

## FOLKESTONE TOWN COUNCIL

**MINUTES of the Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting held at Folkestone Town Council Offices, Town Hall, 1-2 Guildhall Street, Folkestone on Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022 at 7.00 p.m.**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Ray Field, Peter Gane, Mary Lawes, Connor McConville (Chair), Belinda Walker and Richard Wallace (attending as substitute for Dylan Jeffrey).

**ABSENT:** Councillors Abena Akuffo-Kelly and Dan Brook

**OFFICER PRESENT:** Phil Cross (Finance Officer)

### **1491. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillors Jonathan Graham, David Horton, Dylan Jeffrey and Tim Prater.

### **1492. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Mary Lawes declared an interest in item 10 (Southern Way Play Park) as a member for Harbour Ward.

### **1493. MINUTES**

The Committee received the Minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 16 June 2022.

**RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 16 June 2022 be received and signed as a correct record.**

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane

Seconded: Councillor Belinda Walker

Voting: F:5, Ag:0, Ab:1

### **1494. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS**

The Committee considered the schedule of payments made between 1 June 2022 and 31 July 2022.

**RESOLVED: That the Schedule of Payments for the period 1 June 2022 to 31 July 2022 be approved.**

Proposed: Councillor Connor McConville

Seconded: Councillor Mary Lawes

Voting: F:6, Ag:0, Ab:0

**1495. BUDGET MONITORING STATEMENT 2022/23**

The budget monitoring statement to the 31 July 2022 was received by the Committee.

**RESOLVED: That the Budget Monitoring Statement to 31 July 2022 be approved.**

Proposed: Councillor Connor McConville

Seconded: Councillor Peter Gane

Voting: F:6, Ag:0, Ab:0

**1496. BANK RECONCILIATION**

The bank reconciliation statement as at 31 July 2022 was noted by the Committee.

**1497. WARD GRANTS**

A list of ward grants approved by the Town Clerk between 1 June 2022 and 31 July 2022 was provided for the Committee's information and duly noted.

**1498. WARD GRANT BALANCES 2022/23**

A list of ward grant balances available to each Councillor as at 31 July 2022 was provided for the Committee's information and duly noted.

**1499. UNSPENT WARD GRANT BALANCES**

Councillors received and noted report F/22/317 on how unspent ward grants are dealt with at the end of each financial year.

**RESOLVED: That the matter should be considered at Full Council after the May 2023 elections, as any decision would not impact the current Council.**

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane

Seconded: Councillor Mary Lawes

Voting: F:5, Ag:0, Ab:1

**1500. SOUTHERN WAY PLAY PARK**

It had recently come to notice that Southern Way Play Park, which formed part of the agreement with Folkestone & Hythe District Council, was in fact the property of Southern Water and the District Council had no legal interest in this land. Southern Water had agreed, subject to internal approval, to draft a service agreement allowing the Town Council to manage the park. The Finance Officer updated the Committee on the latest developments and presented an initial draft agreement provided by Southern Water. The Committee was requested to give permission to proceed with a formal agreement which would then be presented to Full Council for consideration.

The Committee was particularly concerned that the draft only required the Grantor to give three months' notice of termination. Southern Water will be asked to reconsider this and give at least twelve months' notice. It was also suggested that Southern Water should be asked for a contribution towards the maintenance of the Park.

**RESOLVED: That a formal agreement be prepared and presented to Full Council for consideration.**

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane

Seconded: Councillor Connor McConville

Voting: F:6, Ag:0, Ab:0

**1501. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at 7.00pm**

The meeting concluded at 7.50pm

Chairman.....

Date.....