ACTION ON A STAFF MATTER

The Clerk advised the Committee that the issue of a staff member's long term sickness was now being dealt with by the Personnel Committee under the relevant policy.

36/23 CORRESPONDENCE None

37/23 TO NOTE ITEMS TO BE REFERRED TO COMMITTEE OR FULL COUNCIL None

The meeting closed at 8:35pm.

SIGNED:..... (Chairman) DATE.....