



# Ottery St Mary Town Council

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Minutes of the **FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING** of **OTTERY ST MARY TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber, the Old Convent, 8 Broad Street, Ottery St Mary on Friday, **24<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2020** at **10.00AM**

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**PRESENT** : Councillor Stewart (**Chairman**), Cllr Grainger (**Vice- Chairman**), Cllrs Lucas and Dobson and the CEO

F20/01/01

**TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Giles and Pratt

F20/01/02

**TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA AND RECEIPT OF REQUESTS FOR NEW DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS (DPIS) DISPENSATIONS FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

There were none

F20/01/03

**IN CONSIDERATION OF THE PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960 (PUBLICITY WOULD BE PREJUDICIAL TO THE PUBLIC INTEREST BY REASON OF THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED): TO AGREE ANY ITEMS TO BE DEALT WITH AFTER THE PUBLIC AND PRESS HAVE BEEN EXCLUDED**

It was agreed that Item 7 to be dealt with in Confidential Session due to commercial sensitivity

F20/01/04

**UPDATE AND PROPOSALS RE THE ANNUAL GRANTS**

There was much discussion about each application and **RECOMMENDATIONS** were made in accordance with the Appendix attached. It was also **RECOMMENDED** that further meetings be arranged with representatives of Ottery in Bloom and the Twinning Association to discuss their applications. A number of applicants had also been advised by the Chairman that they would be better placed seeking S106 Funding which they were happy to progress. The Chairman declared an interest in the Food and Families Festival application (he was a member of the Business Forum) and Cllr Grainger declared an interest (his wife was involved with the Food Festival) and neither were involved in the recommendation reached, in respect of this application

F20/01/05

**TO CONSIDER AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING THE REVISED ACCOUNTANCY FEE FOR 2020/21**

The CEO had spoken to the local practitioner who had provided a revised quote (and which had previously been circulated to the Committee). It was subsequently **RECOMMENDED** that although her revised quote was slightly more expensive than the fees quoted by the Council's current accountant, that the local practitioner's quote be accepted in view of her excellent reputation

F20/01/06

**TO CONSIDER THE REVISED RESERVES POLICY**

It was **RECOMMENDED** that the revised Reserves Policy be accepted

F20/01/07

**TO RECEIVE COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS RELATING TO FINANCE**

The CEO enquired whether Committee members would be interested in using the Barclaycard webinar to be aware of internet scams etc and how to protect themselves from such

**Meeting Ended 11.35pm**

<b><i>SIGNATURE OF CHAIRMAN</i></b>	
<b><i>DATE OF SIGNATURE</i></b>	

**CONFIDENTIAL SESSION**

F20/01/08

**TO CONSIDER ENTERING INTO A FURTHER GROUNDS MAINTNENACE CONTRACT WITH DCC AND A SUB-CONTRACT WITH IDVERDE**

It was **RECOMMENDED** that the Council enter into a further contract for 2020 with Devon CC and for a further subcontract between the Council and Idverde.