



Notice of the next Council Meeting

Due To Covid-19 Guidance Members Of The Public And The Press Are Requested To Contact The Office If They Wish To Attend This Meeting

Dear Committee Members,

You are hereby summoned to attend the following meeting:

Meeting of...	Finance and Policy Executive Committee
Time...	10:00hrs
Date...	Thursday 23 September 2021
Place...	Bridgwater Room, Town Hall, High Street, Bridgwater TA6 3AS

Councillors will be discussing all the items listed overleaf on the Agenda.

Yours faithfully

David Mears

David Mears CertHE PSLCC

Town Clerk

17 September 2021

10.00 (Prior to the start of the meeting)

Questions and comments from members of the public

This provides an opportunity for members of the public (who are not usually permitted to speak during the meeting except by special invitation of the Chairman) to participate before the start of the meeting by asking questions, raising concerns or making comments on matters affecting Bridgwater. No decision can be taken during this session¹, but the Chairman may decide to refer any matters raised for further consideration.

N.B Councils cannot lawfully decide items of business that is not specified in the summons/agenda (LGA1972 Sch 12, paras 10(2)(b) and Longfield Parish Council v Wright (1918) 88 LJ Ch 119)



AGENDA

FEC2021/37 To receive Apologies for Absence and to approve the reasons given (LGA 1972 s85 (1))

FEC2021/38 Declarations of interests - Members to declare any interests, including Disclosable Pecuniary Interests they may have in agenda items that accord with the requirements of the Town Council's Code of Conduct and to consider any prior requests from members for Dispensations that accord with Localism Act 2011 s33(b-e) (NB this does not preclude any later declarations)

FEC2021/39 To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on Thursday 15 July 2021 (LGA 1972 sch 12, para 41(1))

FEC2021/40 Grants – to receive grant applications for approval:

- I. Bridgwater Together - £1,000
- II. Bridgwater Photographic Society - £2,500

FEC2021/41 Finance – Accounts for Payment and Income – to note items of expenditure as approved under delegated authority or under previous Council/Committee decisions and income received for August 2021

FEC2021/42 Finance – to note the Year to Date Budget as of 17 September 2021

FEC2021/43 Work Mobile Phones – to agree six mobile phone contracts for key staff

FEC2021/44 Staff Policies – to adopt a Drug and Alcohol Testing Policy for all staff

FEC2021/45 Youth Grants – to agree to a temporary change to the way in which Youth Grants are awarded. N.b. due to COVID and safeguarding the Youth Council hasn't been able to meet, and there are organisations waiting grants

FEC2021/46 Climate Emergency

- I. Seed the Day – Evaluation of the 2021 Seed the Day event; to discuss and agree plans for a 2022 event;
- II. Green Walk – to agree to hold a 'green walk' in 2022 in conjunction with Bridgwater Flower Show;
- III. To create an Events Working Party

FEC2021/47 Unitary Council – update on Unitary Council preparation and meetings with neighbouring parishes



FEC2021/48 To resolve to exclude members of the press and public - To agree that agenda

Item FEC2021/48 and FEC2021/49 be dealt with after the public (including the press) have been excluded as publicity would prejudice the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

FEC2021/49 Town Deal – Update and to authorise the Town Clerk to seek quotations and appoint contractors to undertake planning and feasibility work for the Town Hall and Arts Centre in the following areas Architects; Quantity Surveyor; disability access and such specialists that may become apparent as the projects develops

FEC2021/50 Staffing

- a) *To receive a general staffing update and update on current vacancies, and staff annual leave balances;*
- b) *To agree to pay overtime to the Finance Assistant and uplift while covering the period of absence of the Town Clerk;*
- c) *To receive agree to create the posts of a Project Officer and Democratic Services Officer*
- d) *To consider the request to continue the Community Governance Course funding for the Town Clerk.*

Committee members: Councillors Smedley (Committee Chair), Burrows, Cordiner, Granter, Leavy, Lerry, Pearce, and Redman.