

FOLKESTONE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting held at Folkestone Town Council Offices, Town Hall, 1-2 Guildhall Street, Folkestone on Thursday, 30th November 2023 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Jane Darling, Christine Dickinson, Belinda Walker, Connor McConville (Chair), Adrian Lockwood, Laura Davison, Keiran Leigh and Peter Gane.

ABSENT: Councillor Nicola Keen.

OFFICERS PRESENT: Toni Brenchley – Acting Town Clerk, Roland Domingo – Finance Officer.

1589. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Bridget Chapman and Councillor Tim Prater.

RESOLVED: The Committee received and approved apologies.

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane

Seconded: Councillor Laura Davison

Voting: F: 8, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

1590. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

1591. MINUTES

The committee received the Minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 19 October 2023.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 19 October 2023 be signed as a correct record.

Proposed: Councillor Adrian Lockwood

Seconded: Councillor Keiran Leigh

Voting: F: 7, Ag: 0, Ab: 1

1592. PERSONNEL SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES

The committee received the Minutes of the meeting of the Personnel Sub-Committee held on 31 August 2023.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting of the Personnel Sub-Committee held on 31 August 2023 be received and noted.

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane

Seconded: Councillor Connor McConville

Voting: F: 6, Ag: 0, Ab: 2

1593. RESOLUTIONS FROM COMMITTEES

1) Climate and Environment

At its meeting on the 3rd of October 2023, the Climate and Environment Committee resolved that the remaining Tree Planting Budget total of £4,891 be vired to General Reserve for the purpose of grounds maintenance, and the remaining £33,264 from Flowerbeds budget be vired to General Reserves for the purpose of purchasing equipment and plants to maintain FTC planters.

RESOLVED: To not vire £4,891 from Tree Planting budget to General Reserves and to remain in its original budget code.

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane

Seconded: Councillor Laura Davison

Voting: F: 8, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

RESOLVED: To not vire £33,264 from Flowerbeds budget to General Reserves and keep in its original budget code for the sponsorship to the Folkestone & Hythe District Council for the year 2023/24. To send the item back to Climate and Environment Committee to draw an alternative plan for the maintenance of flowerbeds across the town for the following year.

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane

Seconded: Councillor Adrian Lockwood

Voting: F: 7, Ag: 1, Ab: 0

1594. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

The Committee considered the schedule of payments made between 1 September 2023 and 31 October 2023.

RESOLVED: That the Schedule of Payments for the period 1 September 2023 to 31 October 2023 be approved.

Proposed: Councillor Laura Davison

Seconded: Councillor Jane Darling

Voting: F: 8, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

1595. SCHEDULE OF RECEIPTS

The Committee considered the schedule of receipts made between 1 September 2023 and 31 October 2023.

RESOLVED: That the Schedule of Receipts for the period 1 September 2023 to 31 October 2023 be accepted.

Proposed: Councillor Connor McConville

Seconded: Councillor Keiran Leigh

Voting: F: 8, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

1596. BUDGET MONITORING STATEMENT 2023/24

The budget monitoring statement to the 31 October 2023 was received by the Committee.

RESOLVED: That the Budget Monitoring Statement to 31 October 2023 be approved. To vire the remaining balances of Provision for Folk Flower Power total of £0.40p, Guildhall Umbrella Project of £390.91 and Provision for Outstanding Invoices of £4,678.55 to General Reserves.

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane

Seconded: Councillor Jane Darling

Voting: F: 8, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

1597. BANK RECONCILIATION

The bank reconciliation statement as at 31 October 2023 was noted by the Committee.

RESOLVED: The Committee recorded its thanks to the Finance Officer for managing the bank accounts.

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane

Seconded: Councillor Belinda Walker

Voting: F: 8, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

1598. FEES AND CHARGES

The Committee has considered the proposed fees and charges.

RESOLVED: To approve the proposed fees and charges.

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane

Seconded: Councillor Adrian Lockwood

Voting: F: 8, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

1599. SAVINGS ACCOUNT APPLICATION

Following the end of the 1 Year Fixed Savings Account from Cambridge & Counties Bank for Local Authorities, the Committee considered opening a savings account to an alternative building society.

RESOLVED: To open a savings account with Cambridge Building Society with an initial deposit of £80,000.

Proposed: Councillor Connor McConville

Seconded: Councillor Jane Darling

Voting: F: 8, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

1600. MAYORAL CAR LEASE RENEWAL

The Committee has been notified on the end of the mayoral car lease in April 2024 and has discussed the renewal of the mayoral car lease.

RESOLVED: To obtain quotes of electric and hybrid lease vehicles for the current mayoral car lease ending in April 2024.

Proposed: Councillor Connor McConville

Seconded: Councillor Jane Darling

Voting: F: 8, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

1601. BUDGET 2024/25

The committee has noted the draft 2024/25 annual budget.

1602. WARD GRANTS

A list of ward grants between 1st September 2023 to 31st October 2023 was provided for the Committee's approval.

Organisation	Purpose	Amount	Councillor
Pavement Pounders Community Interest Company	Crossings Remembered	£200.00	L McGirr
Cheriton Bowls Club	New Mower for Green	£400.00	J Renshaw
Cheriton Bowls Club	New Mower for Green	£200.00	P Gane
Cheriton Bowls Club	New Mower for Green	£200.00	R West
South Kent Mind	Safe Spaces	£200.00	B Walker
Tyson Road Resident Association	Children's Xmas party on Friday 15th December 2023	£225.00	J Meade
Tyson Road Resident Association	Children's Xmas party on Friday 15th December 2023	£150.00	L McGirr
Tyson Road Resident Association	Children's Xmas party on Friday 15th December 2023	£150.00	N Keen
Tyson Road Resident Association	Children's xmas party on Friday 15th December 2023	£225.00	C McConville
The Real Power Of Music CIC	Music And The Body	£281.50	N Keen
The Real Power Of Music CIC	Music And The Body	£200.00	C Dickinson
Pavement Pounders Community Interest Company	Crossings Remembered	£200.00	C Dickinson

RESOLVED: To approve all ward grants received between 1st September 2023 to 31st October 2023.

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane

Seconded: Councillor Belinda Walker

Voting: F: 8, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

1603. WARD GRANT BALANCES

The Committee has noted the ward grant balances as at 31st October 2023.

1604. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

14th December 2023 at 7.00pm

The meeting concluded at 08:05pm

Chair.....
Date.....