MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE & POLICY COMMITTEE OF TRING TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, THE MARKET HOUSE, 61 HIGH STREET, TRING, HERTS HP23 6AA ON MONDAY 8th JANUARY 2024 at AT 8.15 PM.

Present: Councillors: P. Reynolds (Chairman)

R. Farrow C. Blair N. Nutkins C. Nutkins P. Hearn

B. Patterson (ex-officio)

Apologies: S. Wilkie

Also present: L. Housden (Town Clerk)

C. Murray (Deputy Town Clerk)

No Members of Public

21722. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Wilkie (Prior engagement)

RESOLVED: Proposed Cllr Farrow, seconded Cllr Patterson. To accept the apologies for the reasons given. Unanimously agreed.

21723. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Reynolds declared an interest in item 21730 as he worked for one of the proposed banks (Lloyds Bank Plc). If they were selected he would not vote on the item.

21724. TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6TH NOVEMBER 2023

RESOLVED: Proposed by Cllr Farrow, seconded Cllr C. Nutkins that these Minutes be agreed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings and be duly signed. Unanimously agreed.

21725. MATTERS OF REPORT FROM THE MINUTES

Nothing to report.

21726. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS

Nothing to report.

21727. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No members of the public present.

21728. THE BUDGET & PRECEPT 2024/25

An updated draft budget was circulated prior to the meeting – the draft incorporated the items identified at the Council meeting held on 18th December 2023. All the amendments were reviewed.

RESOLVED: Proposed Cllr Nutkins, Seconded Cllr Farrow. To recommend to the full Council on 22nd January 2024 the adoption of the draft budget as presented. Also to recommend £4,750 be earmarked from general reserves for the Market House External works fund. Unanimously agreed.

21729. **POLICY REVIEW**

The issues listed below were discussed, and modification made as follows:

- (i) Protocol on the recording and filming of Council and Committee Meetings proposed amendments as circulated ahead of the meeting agreed including slightly amending the name of the policy.
- (ii) Information & Data Protection Policy All proposed amendments as circulated ahead of the meeting agreed, plus additional amendments proposed and agreed. Consent form (no changes necessary).
- (iii) General Privacy Notice No changes necessary.

RESOLVED: Proposed Cllr Hearn, Seconded Cllr Farrow. To adopt the above policies subject to the agreed amendments.. Unanimously agreed.

21730. SAVINGS ACCOUNT

The Committee were asked to consider if a further savings account (to spread the investment risk) should be opened and if so which one and the amount to be invested.

The Clerk was asked to make further enquiries to try and clarify if the Town Council was covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme.

RESOLVED: Proposed Cllr Farrow, Seconded Cllr Hearn. To recommend to the full Council that a further account be opened with Nationwide Building Society. The account should be the '6 month saver' Business savings account. The amount to be invested in that account should be approximately half of the current amount in the Unity Trust Savings Account. (Vote taken - 6 - For, 0 - Against and 1 - Abstained.)