

BERKHAMSTED TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the

FINANCE & POLICY COMMITTEE

Held in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Berkhamsted on

Monday 23 May 2022 at 19.30hrs

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillors R Freedman (Chair)
G Stevens (Vice-Chair)
A Foster
J Jones
N Taylor

ALSO PRESENT: Cllr G Corry

Officers: D Beecroft - Finance Officer
T Noakes – Town Clerk (Minutes)

OPENING MATTERS

FP 22/22 Election of a Chair/Vice-Chair of the Committee for the Council year 2022/23

- (i) Cllr R Freedman was duly elected as the Chair of Committee for the Council year 2022/23.
- (ii) Cllr G Stevens was duly elected as the Vice-Chair of Committee for the Council year 2022/23.

FP 23/22 To receive **declarations of interest regarding items on the agenda**

- (i) Cllrs J Jones, G Stevens and N Taylor all declared an interest in the Berkhamsted Chamber of Commerce grant application item on the agenda.
- (ii) No written requests for dispensations for declarable interests were received.
- (iii) No requests for dispensation as appropriate, were granted.
- (iii) Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs P de Hoest and P White.

FP 24/22 Chairs Communications:

- (i) Committee noted the Easter Discovery Trail report (£750 Age UK Dacorum grant approved in March 2022) and thanked the Rectory Lane Cemetery Community Engagement Officer for its submission.

FP 25/22 To suspend **Standing Orders to allow public participation**

FINANCIAL MATTERS

FP 26/22 Grant Applications

- (i) A grant application (£255) from Paul Strickland Scanner Centre was reviewed and **approved**.
- (ii) A grant application (£5,000) from Berkhamsted Chamber of Commerce for a 2-day Medieval Festival over the August Bank Holiday Weekend, 28 and 29 August 2022 was reviewed and **approved**.
- (iii) A grant application (£895) from Westfield School Association for a Jubilee Garden was reviewed and **approved**.

FP 27/22 Annual Accounts for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

- (i) Committee **reviewed** the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR), Annual Governance Statement and **agreed** submission to FC on 6 June 2022 for approval. **Action – Town Clerk**
- (ii) Committee **reviewed** the unaudited Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2022 and **agreed** submission to FC on 6 June 2022 for approval. **Action – Town Clerk**

FP 28/22 Standing Orders & Financial Regulations

- (i) Committee **authorised** a complete review of the Berkhamsted Town Council Standing Orders and Financial Regulations, in time for the F&P meeting on the 26 September 2022. **Action – Town Clerk**

EXCLUSION OF PRESS & PUBLIC

To **RESOLVE** that under Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the public and press be excluded for the remainder of the meeting, because it is likely that publicity would prejudice the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business or for other special reasons stated in the resolution, arising from the nature of the business or proceedings.

FP 29/22 Investment Strategy Review

- (i) Committee **reviewed** the Berkhamsted Town Council Investment Strategy before submission to FC on 6 June 2022. The Investment Strategy would be renamed Treasury Strategy. **Action – Town Clerk**

FP 08/22 Close of Meeting

The meeting closed at 21.34 hrs.

Signed.....

Date.....