

MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 16th APRIL 2024 IN THE GARDEN ROOM OF THE COMMUNITY CENTRE AT 7.30PM.

PRESENT: Cllrs. Gilbert (Chair) , Eichner, la Djoï, Taylor-Smith & Waters

APOLOGIES: Cllr. Lewin

NOT PRESENT: Cllr. Hugo

IN ATTENDANCE: The Clerk & Asst Clerk and 2 members of the public

79/24 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

None

80/24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Cllr. Lewin due to ill health.

81/24 TO DECLARE ANY INTERESTS OR REQUEST DISPENSATION PERTAINING TO THE ITEMS BELOW

| Name | Min. No. | Category of Interest | Reason |
|------|----------|----------------------|--------|
| None | | | |

82/24 MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON 6th FEBRUARY & 19TH MARCH 2024

Cllr. la Djoï proposed that the minutes of the meetings of 6th February & 19th March 2024 be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr. Waters and AGREED

83/24 CLERKS REPORT ON MATTERS NOT REQUIRING A DECISION

1. Dates for year-end procedures, internal audit & annual return - The Clerk reported that following the Year End Shutdown, there was a overspend of approx. £ 34,000 which would impact on the reserves for the coming year. NOTED
2. Property revaluations and asset register revision – The Clerk advised that these were both in hand. NOTED
3. Feedback from Personnel Committee - NOTED
4. Committee structure for the coming year – NOTED

84/24 LIST OF PAYMENTS

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

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Unity Trust from 22 nd Jan to 31 st Mar 2024 | £142,641.73 |
| Pocket Card – David O’Driscoll 9 th Jan to 31 st Mar 2024 | £ 139.95 |
| Pocket Card – Carolyn Coomber 8 th Jan to 31 st Mar 2024 | £ 831.67 |
| Pocket Card – Gages 1 st Jan to 31 st Mar 2024 | £ 3,250.64 |
| Pocket Card – Youth 5 th Jan to 31 st Mar 2024 | <u>£ 672.82</u> |
| Total | £147,536.81 |

85/24 YEAR END SUMMARY

This had been circulated and was NOTED

86/24 RESERVES POSITION

These would be submitted for approval at a future meeting.

87/24 FUTURE OF HAMBRO HALL

Following the closure of the pre-school which was received with regret, it was advised that the pre-school committee had agreed to pay rent for 2 months (April & May). The cost of reinstating the toilets (currently child-size) would be paid to the Parish Council. Three future options were discussed.

- Let out to a commercial business – firm offer received.
- Retain the hall as a hiring space.
- Retain the premises for community use – including the Shed Project.

Various views were expressed, mainly in respect of the first & third alternatives. There was a consensus that any decision should not be made until the Community Shed Working Group had visited the Hall and seen if it was suitable.

The issue would be deferred for discussion at the next Full Council meeting.

88/24 RENEWAL OF THE INTRUDER ALARM AND FIRE ALARM SYSTEM

Both systems were now needing replacement. A quote had been received (from our existing supplier of fire safety equipment) for the renewal of the fire alarm system at a cost of £ 10,200.00.

Cllr. Eichner proposed that this quote be accepted, and the intruder alarm be replaced as a matter of urgency under the Clerks delegated authority (with authorisation by Council chairs, if necessary). This was seconded by Cllr. Gilbert and AGREED.

89/24 GRANT APPLICATION FROM YOUTH FORUM

An application had been received for funding for a mobile staging installation. This was discussed and the applicant in person answered various points of clarification. It was felt that the scheme had merit, but much more detail (eg dimensions, costings, maintenance) was essential.

Cllr. Jaffay would arrange a meeting with other interested parties, including the Youth Forum, to sort out more detail and take the idea further.

90/24 TO NOTE ITEMS TO BE REFERRED TO COMMITTEE OR FULL COUNCIL

Cllr. Eichner asked that the Council look into a Policy regarding 'hostile architecture'.

Cllr. Waters asked that at the renewal of the Junior Football lease, the uses of the land be investigated.

The meeting closed at 9 pm.

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