

FINANCE & POLICY COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the proceedings of a virtual meeting of the Finance & Policy Committee, held on Monday the 20th September, 2021.

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

Councillors: Mrs. J. Cunningham, P. Cunningham, Mrs. N. Davies, M. Evans, Mrs. L. Jones, J.P. S.K. License, Mrs. M. Perfect and Mrs. V. Perfect

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillors: D. L. Cox, J.P., J. Johnson, Ms R. Johnson, Mrs. E Jones, M.W. Moore, Miss. S. Moore, I. B. Roberts.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs. L. Wood, Town Clerk and Mrs. S. C. Williams, PA.

87. DECLARATION OF INTEREST – MEMBERS CODE OF CONDUCT

Councillor S. K. License declared an interest in the Accounts for payment. Minute No.89, voucher numbers 89 and 90.

RESOLVED: Noted.

88. MINUTES

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

89. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

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

90. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

The Town Clerk advised that following an Audit recommendation to go out to tender for the Christmas Lights Contract, contact was made with several companies. This has proved very difficult to obtain quotations for testing, erecting, take down and storing our existing lights, many companies stated we had to purchase all new lights which would have been a huge cost to the Council.

The Town Clerk shared the quotations that had been received and the Council agreed to accept the quotation from Mega Electricals.

RESOLVED: That Mega Electricals will be advised they have been awarded the contract for the Town's Christmas Light display.

91. REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The Council considered a request from the Samaritans regarding a financial donation.

Councillors were keen to support the organisation and Councillor P. Cunningham proposed a donation of £200. Councillors agreed.

RESOLVED: That the Town Clerk will make the £200 financial donation to the Samaritans.

92. COUNCIL POLICIES

The following Council's Policies was considered for approval and adoption.

Lone Working Policy
Fire Risk Assessment
Information & Data Protection Policy
Social Media Policy
Press & Media Policy
FOI Publication Scheme.

RESOLVED: That the Council's Policies were approved and were adopted by the Council.

93. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED: That the Public and Press be excluded from the following matter.

94. STAFFING MATTERS

Councillor Rev. B. Harvey reported that himself, the Deputy Mayor, Leader and Chair of Town Hall Management met informally to discuss ways to improve to workings of the Town Hall duties and Staff.

The Town Caretaker vacancy was deferred due to the covid pandemic but as life is slowly returning to normal, we believe there is need to re-visit the possibility of re-appointing a Town Caretaker. The Council has had to pay for a contractor to carry out a number of duties since the departure of the Town Caretaker and the Town would certainly benefit from the services of a Town Caretaker.

Also, the group of Councillors considered how we could promote Flint and the Town Council by becoming more pro active within the Town, that is with businesses, residents etc, improving the use of social media and the promotion and organisation of events. The Council could consider employing an additional member of staff to carry out such duties and / or look at the existing staffing structure.

Should the Council become an Approved Premises for wedding and with the upgrade of the building we are generating more activities and events at the Town Hall, therefore workloads could increase.

Councillor Rev. B. Harvey proposed that himself as Chair of Finance and Policy, Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Leader and Chair of Town Hall Management meet and come up with a proposal for staffing detailing the proposed duties, roles and budget implications and will bring this report to the next Finance and Policy Committee for future discussions. Any decisions would need to be made prior to the budget meeting in January.

RESOLVED: That the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Leader, Chair of Finance and Policy and Chair of Town Hall Management will meet to prepare a staffing proposal for the next Committee Meeting.

Date of Council Meeting	Monday 20th September, 2021
..... Chairman	