

FINANCE & POLICY COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the proceedings of the hybrid meeting of the Finance & Policy Committee, held on Monday 16th September, 2024.

PRESENT: Councillor D. Challenger (in the Chair).

Councillors: M. Buckley, P. Cunningham, N. Davies, C. Griffiths, E. Jones, M. Moore, M. Perfect, V. Perfect, J. Stoneley and M. Whittaker.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillor I. Roberts.

IN ATTENDANCE: L. Wood, Town Clerk, N. Thornton, Support Office and Members of the Public.

101. PUBLIC ENQUIRY ITEM

There were no declarations of interest made.

102. DECLARATION OF INTEREST – MEMBERS CODE OF CONDUCT

There were no declarations.

103. MINUTES

Councillor N. Davies proposed the Minutes of the meeting held on 15th July, 2024 be approved, which was seconded by Councillor J. Stoneley.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 15th July, 2024 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

104. TOWN CLERKS UPDATE

The Town Clerk reported that we had been successful in obtaining a £500 grant for the Community Coffee Morning and the Repair Café.

RESOLVED: That the report was noted.

105. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The accounts for payment totalling £72,280.72 were circulated to Council for approval.

Councillor M. Perfect proposed the approval of the accounts, which was seconded by Councillor N. Davies.

RESOLVED: That the accounts for payment totalling £72,280.72 on the schedule be approved for payment.

NOTE: Vice-Chair Councillor J. Stoneley assumed the role of Chair, due to the Chair, Councillor D. Challenger attending remotely and the system having technical issues.

106. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE APPLICATIONS

The Council considered two Financial Assistance applications, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members.

Councillor M. Perfect proposed £100 is donated to the 50+ Action Group, this was seconded by Councillor M. Whittaker.

Councillor M. Perfect proposed that regarding the application from Aura Libraries and Leisure, this is deferred until after the Councils' budget setting meeting, this was seconded by Councillor M. Buckley.

RESOLVED: That a donation of £100 is made to the 50+ Action Group and the application from Aura Libraries and Leisure is deferred until after the Councils' budget setting meeting.

107. COUNCIL POLICIES

The Council considered the following Council Policies for approval and adoption.

Essential Car Allowance Policy
Lone Worker Policy
Fire Risk Assessment

Councillor M. Perfect proposed the approval of the Council Policies, which was seconded by Councillor N. Davies.

RESOLVED: That the Essential Car Allowance Policy, Lone Worker Policy and Fire Risk Assessment were approved and were adopted by the Council.

108. SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT

Councillors considered a Service Level Agreement (SLA) regarding the maintenance of the town's floral displays and other related ad-hoc tasks. Councillor M. Perfect expressed concerns about the workload being too much for the Town Caretaker, stating that while the caretaker does an excellent job, the town is too large for one person to manage effectively. She suggested that larger tasks, especially those outside the town centre, could be handled by a local business through the SLA.

Councillor M. Perfect said she had been contacted by residents who were unhappy with the condition of the town and the cemetery and welcomed a member of the public to address the Council. The Member of the Public said the town is a disgrace and complained that grass cutting schedules provided by Flintshire County Council were not being followed. As a result, residents were forced to maintain the areas around their loved ones' graves, which is not acceptable.

The Vice Chair, Councillor J. Stoneley thanked the member of the public and said we understand his concerns and as Councillors we will always try to do the best for your Town and Residents.

Councillor M. Perfect proposed we invite Flintshire Streetscene to attend a meeting to discuss these issues. This was seconded by Councillor M. Buckley.

RESOLVED: That the Service Level Agreement is approved and that the Town Clerk will invite Flintshire Streetscene to attend a meeting.

109. TO APPROVE ANY MATTERS OF A FINANCIAL NATURE AGREED AT THE COMMITTEE MEETINGS OF THE 16th SEPTEMBER, 2024

Councillor M. Buckley proposed the approval and adoption of the financial recommendations made at each of the Committee meetings earlier this evening, which was seconded by Councillor M. Perfect.

RESOLVED: The Council approved and adopted all financial recommendations from the Committee Meetings.

Date of Council Meeting	Monday 16 th September, 2024
..... Chair	