

Workington Town Council

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Minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on Thursday 19th Nov 2020 at 6.30pm on the Zoom platform under the restrictions imposed by the Coronavirus Emergency.

Cllr C Armstrong	Present
Cllr H Briggs	Present
Cllr R Briggs	Present
Cllr G Glaister	Present
Cllr H Harrington	Present
Cllr S Melton	Present
Cllr B Sansom	Apologies
Cllr P Scott (chair)	Present
Cllr S Stoddart (vice chair)	Present
Cllr W Wilkinson	Present
Cllr J King (Mayor)	Present

In attendance: Town Clerk.

FG20.01. Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted as being for approved reasons under the terms of the Local Government Act 1972, s85, from Cllr B Sansom.

FG20.02. Declarations of Interest

Declarations were made from WW in relation of Feenans Allotments; JK in relation to Citizens Advice Bureau; SM in relation to Moorclose.

FG20.03. Exclusion of Press and Public (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960)

One item identified as Employment Issues (Agenda item 10).

FG20.04. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Committee received the minutes of the meeting held on 20th August 2020.

Resolved: To affirm the minutes as a true record.

FG20.05 Schedule of Payments

The Committee received the Schedule of Payments to 1st August – 31st October 2020.

Resolved: To note the Schedule of Payments

FG20.06 Bank Reconciliation Statement

The Committee received the Bank Reconciliation Statement as at 31st August 2020.

Resolved: To note the statement

FG20.07. Budget Monitoring Statement

The Committee received a report on the Budget Monitoring Statement for 2020–2021 to 31st October 2020.

Resolved: To note the report.

FG20.08. Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) 2019-20

The committee reviewed the recently received External Auditors Report and Certificate for 2019/20. It was noted that the External Auditor had made no further comments on the accounts.

Resolved: To commend the certified AGAR to Full Council.

FG20.09. Internal Auditor's Report

The Committee received the Internal Auditor's half year report 1st April – 30th September 2020.

Resolved: To accept the report.

Resolved: To comment Judith Atherton (Finance Officer) for her reports.

FG20.10 Princess Street Project

The Committee received an update from Cllr Paul Scott presented findings for The Princess Street Project. After discussions with CCC it is apparent that they are planning to advertise the building for sale if no decision has been made by WTC by 25th November 2020 when it is clear the area directly behind the building will be sold and there is a likelihood that the corner of the park could be used for development. Cllr B Cannon has previously offered to discuss this matter with her contacts at CCC and the committee will welcome the Cllrs feedback. After discussion PS will approach CCC for access to the building for committee members and take the proposal to the full council meeting on Wednesday, 25th November 2020.

Resolved: To gain access to the Princess Street building for committee members.

Resolved: To present potential purchase of Princess Street Project to Full Council meeting on 25th November 2020.

FG20.11. Property Matters - Council Van

The Clerk reported that the Council's Ford Transit lease was due to expire in November, and the Estate Team Leader had prepared a report on the supply of a successor vehicle. The Estate Team Leader has requested that the next vehicle should be a caged tipper, with a tarpaulin cover to enable winter/rainy day use by the events team. Various prices were discussed, including a sample price from Vanarama around £300 per month. The Committee considered the advantages of leasing against HP and cash purchase.

Resolved: That the Estate Team Leader source a suitable caged tipper van and tarp to lease with a repair contract.

FG20.12 Employment Issues

The Clerk reported an employment issues. This section was closed to the public and press due to the confidential nature.

The meeting closed at 19.16.