

MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 22nd NOVEMBER 2022 IN THE GARDEN ROOM OF THE COMMUNITY CENTRE AT 7.30PM.

PRESENT: Cllrs. Spackman (Chair), Hopkins, Josephson, R Lewin, T Lewin, Tyler, Waters, Williams & Wogan

APOLOGIES: Cllr. Davies

NOT PRESENT:

IN ATTENDANCE: The Clerk and Asst. Clerk.

196/22 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

None.

197/22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Cllr. Davies due to a transport breakdown.

198/22 TO DECLARE ANY INTERESTS OR REQUEST DISPENSATION PERTAINING TO THE ITEMS BELOW

Name	Min. No.	Category of Interest	Reason
Cllr. T Lewin	208/22 6.	Personal	Repair Café committee member

199/22 MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON 12TH & 18TH JULY, 2ND & 16TH AUGUST 7 27TH SEPTEMBER 2022

Cllr. Spackman proposed that the minutes of the meeting of 12th July 2022 be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr. R Lewin and AGREED

Cllr. Spackman proposed that the minutes of the meeting of 18th July 2022 be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr. T Lewin and AGREED

Cllr. Spackman proposed that the minutes of the meeting of 2nd August 2022 be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr. Wogan and AGREED.

Cllr. Spackman proposed that the minutes of the meeting of 16th August 2022 be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr. T Lewin and AGREED.

Cllr. Spackman proposed that the minutes of the meeting of 27th September 2022 be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr. Waters and AGREED.

There were no objections to the deletion of the digital transcript of the meetings, where they had been recorded.

200/22 CLARIFICATION OF (NON-CONFIDENTIAL) ACTIONS FROM LAST MEETING

None

201/22 CLERKS REPORT ON MATTERS NOT REQUIRING A DECISION

1. Request re ACV status of former recycling site – this is currently being dealt with by Wealden planning.
2. Grant to the FRowShow– A reminder has been sent for receipts for expenditure.
3. Market arrangements -Negotiations are ongoing for next year.
4. New receptionist – Georgina Tod started on 28th September and is settling in well.
5. Back-up cook – A previous applicant had accepted the post and is now cooking on Wednesday and Fridays on a self-employed contract basis.

202/22 SUMMARY FINANCIAL REPORT to end quarter 8

This had been previously circulated and was NOTED.

Cllr. Josephson joined the meeting at 7.45pm.

203/22 LIST OF PAYMENTS

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

Unity Trust from 1 st July 2022 to 16 th November 2022	£168,960.97
Pockit Card – David O'Driscoll 1 st July 2022 to 16 th November 2022	£ 523.74
Pockit Card – Carolyn Coomber 1 st July 2022 to 16 th November 2022	£ 730.91
Pockit Card – Gages 1 st July 2022 to 16 th November 2022	£ 2,814.54
Pockit Card – Youth 1 st July 2022 to 16 th November 2022	<u>£ 1,251.56</u>
TOTAL	£174,281.72

204/22 BANK RECONCILIATIONS & COUNCILS INVESTMENTS

This had been previously circulated and was NOTED

205/22 TO RESOLVE ON THE STAFF 2022-23 PAY AWARD

Cllr. Wogan proposed that this pay award be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr. Hopkins and AGREED

206/22 TO DECIDE ON A COMPENSATION OFFER FROM EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

Council decided on 12th July to request a reimbursement from East Sussex County Council in respect of the costs wasted on the Sports Ground lease negotiations. The Parish Council had requested £ 12,000. East Sussex County Council had offered £ 9,000.00.

Cllr. Wogan proposed that this offer be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr. Josephson and AGREED.

207/22 TO RECEIVE A PROGRESS REPORT FROM 'SECOND LIFE' SHOP

A report had been previously circulated and was NOTED. Cllr. Wogan congratulated the shop on all the work they do but felt that they should advertise their services more.

208/22 GRANT APPLICATIONS

1. A grant application had been received from Forest Row Church of England for church spire lighting.
Cllr. Wogan proposed that a grant be made of £ 100.00. This was seconded by Cllr. Josephson and AGREED with 2 against.
2. A grant application had been received from Forest Row Church of England for help towards fuel costs of heating for a warm space.
Cllr. Williams proposed that a grant be made of £ 1000.00. There was no seconder for this.
Cllr. Josephson counter proposed that a grant be made of £ 750.00 (and advise to apply again in March if further funds are necessary). This was seconded by Cllr. R Lewin and AGREED.
3. A grant application had been received from Tunbridge Wells Samaritans.
Cllr. R Lewin proposed that a grant be made of £ 300.00. This was seconded by Cllr. Williams.
Cllr. Wogan counter proposed that a grant be made of £ 200.00. There was no seconder for this.
Cllr. R Lewin's proposal was voted on and AGREED with 1 against.
4. A grant application had been received from Sussex Victim Support
Cllr. Williams proposed that a grant be made of £ 300.00 This was seconded by Cllr. Hopkins and AGREED.
5. A grant application had been received from Forest Row Senior/Junior Football clubs.
Cllr. T Lewin proposed that a grant be made of £ 600.00. This was seconded by Cllr. Wogan.
Cllr. Williams counter proposed that a grant be made of £ 836.00. This was seconded by Cllr. Hopkins and AGREED.
6. An application had been received from Forest Row Repair Café for free hire of the rooms for 11 months to enable the Repair Café to continue for another year.

Cllr. Hopkins proposed that this concession be agreed. This was seconded by Cllr. R Lewin and AGREED with 1 abstention. (Cllr. T Lewin did not vote)

209/22 TO APPROVE THE DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET FOR 2023-24

There was much discussion about the budget.

Cllr Josephson wished to raise an issue about individual staff salaries. She proposed that this part of the meeting be conducted under 'confidential business', pursuant to *Section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960*, This was seconded by Cllr. Wogan and AGREED. No resolutions were proposed or voted on during this part of the meeting.

The meeting resumed in open forum.

Cllr. T Lewin proposed that the draft budget as presented be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr. Waters and AGREED with 1 abstention and 2 against.

210/22 CORRESPONDENCE

None

211/22 TO NOTE ITEMS TO BE REFERRED TO COMMITTEE OR FULL COUNCIL

Cllr. Josephson proposed that past members of staff who are eligible for the pay award are paid their back pay. This was seconded by Cllr. T Lewin and AGREED.

Cllr. Wogan asked that the role of the Community Warden be discussed at the next meeting.

Cllr. R Lewin encouraged people to respond to the proposed parliamentary boundary changes.

The meeting closed at 9.04pm.

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

(Chairman)