



**Minutes of the Virtual Meeting of Bridgwater Town Council's
Finance and Policy Executive Committee
held via video conferencing software Zoom on Monday 12 October
2020 at 15:00hrs**

Present - Councillors

B Smedley - Chair

G Burrows

T Heywood

M Lerry

K Pearce

L Redman

In Attendance:

David Mears – Town Clerk

FEC2020/51 To receive Apologies for Absence and to approve the reasons given (LGA 1972 s85 (1))

None

FEC2020/52 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)

None

FEC2020/53 To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on Monday 21 September 2020 (LGA 1972 sch 12, para 41(1))

RESOLVED - that the minutes of the Finance and Policy Executive Committee Meeting held on Monday 21 September 2020 be signed as a correct record

FEC2020/54 Seed Sedgemoor – to recommend to full council the appointment of a Bridgwater Town Councillor trustee to Seed Sedgemoor CIO

RESOLVED – that Councillor M Lerry be appointed (to be confirmed at the November Annual Council Meeting)

FEC2020/55 Planning White Paper 2020 – Government proposals for reform of the Planning System in England – to agree a process for submitting a response to the consultation

RESOLVED – that the response be delegated to the Town Clerk in conjunction with Cllr Lerry

FEC2020/56 Northgate Project – to receive an update on Sedgemoor District Council’s Northgate Project and to agree this Council’s support for the project and to agree a role for the Town Development Forum

RESOLVED - to note the update and that this council supports the project and that the Town Development Forum will hold community engagement sessions with officers from SDC

FEC2020/57 Year to Date Budget 2020/21 – to receive an update on the Year to Date Budget for 2020/21

RESOLVED – to note

FEC2020/58 Budget Preparation for the 2021/22 Budget – to receive timescales for the preparation and approval of the 2021/22 budget

Town Clerk to discuss budget with both political groups and that the December Finance and Policy Executive Committee discuss the draft budget along with the December Council meeting with adoption in January 2021

FEC2020/59 To resolve to exclude members of the press and public – To agree that agenda item FEC2020/60 and FEC2020/61 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 FEC2020/60 and FEC2020/61 be dealt with after the public (including the press) have been excluded

FEC2020/60 Town Hall – Urgent repairs to windows and other exterior repairs – to note action taken by the Town Clerk in accordance with Financial Regulation 4.5

The Town Clerk stated that due to costs of the required work and the COVID-19 impact to the Council’s budget, this item was withdrawn and will be incorporated into the 2021/22 budget proposals

FEC2020/61 Staffing

- a) To receive an update on staffing matters – RESOLVED – to note
- b) To note the NJC Pay Award for 2020/21 - RESOLVED – to note

With no further business the meeting closed at 15:42

Signed

Date