

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE & POLICY COMMITTEE
OF TRING TOWN COUNCIL HELD VIRTUALLY ON
MONDAY 8th MARCH 2021 AT 8:30 p.m.**

Present: Councillors: C. Townsend (Chairman)
P. Elley
P. Hearn
R. Ransley

Also present: Mrs L. Housden (Town Clerk)
Mrs. D. Slade (Deputy Town Clerk)
Ms E Cave (Tring Youth Town Clerk)
Cllr. Hollinghurst
Cllr. Nutkins
Cllr. Wilkie

Absent: Cllr Piper

20408. APOLOGIES

None Received.

20409. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None made.

**20410. TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & POLICY COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON 11th JANUARY 2021**

RESOLVED: To accept the Minutes as presented and for the Chairman to sign them when safe to do so.

20411. MATTERS OF REPORT FROM THE MINUTES

Nothing to report

20412. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS

- The Clerk circulated an article from CCLA for the Council's information.
- The internal audit had now taken place and the Clerk would report on the results in the next Council meeting.

20413. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

An email communication had been received from a member of the public relating to items 20423 & 20424. This was read out to the committee and would be considered when the items were discussed.

20414. ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S STANDING ORDERS

A report on the status of the Council's Standing Orders with a number of amendments recommended was circulated prior to the meeting

RESOLVED: To approve and adopt the Council's existing Standing Orders with the recommended changes.

20415. ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

A report on the status of the Council's Financial Regulations with a recommendation to correct an error at paragraph 5.7 was circulated prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED: To approve and adopt the Council's existing Financial Regulations with the recommended change.

20416. FUNDING FOR SKATEBOARD PARK

The Clerk of Tring Youth Town Council gave a presentation on future works required for the Skateboard Park at Pound Meadow and requested that the Council make a commitment of funding for the project.

RESOLVED: To support the project upto to a cost of £25,000 from CIL monies subject to ratification of the full Council.

The Clerk of Tring Youth Town Council left the meeting

20417. ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S FINANCIAL RISK ASSESSMENT AND HEALTH & SAFETY POLICY

A report was circulated prior to the meeting recommending some minor changes to the existing Financial Risk Assessment and Health & Safety Policy.

RESOLVED: To approve and adopt the existing Financial Risk Assessment and Health & Safety Policy with the minor amendments recommended.

20418. ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE WORK OF THE INTERNAL AUDITOR

A report of the work of the Internal Auditor and how this related to the Council's obligations in the Annual Governance Statement in the Annual Governance & Accountability Return (AGAR) was circulated prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED: (i) To note the satisfactory performance of the internal auditor (ii) That the Council was compliant with proper practice as defined in "Governance & Accountability for Smaller Authorities in England – a Practitioners' Guide to Proper Practices' in relation to assertion 6 in Section 1 of the AGAR

20419. POLICY REVIEW

An updated Policy combining both safeguarding and child protection was circulated prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED: To approve and adopt the new Child Protection Policy as circulated and for Cllr Elley to be added as the Councillor contact in the policy.

20420. GRANT APPLICATIONS

The application for grant funding from the Justice & Peace Group was considered.

RESOLVED: To make a grant to the Justice & Peace Group (Tring) of £60 under the powers granted by the general power of competence.

20421. ONLINE BANKING

A report was circulated prior to the meeting setting out the merits of switching bank accounts to Unity Trust Bank and online banking.

RESOLVED: To recommend to the full council that bank accounts are switched to Unity Trust and on-line banking.

20422. PURCHASE OF AN ADDITIONAL STRIMMER FOR THE TOWN WARDEN

RESOLVED: To approve the purchase of an additional strimmer up to the maximum budget of £200.

20423. PURCHASE OF BIKE LOCKS, SEATING AND BINS

Quotes had been circulated prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED: To agree the purchase of the items in principle but full council to approve and determine the source of monies to be used for the purchase of the same.

20424. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

A resolution was considered that under section I of the Public Bodies (admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the public and press be excluded during the following items of the agenda for this meeting, because it is likely that publicity would prejudice the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business.

RESOLVED: To exclude members of the press and public.

20425. PAST USE OF MARKET PLACE BY SOUTHERN GAS

The report circulated prior to the meeting was discussed.

RESOLVED: Not to pursue the matter further.

20426. TO CONSIDER A RENEWAL OF THE GROUND FLOOR MARKET HOUSE AGREEMENT

RESOLVED: To approve payment of an updated land registry compliant lease plan at a cost of £100.

20427. TO CONSIDER RENEWAL OF THE MARKET LICENCES

RESOLVED: A plan to progress renewal of both market licences was agreed.

The meeting ended at 10:00 p.m.

Chairman