



## Minutes of Finance and Policy Committee held in the Bridgwater Room on Monday 19 February 2024 at 14:00

### Present:

Councillors: Brian Smedley (Chair), Dave Loveridge, Irena Hubble, Jacqui Solomon, Kathy Pearce, Mick Lerry, Tim Mander, Gill Slocombe.

**Attendees:** There was 1 member of the public present (via remote link), there was no press present

**Officers:** David Mears (Town Clerk), Lorna Williams (DSO), Fiona Tuck (Finance Officer)

**Public Speaking:** A member of the public addressed the meeting asking for support in their grant application for the Bridgwater Parkrun, explaining the process that had taken place and the plans of implementation.

**FEC2024/10 APOLOGIES** To receive Apologies for Absence

RESOLVED: Apologies were received from Cllr Marsh

**FEC2024/11 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** 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)

Cllrs Solomon and Pearce declared a personal interest on agenda item FEC2024/14.1 as they are both committee members of the Friends of the Meads. They are both permitted to take part in the discussion and vote on this item.

**FEC2024/12 MINUTES** To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the Finance and Policy Executive Committee meeting held on Monday 8 January 2024 (LGA 1972 sch 12, para 41(1))

RESOLVED - That the minutes of the meeting held on 8 January be signed as a correct record.

**FEC2024/13 TO NOTE THE ACTION LIST**



Cllr Lerry suggested that the Town Council should ensure we have defibrillators close to all our buildings or on all our buildings.

RESOLVED: The Action List was noted

**FEC2024/14 GRANTS**

**FEC2024/14.1 PARKRUN LTD - REQUESTING £2,500**

RESOLVED: To receive £2000

**FEC2024/14.2 BRIDGWATER INDEPENDANT MARKET - REQUESTING £2,500**

RESOLVED: To receive £1,000

**FEC2024/14.3 SEED OF HOPE CIC - REQUESTING £2,500**

RESOLVED: To receive £1,500

**FEC2024/14.4 ST. JOHN AMBULANCE - REQUESTING £2,500**

RESOLVED: That on this occasion no funding grant was awarded.

**FEC2024/14.5 THE BLUEBIRDS THEATRE COMPANY - REQUESTING £2,300**

RESOLVED: To receive £500

**FEC2024/14.6 THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION - REQUESTING £2,500**

RESOLVED: To receive £1,000

**FEC2024/15 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 January 2024

RESOLVED: Payments and income were noted.



The Town Clerk informed the Committee that he had purchased an electric car through the Electric Vehicles car salary sacrifice scheme.

**FEC2024/16 FINANCE** To note the Year to Date Budget as of 14th February 2024

RESOLVED: Noted

**FEC2024/17 TO REVIEW AND APPROVE THE CEMETERY FEES FROM 1.4.2024**

RESOLVED: To adopt the Cemetery fees as presented

**FEC2024/18 TO RESOLVE TO EXCLUDE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS**

and to agree that agenda item FEC2024/19 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

RESOLVED: That the members of the public and press be excluded under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

**FEC2024/19 STAFFING UPDATE** To receive an oral general staff update and an update of staff annual leave balances from the Clerk

RESOLVED: To note the staffing update from the Town Clerk

The Chairman closed the meeting at **15:30**

**End of document**

**Signed**.....

**Dated**.....