

**FORDINGBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Finance & Policy Committee held on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2023 at 7:30pm  
(Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting of the Committee)**

**Present:** Cllrs Anstey, Earth, Goldsmith, Hale, Jackson, Lewendon, Millar (Chair), Paton, Perkins White (arrived at 7.55pm) and Wilson

**In attendance:** Paul Goddard, Town Clerk, Mrs M Coatham, RFO

**1. To receive any apologies for absence**

Apologies received from Cllr Hinton

**2. To receive any Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest.

**3. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2023 and report any matters arising**

Cllr Wilson proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Anstey and therefore **RESOLVED**: that the minutes of the meeting held on the 29<sup>th</sup> March 2023 be signed as a true record. All in favour.

Matters arising: Agenda Point 11: Dog Bins/NFDC SLA – the Clerk had reviewed the location of the dog waste bins owned by the Council and it was noted that in most locations there was an adjacent standard waste bin, in 2 locations there was capacity to install a standard waste bin and in 1 location this would not be possible. The RFO had emailed Streetscene to clarify the number of bins they considered to be the responsibility of the Town Council and how frequently they were emptied. Once this information was received the impact on Town Council staff could be reviewed and a decision made – this will be reported to a future meeting. At the current time the bins were not full and this would be monitored.

**4. To receive any matters raised by Members of the Public – none raised**

**5. To receive details of Monies Collected & Payment of Accounts**

The RFO noted the report to members for April – highlighting the invoices due to Sparkx for 50% of the Christmas lighting contract (plus replacement festoons) and for the deep clean of the town hall (Perfect Finish). The bank reconciliation was completed to 24<sup>th</sup> March (year-end reconciliations will be done when IAC are present) and is noted on her report to Cllrs.

Cllr Lewendon proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Paton and therefore **RESOLVED**: to approve the schedule of payments of account and that the amounts collected are correct. All in favour.

**6. To consider grant applications under Section 137/CIL**

- Victim Support

Cllrs discussed the merit of the application and whether it met the Town Council's grant policy. Cllr Earth proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Perkins and therefore **RESOLVED**: to approve a grant of £100. All in favour.

**7. To receive any Finance & Policy matters referred from sub-committees:**

- Staff Committee – recommend approval of the Pension Employers Rate following triennial review and Spine Point increases for two eligible members of staff. Cllr Earth proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Wilson and therefore **RESOLVED**: to approve the Pension Employers rate and Spine Point increases. All in favour.

**8. To receive an update on building matters**

- Toilet block (old) – the current plan is for the works to demolish the old toilet block to take place during week commencing 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2023 (prior to half-term). Discussion took place about the quote to remove the play surfacing and old green shelter and it was agreed that this should take place at the same time if possible.

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- Toilet block (new) – the works to the new toilet block will be completed prior to the Coronation event.
- Town Hall – planning application has now been registered for the planters as well as the clock winder. The NFDC conservation officer requires additional technical details regarding the winder.
- Bungalow – Councillors discussed the options for the bungalow in the future and which committee should consider this.

#### **9. To review the following policies and registers – none this month**

#### **10. To approve continued membership/affiliation of HALC/NALC and ICCM**

The RFO noted the cost and benefits of the memberships to Council. Cllr Hale proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Jackson and therefore **RESOLVED**: to approve continued membership/affiliation of the HALC/NALC and ICCM for 2023/24. All in favour.

#### **11. To note any items of Correspondence**

Thanks had been received for the grant awarded to Fordingbridge Greener Living.

#### **12. To receive a report from the Clerk or any other relevant business**

Councillors were encouraged to help out at the Coronation event on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May starting at 2:30 p.m. at the Recreation Ground.

#### **13. To note the date of the next meeting as 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023**

The meeting closed at 8.05pm