



Beaminster Town Council

FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held in the Public Hall on 28TH February 2023.

- 624 PRESENT:** Cllr Biggs (Chairman), Cllr Beswarick, Cllr Body, Cllr Dawkins, Cllr Monks and Cllr Turner; also Christine Bright (Town Clerk).
- 625 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**
Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Drinnan, Cllr Cheeseman and Cllr Langridge
- 626 MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 20TH DECEMBER 2022**
The minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held on 20th December 2022 having been circulated were confirmed a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
- 627 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATION**
No declarations of interest were received.
- 628 PAYMENTS & RECIEPTS**
Members were tabled with the details of the payments for the month of February 2023 including cheque numbers 105733 to 105742, direct debits and bank payments totalling £16,743.39 together with receipts received in the sum of £9,816.51 a copy of which are attached. Members **RESOLVED** adoption and payment as presented.
- 629 PROJECTED BUDGET**
Members had previously been circulated with a copy of the Council's financial position as at 20th February 2023. **NOTED.**
- 630 GRANT APPLICATION**
(a) Beaminster Royal British Legion
Members considered a request received from Beaminster Royal British Legion for a financial donation to cover the cost of the HMS Heron Volunteer Band for 2023 Remembrance Day Parade. **RESOLVED** to award a grant of £200
- 631 COMMEMORATIVE TREES**
This item had been referred from Community Engagement Committee to consider the proposal to plant trees in the square to commemorate the late Queen's Jubilee and the coronation of King Charles III. A quotation had previously been approved for the purchase of two Betula Utilis (Himalayan White Birch) trees in the sum of £349.99 together with the cost of top soil £99.99 and compost in the region of £42.00
Member consider three quotations received for the supply of two hardwood planters **RESOLVED** to accept the quotation from Fat Leaf, Beaminster in the sum of £1,581.76.

RESOLVED to utilise a legacy left to the Council by a former Town Clerk (Mrs Blair) to fund one, an approach would be made to Market House & Tolls Trust for funding for the other.

632 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Following the appointment of an external consultant to support the preparation of the Beaminster Neighbourhood Plan members **RESOLVED** to form a Working Group with Cllrs Monks, Langridge and Turner expressing an interest. **AGREED** to make an approach to a number of community groups within the town with a view to recruit interested parties to the Group.

633 CORRESPONDENCE

There were no items of correspondence.

634 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting set for Tuesday 25th April 2023.

635 PUBLIC BODIES (Admission to meeting) ACT 1960

Members **RESOLVED** that public and press be now excluded from the meeting whilst discussion took place on the following items on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of business to be transacted in respect of consideration of consideration/approval of quotations received.

(a) IT and telephone system

Member had previously been circulated with the Town Clerk's confidential report detailing the arrangements put in place to rent and equip office space within Beaminster Co-working for use as Town Clerk's office. **RESOLVED.**

The Town Clerk also advised members of a meeting that had taken place with the Councils IT provider at which the updating of the Councils telephone system had been discussed following which a quotation had been received in the sum of £68.86 per quarterly and a one off discounted cost of £100 for installation. **RESOLVED** to **ACCEPT** the quotation.

(b) Street Names

The Town Clerk advised the developer of the site at Broadwindsor Road had responded with their preferred street names from those submitted by the Council, members **NOTED** the names chosen acknowledged the Town's Flax industry heritage

636 MEETING

The meeting which started at 7.00pm closed at 8.30pm

Chairman
25th April 2023

