

**Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee**  
**held remotely on Monday 18 January 2021 at 6.30pm**

**Present:** Cllr Bowden, Cllr Corlett-Shaw, Cllr Irven, Cllr Murphy (Chair) Cllr Westcott and Cllr Whetlor

**In attendance:** Sarah Reed, Town Clerk, Simon Bale, 1<sup>st</sup> Watchet Sea Scout Group

**21/104C To receive Apologies for Absence (LGA 1972, section 85 (1):** Cllr Murphy proposed that *'the apologies given by Cllr Campbell are accepted'*. Seconded by Cllr Whetlor. Carried

**21/105C To receive Declarations of Interest:** None at this point

**21/106C Financial presentation for a Grant:**

- (i) 1<sup>st</sup> Watchet Sea Scout Group – *application circulated to members prior to the meeting together with audited accounts via Appendix 1* – Simon Bale was invited by the Chair to make his presentation. He began by giving some background as to why the application was being made. One of the Sea Scouts safety boats was damaged beyond economical repair when it had fishing wire caught around the propeller when operating in Watchet harbour. The fishing wire caused the gasket to tear and lose all the gearbox oil replacing it with salt water, which led to engine damage. The grant will assist towards the final costs required to replace the engine with a brand new one which will have a 5-year guarantee and will allow the safety boat to be put back on the water. The total cost of a new engine is £5,400 and the Sea Scout group has secured £4,250 from other donors and has a remainder of £ 1,150 of which they are requesting from Watchet Town Council. Simon Bale continued that 80% of the Sea Scout group live in Watchet and the remainder come from other local villages, these together with other groups such as the Brownies and Guide groups who they also take afloat will all benefit from the safety boat being back on the water. The safety boats on the water not only protect the Sea Scouts membership, but anyone who may get into trouble and the boat is nearby.

There then followed a question-and-answer session, with Simon Bale concluding his presentation with a financial request for a grant of £1,150 to replace the damaged engine on the safety boat.

The Chair thanked Simon Bale for his presentation and informed him that in line with Council's financial Policy for grants and donations, the Committee would make a decision at the February Committee meeting.

Simon Bale left the meeting at 6.45pm

**21/107C Application for a financial grant:**

- (i) Knights Templar School Community Action (KTSCA) – following a financial presentation at the January meeting, members considered the request- Cllr Murphy proposed that *'a grant of £2,800 is awarded to provide vital literacy materials to replenish and replace reading stock across the school. This includes providing contemporary books in each of the 7 classes at Knights Templar School, that are age appropriate and to cover more modern themes and diversity of subjects'*. Seconded by Cllr Corlett-Shaw. Carried

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**period 2021-22 are recommended to Full Council at the February meeting for consideration'. Seconded by Cllr Whetlor. Carried.**


**21/109C Cyber Insurance:**

- (i) To consider Cyber Insurance to meet the needs of the Parish/Town Councils – *paperwork was circulated to members prior to the meeting via Appendix 2 – after a brief discussion Cllr Irven proposed that 'the Committee consider Cyber cover, subject to the Clerk working with the Chair of Committee to assess the level of cover needed and the exact costs involved, to be reported back at a future meeting, with a view to approving the statement of fact'.* Seconded by Cllr Westcott. Carried.

**21/110C Matters for the next meeting:**

- (i) Liaise with the Clerk  
(ii) 1<sup>st</sup> Watchet Sea Scouts grant application

Meeting closed at 7.03pm

Signed: 

Dated: 