FINANCE & POLICY COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the proceedings of a virtual meeting of the Finance & Policy Committee, held on Monday the 21st June, 2021.

PRESENT: The Town Mayor, Councillor Ms. M. Buckley, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Mrs. M. Perfect and Rev. B. Harvey (in the Chair)

Councillors: D. L. Cox, J.P., Mrs. J. Cunningham, P. Cunningham, M. Evans, Mrs. E. Jones, J.P. S.K. License and M.W. Moore, Miss. S. Moore and Mrs. V. Perfect.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillors: Mrs. N. Davies, M. Evans, J. Johnson, Ms R. Johnson and Mrs. L. Jones.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs. L. Wood, Town Clerk.

30. TO ELECT A CHAIRMAN FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2021/22

RESOLVED: That Councillor Rev. B. Harvey was elected as Chairman of the Finance and Policy Committee for the Municipal Year 2021/22.

31. TO ELECT A VICE CHAIRMAN FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2021/22

RESOLVED: That Councillor D. L. Cox was elected as Vice Chairman of the Finance and Policy Committee for the Municipal Year 2021/22.

32. PUBLIC ENQUIRY ITEM

There were no Members of the Public present.

33. DECLARATION OF INTEREST – MEMBERS CODE OF CONDUCT

There were no declaration of interests made.

34. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 19th April, 2021 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

35. CLERKS UPDATE ON MATTERS ARISING FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING

The Town Clerk reported that a successful claim had been made to HRMC in relation to VAT re claim on Town Hall works, a second claim was with the compliance team and the Council should be notified if successful very soon.

RESOLVED: Noted.

36. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED: That the accounts for payment on the attached schedule be approved for payment.

37. RISK ASSESEEMENT

The Council's Risk Assessment was considered for approval and adoption.

RESOLVED: That the Council's Risk Assessment was approved and were adopted by the Council.

38. PLAYAREA MATCH FUNDING SCHEME 2021/22

The Council considered a letter from Aura Leisure and Libraries.

Councillors agreed to engage with this scheme, however, will request costing and plans from Aura Leisure.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk will contact Aura Leisure and ask for detailed costs and plans and will report back to Council.

39. AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS 2020/21

a. Internal Audit

The meeting considered the Report and Action Plan of the Internal Auditor, JDH Business Services Ltd, copies of which had been previously circulated.

The Clerk indicated all issues will be investigated and actioned.

The Clerk also reported the need to use an accountancy package and that she was attending an online demonstration on Thursday 24th June. Costings will be circulated with Mayor, Leader and Chair of Finance and Policy. Councillors agreed.

RESOLVED: That the report of the Internal Auditor for the 2020/21 accounts be noted and that the Clerk in consultation with Mayor, Leader and Chair of Finance and Policy will consider accountancy packages.

b. External Audit

Members had previously been circulated with a copy of the Accounting Statements, Annual Government Statement – Part 1 and Part 2 and also a section completed by the Internal Audit.

RESOLVED:

1. That the Accounting Statement of the Return, be approved, together with the Annual Government Statement, Parts 1 and 2, having noted the Responsible Financial Officer had certified the Accounting Statement, that the Chairman sign the indication of approval by the Council in relation to the Accounting Statement and Annual Government Statement.

2. That it be noted that public notices of the audit would be displayed on the Council's Notice Boards and referred to on the website, as required by the External Auditor.

Date of Council Meeting	Monday 21st June, 2021
……………………………………………… **Chairman**	