

LEOMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL

FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held on Monday 26th October 2020 commencing at 19:00 hours remotely via 'Zoom'.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors Murdoch (Chair), Bartlett, Davies, Marsh, Norman, Rumsey, Sutcliffe (19.03) and Thomas.

OFFICER PRESENT: Town Clerk

FG28/20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. Williams (Personal).

FG29/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were No Declarations of Interest made.

FG30/20 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

There had been no requests for dispensations received.

FG31/20 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

No members of the public were present. No matters were raised.

FG32/20 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held on 7th September 2020 be agreed and signed as a correct record when social distancing restrictions are lifted.

FG33/20 CLERK'S REPORT

- Committee considered the offer from a member of the public to fund the repair of the Millennium Clock in Corn Square. It was **RESOLVED** that quotes for cleaning and repair should be sourced.
- The clerk informed the committee that the grant for the Podio Licence, which is used to store the volunteer database, had now been spent and that the council would now be required to fund it for the future. It was **RESOLVED** that the council would fund the continuation of the license until further funding has been secured.
- The matter of the withdrawal of free school meals during half term and possibly the Christmas holiday period was raised. Following discussion, it appears that families in need will be supported by Herefordshire Council, through The Living Room organisation. Families can also find support through Leominster Food Bank, Leominster COVID-19 SOS Group and several cafes or takeaways in the town.

FG34/20 FINANCIAL AND COMMITTEE MATTERS

(a) Income and Expenditure Report

- Committee considered the final end of year report up to 30th September 2020 (Month 6) and the accompanying Budget Notes and it was **RESOLVED** that the report be ratified.

(b) Accounts Paid and Outstanding Accounts for Payment

- Following consideration of the accounts paid and outstanding accounts for payment, Committee **RESOLVED** to ratify the payments relating to the months of September and October 2020.

(c) Committee Report – Committee considered the Committee Update Report and, following discussion, **RESOLVED;**

- To note the report;
- To carry out a budget consultation at the Farmers Market on 14th November 2020 and the Friday Market on 20th November 2020.
- To carry out budget consultation by way of an online survey which is currently being written;

FG35/20 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

As certain items were expected to include the consideration of exempt information and the Finance & General Purposes Committee **RESOLVED** that, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded during the discussion of the matters referred to in the items listed below, on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information, as defined in the respective paragraph of Part 1 of, Schedule 12A of the Act, and the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

(a) Grants – Following consideration of the grant application, the Committee **RESOLVED:**

- To allocate a grant of £1000 to the Leominster Meeting Centre in the budget for the next financial year.

(b) Quotes for the new security system at the Depot – Committee considered the quotes and following discussion it was proposed by Cllr. Thomas, seconded by Cllr. Murdoch and unanimously **RESOLVED to delegate authority to the clerk to commission an appropriate security system.**

(c) Staff update - Following discussion, it was **RESOLVED to review the Environmental Services Supervisor Job Description before advertising the Post in January 2021. It was also **RESOLVED** to extend the 3 month fixed term contract of the Tourist Information Assistant to a permanent 16 hours per week contract.**

FG36/20 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Committee noted that the next meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee would be held on Monday 14th December 2020 at 19:00 which, subject to social distancing restrictions, would either be held remotely via Zoom or at the Council Offices, 11 Corn Square, Leominster HR6 8YP.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 20.55 hours.

CHAIR:

DATE: