



NANTWICH TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON 23rd February 2023

Present – Councillors: David Marren (Chair), David Greaves, Arthur Moran and John Statham, with Samantha Roberts the Town Clerk and Sheryl Birtles the Deputy Town Clerk.

Also present: Councillor Peter Groves

47. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Stuart Bostock.

48. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Statham declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 7, grant application for the Trefoil Guild having family connections. Councillor Groves declared a non-pecuniary interest also in agenda item 7, as applicant Insights Bereavement Service are one of his Mayoral Charities.

49. MINUTES OF FINANCE COMMITTEE OF as 2nd February 2023

Committee approved the minutes of the Meeting held on 2nd February 2023.

50. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

Members considered the previously circulated reports detailing the income and expenditure to 31st December 2022. The Clerk advised members that she had promised to report on salaries after the pay agreement and she was able to advise that there would be an overspend of around £21,330.

Councillor Statham questioned the budgeting for utilities to which the Clerk advised Members that it had been based on previous years usage, but that it was hard to estimate as it alters with numbers of people through the door, weather, etc.

Councillor Moran commented that the Civic was doing well, this was supported by Councillor Marren who commented that the deficit had reduced considerably since the Town Council took over its management.

Resolved: It was resolved:

- a) To note the report and approve the review of income and expenditure and the bank reconciliations as of 31st January 2023.

51. FINANCIAL RISK ASSESSMENT

Members considered the previously circulated draft financial risk assessment. The Clerk advised that there had been some small changes as effected of audits and changes in procedures relating to budget setting.

Councillor Marren suggested that there should be a redesign of the template to incorporate a likelihood score after the measures taken, showing that we have reduced the risk. He also commented that some of the topic lines are vague and may benefit from more detail. The Clerk advised that she would change the format of the document ready for next year.

Councillor Statham asked for the pandemic line to be updated and suggested incorporate aged debtor as a topic.

Councillor Groves asked if examples of working groups could be included.

Resolved: It was resolved:

- a) Recommend that full Council approves the Financial Risk with the amendments made as suggested by Members.

52. AGED DEBTORS

Members considered the previously circulated report on aged debtors. The Clerk advised that Audit had recommended that aged debtors of older than 3 months are presented to Members. She commented that most had now paid, but asked members to consider writing off £135 for ESAP, due to the fact that some of their equipment had been lost during their time at the Civic.

Councillor Statham asked if officers review aged debtors, to which the Clerk advised that they were regularly reviewed and chased. The Clerk advised that a Write-Off Policy would be brought to the next Policy Committee.

Resolved: It was resolved to:

- a) Approve the writing-off £135 for ESAR

53. GRANT APPLICATIONS

Members considered the previously circulated grant applications. The Clerk advised members that the budget was already overspent by £11,000.

Resolved: It was resolved to:

- a) Defer the grant applications to the new financial year.

54. ACCOUNTS AND PAYMENTS

Members considered the previously circulated accounts and payments for January 2023.

Resolved: That the schedule of payments be approved in accordance with the previous resolution of the Town Council to use the General Power of Competence, the total sums as follows:

Trading Account = £114,275.25
Current Account = £2,013.53
One card = £23.25
Petty Cash = £26.63

The meeting ended at 7.30pm

Signature of Chair :.....

Date :.....