



**Minutes of the Virtual Meeting of Bridgwater Town Council's
Finance and Policy Executive Committee
held via video conferencing software Zoom on Monday 10 August
2020 at 15:00hrs
in the Committee Room, Town Hall, Bridgwater**

Present - Councillors

B Smedley - Chair

G Burrows

J Cordiner

M Lerry

K Pearce

L Redman (via phone)

In Attendance:

David Mears – Town Clerk. There were no members of the press or public present.

FEC2020/33 To receive Apologies for Absence and to approve the reasons given (LGA 1972 s85 (1))

Apologies for absence was received from Cllr T Heywood who had a conflicting commitment.

RESOLVED – to accept the apology and to approve the reason given

FEC2020/34 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)

No interests declared.

FEC2020/35 To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on Monday 20 July 2020 (LGA 1972 sch 12, para 41(1))

RESOLVED - that the minutes of the Finance and Policy Executive Committee Meeting held on Monday 20 July 2020 be signed as a correct record

FEC2020/36 Finance – to receive update on COVID-19 impact on the council budget, financial forecast assessment

RESOLVED – to note the update on the COVID-19 impact on the council budget and the financial forecast assessment

FEC2020/37 Mayorality 2020/21 and 2021/22 - to discuss a revision of the 2020/21 Mayor's allowance and arrangements and to make a recommendation to Full Council

RESOLVED – that the 2020/21 Mayor's allowance be reduced to £500 and revised to an expenses-based system for 2020/21 and the Mayor's event budget is reduced to £1,000 for 2020/21. These amendments to be reflected in the draft revised budget, to be recommended for adoption at the Full Council Meeting on 20 August 2020. It is further recommended that there be an annual council meeting in November where a new Mayor will be elected.

FEC2020/38 Portfolio Holder Updates (a written report would be appreciated, in advance of the meeting)

Agenda item withdrawn

FEC2020/39 Portfolio System and Committee Structure – general discussion on the current and future arrangement

Cllr Smedley will make suggestions to councillors to discuss and will table an item for the November meeting.

FEC2020/40 To resolve to exclude members of the press and public - To agree that agenda item FEC2020/41 and FEC2020/42 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 agenda item FEC2020/41 and FEC2020/42 be dealt with after the public (including the press) have been excluded

FEC2020/41 Property update – to receive an update on the council tenanted properties

RESOLVED – to note

FEC2020/42 Staffing

I. General staffing update and update on return to office working

RESOLVED – to note

With no further business the meeting closed at 15:45

Signed

Date