

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Finance and Policy Committee Meeting held on Thursday 24th November 2022

For the papers discussed at the meeting, please see the [Meeting Agenda of the Finance and Policy Committee held on 24th November 2022.](#)

PRESENT **Committee members:**

 Cllr Robert Douglas (Chair)
 Cllr Russell Chadwick
 Cllr Paul Duffy
 Cllr Denis Murphy
 Cllr Jean Parry
 Cllr Suzanne Akers Smith
 Cllr James Smith
 Cllr David Brown
 Cllr George Hayes

Non-Committee member: Cllr Kay Wesley
 Cllr Amanda Martin
 Cllr Suzie Firkin

Also present:

Congleton Town Council Officers:

- David McGifford (Chief Officer)
- Serena Van Schepdael (Responsible Financial Officer)
- Press
- Beartown Rickshaw CIO members (4)

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.

No apologies were received.

2. Minutes of Previous Meetings

FAP/27/2223 RESOLVED to approve the [minutes of the Finance & Policy Committee held on 29th September 2022.](#)

3. Declarations of Interest

Cllrs George Hayes, David Brown, Suzanne Akers Smith and Denis Murphy declared a non-pecuniary interest on any matters relating to Cheshire East Council.

As the applicant, Cllr Denis Murphy declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 8.3 and would leave the room during discussion and voting.

Cllr David Brown declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 19 due to sitting on the Congleton in Bloom Committee.

4. Outstanding Actions

There were no outstanding actions.

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/28/2223 RESOLVED to receive the statement showing the current position as at 30th September 2022.

8. New Applications for Financial Assistance

FAP/29/2223 RESOLVED to award the following grants:

- **8.1 Grant Ref 09/2223 Beartown Rickshaw CIO - £1025**
- **8.2 Grant Ref 10/2223 Congleton Players - £250**
- **8.3 Grant Ref 11/2223 Congleton Community Credit Union -Up to £500**

9. New Grant Activities Monitoring Forms

FAP/30/2223 RESOLVED to receive the New Grant Activities Monitoring Forms from:

- **9.1 Congleton Live CIC**
- **9.2 Beartown Patchwork and Quilters**

10. Management Accounts

FAP/31/2223 RESOLVED to receive the Management Accounts to 30th September 2022.

11. Bank Reconciliation

FAP/32/2223 RESOLVED to receive the bank reconciliation as at 30th September 2022.

12. Savings Account Balances

FAP/33/2223 RESOLVED to receive the Savings Account balances as at 30th September 2022.

13. List of Payments

FAP/34/2223 RESOLVED to receive and approve the Payments lists for 31st March 2022 and between 1st August and 30th September 2022.

14. Budget and Precept 2023-24

FAP/35/2223 RESOLVED to:

1. Approve the 2023-2024 budget.
2. Approve the precept requirement of £1,068,179 for 2023-2024 which equates to a rise of 3.65% /£3.40 per Band D household.
3. Approve the year end movement of Ear Marked Reserves for 2022-2023.
4. Approve the movement for expenditure from Ear Marked Reserves for 2023-2024.
5. Recommend 1-4 to Council on 8th December 2022 for approval.

15. First Interim Internal Audit Report

FAP/36/2223 RESOLVED to receive and note the first internal interim audit report for 2022/23.

16. Annual Pay Award 2022/23

FAP/37/2223 RESOLVED to receive and approve the report on the 2022/23 National Salary Award as agreed by the National Joint Council and Local Government Services, and to recommend to Council to approve the backdated amount be paid in the December pay run on 8th December 2022.

17. Petty Cash Verification

FAP/38/2223 RESOLVED to note the verification of the Petty Cash balance as at 20th October 2022.

18. Investment Strategy Update

FAP/39/2223 RESOLVED to receive the update regarding the Investment Strategy for period beginning 8th November 2022.

19. Supplier Invoice

FAP/40/2223 RESOLVED to approve payment of invoice 125021 for Four Oaks Nurseries Ltd, for £7,301.40 (£6,084.50 plus £1,216.90 VAT) which is to be coded to Streetscape Horticultural Supplies [280-4043].

**Cllr Robert Douglas
(Chair)**