



BERKHAMSTED TOWN COUNCIL

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28th September 2022

Finance & Policy Committee Meeting

Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Berkhamsted

Monday 26th September 2022 at 7.35 pm.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillors: R. Freedman (Chair)
G. Stevens
P. de Hoest
J. Jones
N. Taylor

ALSO PRESENT:

Councillors: Cllr G. Corry
Officers: D. McGlynn, Town Clerk (minutes)
Members of Public: None

OPENING MATTERS AND GOVERNANCE	
FP 46/22	To receive and approve Apologies for Absence Apologies were received and approved from Cllrs A. Foster and P. White.
FP 47/22	Declarations of Interest i. Several Members of the Committee declared an interest in item no. FP 50/22 as Father Stuart Owen of St. Peter's Church was known to them. Further interests were declared by Cllrs Jones and Corry as they are both members of Berkhamsted Parochial Charities; ii. There were no written requests for dispensations for declarable interests; and iii. no requests for dispensation were granted.
FP 48/22	The minutes of the previous meeting held on 26 th July 2022 were received and unanimously approved .
FP 49/22	Public Participation No Members of Public were present at the meeting.

FINANCIAL MATTERS	
FP 50/22	<p>To consider and decide upon Grant Applications received</p> <p>a) John Sayer Almshouses - The Committee considered the Grant Application from the John Sayer Almshouses (registered charity no. 208191) for £2,495 in respect of the full cost of upgrading door locks to four properties. In line with its grants policy, the Committee approved a grant of £1,248 which represents 50 % of the total cost of the works.</p> <p>b) Berkhamsted And Tring Ukraine Hosting Network (BATUHN) - The Committee considered the Grant Application from BATUHN for £1000 towards a Music Evening on Saturday 12th November 2022 at Ashylns School in support the Ukrainian refugees now living in our local community. After a brief discussion, the Members approved a grant of £500, on the condition that this sum be solely used for the purpose of this specific event and that, should the evening not go ahead, the funds be returned to the Council. The Members also encouraged BATUHN to contact other local organisations for additional support for this event, e.g. Tring Town Council, Northchurch Parish Council and Nettleden & Potten End Parish Council and local businesses.</p> <p>c) Friends of the Rectory Lane Cemetery - The Committee noted that £3870 had been paid to the Friends of the Rectory Lane Cemetery under concurrent services.</p> <p>d) 1st Berkhamsted Scouts - The Committee approved the payment of £50 to the 1st Berkhamsted Scouts for their services serving refreshments at the Great Big Green Week event held at the Civic Centre on 24th September 2022.</p>
FP 51/22	The Committee received and noted the latest Open Door Quarterly Grant Report.
FP 52/22	<p>Noticeboard Licence – Hilltop</p> <p>The Town Clerk explained that Dacorum Borough Council (DBC) were disposing of several noticeboards in the borough, and that Berkhamsted Town Council had been offered the opportunity to take over the license for the noticeboard situated in Hilltop. After consideration, it was decided that the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chair, be delegated authority to negotiate and sign the new license for this noticeboard.</p> <p>Action: Town Clerk to process the new licence accordingly.</p>
FP 53/22	<p>Berkhamsted Citizens Association (BCA) letter – re. cash award for Best Dressed Window Competition at the 2022 Festival of Light (Ref. FP44/22 FOL).</p> <p>The contents of the BCA letter were noted and it was decided not to proceed with a cash prize for this event. pls refer to Best Dressed Shop Window Prize.</p> <p>Action: Town Clerk to reply to the BCA letter accordingly.</p>
FP 54/22	<p>Skate Park Project</p> <p>The Committee considered setting up a project, as proposed by Cllr A. Foster and presented by Cllr G. Stevens in Cllr Foster's absence, to look at expanding the facilities for</p>

	<p>older children in the vicinity of Skate Park. It was noted that the land in question is owned by DBC and that the project would involve and be funded by various stakeholders, including DBC, Herts County Council/Open Door etc. The proposal for the Project Officer to carry out a preliminary investigation to look into the the feasibility of such a project, carry out a survey of the target demographic and analyse results was approved.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action: Cllr Foster and Project Officer to set up the project.</p>
<p>FP 55/22</p>	<p>Income and Expenditure including Receipts and Payments Schedule</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) After clarification provided by the Finance Officer and an update on status of the Civic Centre Office Lease from the Town Clerk, the Income and Expenditure and Variance Analysis as at 31 August 2022 was noted and approved. (ii) Payments and receipts schedules for the period 1 July 2022 – 31 August 2022 were sent to the Committee Chair for scrutiny and subsequently approved. (iii) The balance sheet as at 31 August 2022 was noted. <p>It was further noted that the Finance Officer and Project Officer would provide the Committee with an updated Project Schedule and up-to-date re-forecast budgets, ahead of new budget 2023/2024 preparation at the next Committee meetings.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action: Finance Officer / Project Officer</p>
<p>FP 56/22</p>	<p>Close of meeting</p> <p>The meeting closed at 20:37 hrs.</p>

Signed:

Cllr R. Freedman, Chair

Dated:

Dates of next meetings:

Mon 17th October 2022

Mon 5th December 2022 (Budget 1)

Wed 4th January 2023 (Budget 2)