

MEMBERSHIP:
Cllr R. Boulton
Cllr A. Doherty
Cllr C. Foxall
Cllr A. Jefferies
Cllr J. Sanford
Cllr J. Nicholls (ex-officio)
Cllr S. Harrison (ex-officio)



**MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON Tuesday 15th December 2020**

Present: Cllr Doherty Cllr Boulton Cllr Nicholls
Cllr Jefferies Cllr Sanford Cllr Harrison

In attendance: Vanessa Lawrence (Clerk)

- F64 20/21 Apologies for absence**
Apologies were received from Cllr Foxall
- F65 20/21 Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda**
None received
- F66 20/21 To approve the Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 17th November 2020**
It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on the 17th November 2020 as a true and accurate record of the proceedings. Proposed Cllr Doherty, seconded Cllr Boulton – all in favour
- F67 20/21 Clerk’s and Chairman’s Report**
None
- F68 20/21 To agree to adjourn the meeting for Public Participation, if members of the public are present – there is a 5-minute time limit**
N/A
- F69 20/21 To agree to reconvene the meeting following Public Participation (if applicable).**
N/A
- F70 20/21 To consider and agree early settlement of copier lease and possible alternatives for copying/printing moving forward.**
The Clerk reported on details relating to this copier contract and that this could be settled, should the Committee agree to do so. Following discussion, the Clerk was asked to provide more information relating to copying and to await the decision of the W&C committee regarding outsourcing the newsletter which would impact on the amount of copying done. This matter to be deferred to the next meeting.

ACTION: Clerk to add this item to the Agenda for the next meeting.

F71 20/21 To consider and agree a recommendation to Full Council in respect of business rates and market income.

Cllr Doherty was contacted in his capacity as District Cllr regarding business rates that are now required to be paid by the new Wednesday Market provider. Cllr Doherty has been in talks with the provider and has reached agreement. Stallholder charges will increase by £2 and this will be reviewed next year. No agreement can be reached at present, but this will be reviewed next year.

F72 20/21 To consider and agree 2nd round budget requests from Committees.

The Clerk reported that the W & C Committee had agreed to roll over the figures from this year to next, with some exceptions for some projects which were yet to be confirmed but would be considered at their meeting on the 22nd December. It was **RESOLVED** to agree 2nd round budget figures for recommendation to Full Council, but to acknowledge that there may be some alteration from W & C Committee, which can be considered at Full Council. Proposed Cllr Doherty, seconded Cllr Sanford – all in favour.

ACTION: Clerk to add recommendation onto the Agenda for the next Full Council meeting.

F73 20/21 To review Earmarked reserves for current year and agree any revisions as part of the budget process.

The Chair had prepared spreadsheet, which was shown to the Committee. Following discussion, it was agreed to recommend the suggested figures to Full Council. Proposed Cllr Doherty, seconded Cllr Sanford – all in favour. Cllr Doherty was asked about the situation with KEE and money owing to the Council and was advised that action is being considered and will be proposed to the Council before the end of March.

ACTION: Clerk to add recommendation onto the Agenda for the next Full Council meeting

F74 20/21 To consider and agree, for recommendation to Full Council, Precept for 2021/22

Following debate, it was **RESOLVED** to freeze the Precept for 2021/22. This will result in a small increase (21p) per household, this is due to the reduced number of Band D properties on which the calculation is made. Proposed Cllr Doherty, seconded Cllr Harrison – all in favour.

ACTION: Clerk to add recommendation onto the Agenda for the next Full Council meeting.

**F75 20/21 To consider and agree revised Financial Regulations: -
- Financial Regulations**

Revised Financial regulations were circulated to the Committee for approval. Following discussion, it was **RESOLVED** to agree revisions and to recommend this to Full Council for approval. Proposed Cllr Sanford, seconded Cllr Doherty – all in favour.

ACTION: Clerk to add recommendation onto the Agenda for the next Full Council meeting

F76 20/21 To consider and agree to donate a sum of money to each establishment that has taken on the care of the tubs in the marketplace – The Bull Hotel, The Coffee Post and Mr. Ernest.

Cllr Sanford's proposal above was discussed, and it was agreed that maintenance of the tubs in the marketplace was appreciated. Costs of plants etc were being borne by the Coffee Post, who have been doing this for some time and the Bull Hotel who have recently taken on this task for the tubs on their frontage and Mr. Ernest who is maintaining only, the tubs outside their premises. As a result of this, it was **RESOLVED** to award all three a small sum in appreciation of their efforts in making the marketplace look attractive. Proposed Cllr Sanford, seconded Cllr Doherty – all in favour. It was also agreed to pass this to the W & C Committee for consideration for next year.

ACTION: Clerk to send £200 to the Coffee Post, £50 to the Bull and £50 to Mr. Ernest. Clerk to add this to the Agenda for the W & C Committee for consideration next year.

**F77 20/21 Other matters the Chair considers urgent.
None**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.15pm

.....**Chairman**

.....**2021**