

## **CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the Finance and Policy Committee Meeting held on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

For the papers discussed at the meeting, please see the [Meeting Agenda of the Finance and Policy Committee held on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2022](#)

**PRESENT      Committee members:**

Cllr Robert Douglas (Chair)  
Cllr Russell Chadwick  
Cllr Jean Parry  
Cllr J Smith  
Cllr R Moreton  
Cllr S Akers Smith  
Cllr D Amies  
Cllr D Brown  
Cllr G Hayes (Arrived at 7.26pm)  
Cllr D Murphy (Mayor – Ex Officio) (Left at 7.20pm)  
Cllr M Gartside (Deputy Mayor – Ex Officio)

**Also present:**

**Congleton Town Council Officers:**

- David McGifford (Chief Officer)
- Serena Van Schepdael (Responsible Financial Officer)

#### **1. Apologies**

Members of each committee are respectfully reminded of the necessity to submit any apologies for absence in advance and to give a reason for non-attendance.

Apologies were received from:

Committee member: Cllr P Duffy

#### **2. Minutes of Previous Meetings**

**FAP/48/2122 RESOLVED** to approve the [minutes of the Finance & Policy Committee held on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2021](#).

### **3. Declarations of Interest**

Cllrs R Moreton, D Murphy (Mayor), D Brown and S Akers Smith, declared a non-pecuniary interest on any matters relating to Cheshire East Council. The Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 8 as a participant.

### **4. Outstanding Actions**

**Review of Grants and Funding Policy** – This is due to be presented in March 2022.

### **5. Questions from Members of the Public**

There were no questions from members of the public.

### **6. Urgent Items**

There were no urgent items raised at the meeting.

### **7. Grant Approvals and Commitments 2021/22**

**FAP/49/2122 RESOLVED** to receive the statement showing the current position as at 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

### **8. New Applications for Financial Assistance**

**FAP/50/2122 RESOLVED** to award the following grant:

- **Grant Ref 11/2122 Congleton Harriers – Awarded £425 for medical cover for the Cloud 9 Race in March 2022.**

### **9. New Grant Activities Monitoring Form and Letter of Thanks**

**FAP/51/2122 RESOLVED** to receive the New Grant Activities Monitoring Form from Congleton Harriers and the letter of thanks from the Parish of Congleton St Peter's Church.

### **10. Management Accounts**

**FAP/52/2122 RESOLVED** to receive the Management Accounts as at 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

### **11. Bank Reconciliation**

**FAP/53/2122 RESOLVED** to receive the bank reconciliation as at 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

**12. Savings Account Balances**

**FAP/54/2122 RESOLVED** to note the Savings balances as at 30<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

**13. List of Payments**

**FAP/55/2122 RESOLVED** to receive and approve the Payments lists between 1<sup>st</sup> October and 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

**14. Appointment of Internal Auditor**

**FAP/56/2122 RESOLVED** to approve the appointment of Auditing Solutions Ltd as the internal Auditor for 2022/23.

**15. Internal Audit: First Interim Report**

**FAP/57/2122 RESOLVED** to receive and approve the Internal Audit Report – First Interim 2021/22.

**16. Annual Review of the Investment Strategy and Policy**

**FAP/58/2122 RESOLVED** to:

1. approve the updated Investment Strategy.
2. approve the update to point 4 in the Investment Policy and to recommend this to Council for approval and to adopt within the Updated Investment Policy into the Constitution.
3. approve the addition of point 5 and to recommend this to Council for approval and to adopt within the Updated Investment Policy into the Constitution noting that this new point 3.5 automatically lapses on the day the Notice of Poll for the Council elections to Congleton Town Council for May 2023 are published.

**17. Congleton Regeneration Working Group**

**FAP/59/2122 RESOLVED** to

1. receive the verbal update.
2. approve to delegate the responsibility for awarding the first-floor improvement grants to the Chief Officer, or in their absence the Deputy Chief Officer, and for them to consult with members of the Regeneration Working Group using the criteria and process outlined.

**18. Resolution to Exclude the Public and Press from Item 19**

**FAP/60/2122 RESOLVED to** exclude the public and press from Item 19 in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 due to commercial sensitivities.

**19. Congleton Information Centre Commission Rates**

**FAP/61/2122 RESOLVED to** delay any discussion and action for 6 months, and for further investigations to take place by officers, the next report to be presented through the Town Hall, Assets and Services Committee for discussion.

Meeting closed 8.04pm

**Cllr Robert Douglas  
(Chair)**