



FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held in the Cowie Room, Public Hall on Tuesday 25th February 2025.

766 PRESENT: Cllr Gunning (Chairman), Cllr Corbett, Cllr Dawkin, Cllr Gillings, and Cllr Tuff also Christine Bright (Town Clerk)

767 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:
Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Body and Cllr Turner.

768 MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 17TH DECEMBER 2024
The minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held on 17th December 2024 having been circulated were confirmed a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

769 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATION
No declarations of interest were received.

770 PAYMENTS & RECIEPTS
Members were tabled with details of the payments made for the month of February 2025 including cheque numbers 106034 to 106042, direct debits and bank payments totalling £38412.07, together with receipts received in the sum of £7,210.23 a copy of which are attached. Members **RESOLVED** adoption and payment as presented.

771 BUDGET COMPARISION
Members had previously been circulated with a copy of the budget projections to 31st March 2025. The Chairman took members through the figures, no questions or comments were raised.

The projections as presented had indicated a budget deficit in the region of £43,463.

772 PET CEMETERY
Members had previously been circulated with the proposals for charges and regulations in connection with the new pet cemetery. Following due consideration members **RESOLVED** the proposals as presented with the addition of a £50 fee for a subsequent interment in an existing plot and a maximum height of 12" for memorials.

773 REVIEW OF CHARGES
Members had previously been circulated with proposed increase in charges in respect of the Public Hall and Cemetery.

Public Hall – the proposed increases reflected a 10% increase across the board with the exception of the licence fee which had been increased by 50%.

Cemetery – the proposed increases reflected a 30% increase across the board.

The Town Clerk stressed these assets were the Council's main source of income independent from the precept, both heavily subsidised and members should be mindful of that when considering increases.

Cllr Corbett enquired as to whether staff costs had been attributed to the cemetery, the Town Clerk advised that with no dedicated member of staff responsible for the cemetery the outside staff costs were lumped together under the Memorial Playing Field heading.

AGREED to seek staff agreement to prepare timesheets to enable a more accurate allocation of costs going forward.

Following due consideration members **RESOLVED** to increase charges out presented.

774 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting **NOTED** as Tuesday 22nd April 2025.

775 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 quotations received and licence agreements.

(a) BCCP Trustees

Members had previously been circulated with a copy of the Town Clerk's confidential report in which progress to date had been summarised. Subsequent to the report additional information had been received and a meeting with the Football Foundation would be pursued. **NOTED.**

(b) Pavilion – Condition Survey

Members had previously been circulated with the detail of two quotations received to undertake a condition survey of the pavilion.

1. Christmas & Brugge	£1,250 + VAT
2. Wessex Surveyors	£800 + VAT (minimum)

Members **RESOLVED** to accept the quotation received from Wessex Surveyors.

c) Public Toilet Project

Members had previously been circulated with details of the companies that had been invited to provide a quotation in accordance with schedules and plans for the alterations to the pavilion to accommodate a public toilet.

Five companies had been approached, one declined to quote, no response had been received from two others with just two quotations submitted.

1. J T Property Services	£46,348.92
2. C G Fry & Son Ltd	£41,994.00

Following careful consideration members **RESOLVED** to accept the quotation from C G Fry & Son Ltd.

The Town Clerk advised, that in addition to the £10,000 Lottery funding, the balance would have to be taken from earmarked reserves.

(d) Fleet Club

Members had previously been circulated with a copy of the Town Clerk's confidential report detailing the outcome of a recent meeting with the licence holder.

The content of the report was **NOTED** and members **RESOLVED** to accept the recommendations therein.

776 MEETING

The meeting which started at 7.00pm closed at 8.00pm

Chairman
April 2025

