



Ottery St Mary Town Council

Minutes of the **FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING** of **OTTERY ST MARY TOWN COUNCIL** held in the in the Meeting Room, 8 Broad Street, Ottery St Mary EX11 1BZ on **TUESDAY 30TH AUGUST 2022 at 3.30PM**

PRESENT: Councillor Stewart (**Chair**), Cllrs Grainger, Giles and Lucas and two members of the public.

F22/08/01

TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Green, Cllr Johns (Mayor) and Christine McIntyre CEO.

F22/08/02

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

Cllr Lucas and Cllr Stewart declared a pecuniary interest as the Additional Needs Sports Group intend to hire a room from the Ottery Community Volunteers, of which both are directors. It was noted that Ottery Community Volunteers is a not-for-profit organisation.

F22/08/03

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

There were none.

F22/08/04

TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING GRANT REQUESTS RECEIVED FROM OTTERY ST MARY FOOTBALL CLUB AND THE ADDITIONAL NEEDS SPORTS GROUP

A teams meeting was held with the Ottery St Mary Football Club to discuss their grant application. Due to internet issues the Additional Needs Sports Group were unable to attend and a meeting will be arranged at a later date. It was agreed that a decision regarding the grant application would be made after Item 5.

It was agreed to bring agenda item 7 forward.

F22/08/05

TO CONSIDER A REQUEST FROM THE STRATGATE ACTION GROUP FOR A DONATION TOWARD LEGAL FEES FOR THE STRAITGATE APPEAL

Two members of the public spoke about the work of the Straitgate Action Group. They have recently held a meeting with the Planning Inspectorate and the appeal will now last 8 days instead of 6 which will cost an additional. Funds have been raised from local residents, donations and a Just Giving page. The impact of the quarry is significant and it was reiterated by Cllr Giles that the Straitgate Action Group reflects the view of the Town Council. *The members of the public left the meeting.*

It was **RECOMMENDED** that a donation of £5,000 be made to the Straitgate Action Group.

Chair`s Initials.....

F22/08/06

TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING GRANT REQUESTS RECEIVED FROM OTTERY ST MARY FOOTBALL CLUB AND THE ADDITIONAL NEEDS SPORTS GROUP

The Committee would like to have a greater understanding of the project that has been proposed and to understand what other fundraising is being carried out. The Council would also like clarification on the length of the lease left at the Football Club. It was **RECOMMENDED** that a site visit is arranged to discuss the proposed plan in more details.

F22/08/07

TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING OF 21st APRIL 2022 (minute refs F22/04/01 - F22/04/07)

The Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting of 21st April 2022 were approved and signed as a true record of the meeting by the Chair

F22/08/08

TO REVIEW IN YEAR SPENDING AGAINST 2022/23 BUDGET AND START PERPARATIONS FOR 23/24 BUDGET

In year spending was reviewed and it was noted that there has been an expense of £4,457.56 + VAT for a new fire alarm system at the Museum that had not been budgeted for. It was **RECOMMENDED** that a business case is put together by interested Councillors to look at renewable energy across the Council property portfolio. This will be led by Cllr Lucas. It was **RECOMMENDED** that a working group be created to look at both short and longer term plans for the Skatepark. It was **RECOMMENDED** that the Property and Land Committee draw up a list of desirable improvements to the property portfolio and the timescales involved. These can then be included in the budget for 2023/24 and beyond. It was **RECOMMENDED** that all Council committees consider any plans or requirements for 2023/24 and that these are provided to the Finance Committee so that they can be included in the budget plan. It was noted that the HR Committee are already reviewing the current staffing structure.

F22/08/09

TO REVIEW FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

It was **RECOMMENDED** that the Financial Regulations are updated to include the Procurement Process for Large Projects.

F22/08/10

TO CONSIDER RECOMMENDATIONS FROM DCK ACCOUNTING SOLUTIONS

It was noted that a £8,315.35 reclaim of previously disallowed VAT has been made for the past three years. The two communications from DCK Accounting Solutions (VAT Return 30th June 2022 & other issues and Budget Setting for Financial Year 2023-24) were noted. It was not felt necessary to use the budget setting option at the current time. It was **RECOMMENDED** that the services of DCK Accounting Solutions are used as/when required. As a minimum they will be assisting with quarterly VAT returns.

F22/08/11

S106

It was **RECOMMENDED** that VAT be charged on rental of the MUGA to enable the Council to be able to claim back the VAT from the installation works.

F22/08/12

TO RECEIVE COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS RELATING TO FINANCE

There were none.

The Meeting Ended at 5.20pm

Chair`s Initials.....

<i>SIGNATURE OF CHAIR</i>	
<i>DATE OF SIGNATURE</i>	

Chair`s Initials.....