

**Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee
held remotely on Monday 15 February 2021 at 6.30pm**

Present: Cllr Corlett-Shaw, Cllr Irvén, Cllr Murphy (Chair) Cllr Westcott and Cllr Whetlor

In attendance: Sarah Reed, Town Clerk

21/111C 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

21/112C To receive Declarations of Interest: None at this point

21/113C Application for a financial grant:

- (i) 1st Watchet Sea Scouts – following a financial presentation at the January meeting, members considered the request- Cllr Whetlor proposed that *'a grant of £1,150 is awarded towards the replacement of the engine on the safety boat'*. Seconded by acclaim. The Committee asked that it is noted that they commend the work that the volunteers do to deliver the 1st Watchet Sea Scouts Group, and the benefit this group has to the children in and around Watchet. The Committee unanimously agreed that this was a very worthy cause to assist financially with. The grant will be allocated from the 2020-21 budget and can be awarded immediately.

21/114C Financial Matters:

- (i) **Once per quarter, the Chair of the Committee shall be appointed to verify bank reconciliations for all accounts produced by the RFO, the contents to be noted by this Committee, as per regulation 2.2 – Noted**
- (ii) **All payments above £500.00 and below £5000.00 are itemised and reported to this Committee, as per regulation 4.1 - Noted and signed off by the Chair of the Committee**
- (iii) **All payments issued for payment outside of Full Council Meetings, shall be reported to this Committee, as per regulation 6.6 – Nothing to report**
- (iv) **To consider the draft SLA with Citizens Advice – paperwork circulated to members prior to the meeting via *Appendix 1* – after a brief discussion, members identified that more time was needed to fully comment on the draft SLA. Cllr Whetlor proposed that *'this matter is deferred until the next meeting, whereby members can review the draft and make comment, with a view to having the SLA finalised and signed on the 1 April 2021'*. Seconded by Cllr Murphy.**

21/115C Exclusion of Press and Public

"That in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the public be temporarily excluded, and they are instructed to withdraw" (Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

Cllr Murphy proposed that *'in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted that Standing Order 1c is invoked and the public are instructed to withdraw from the meeting'*. Seconded by Cllr Westcott. Carried

See Excluded Notes 21/42EX

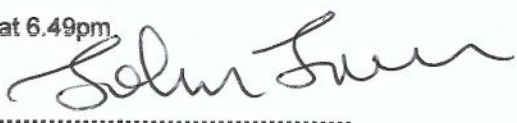
21/116C Staffing Issues:

- (i) To review staffing salary increases in accordance with the approved allocated budget for 2021-22 – *paperwork circulated prior to the meeting* – members agreed to award to all members of staff a 2% pay increase.

Cllr Murphy proposed the *'re-admittance of the public'*. Seconded by Cllr Whetlor. Carried.

21/117C Matters for the next meeting:
(i) Liaise with the Clerk

Meeting closed at 6.49pm

Signed: 

Dated:

9/3/21