

WELLS CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE REMOTE MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY 11TH MARCH 2021 AT 7:00PM VIA ZOOM

PRESENT ON ZOOM: Cllrs: L Agabani (Vice-chair), S Briton, S Cursley (Chair), N Kennedy, J Osman, P Welch (Mayor)

IN ATTENDANCE ON ZOOM: Cllr J Browne
Town Clerk/RFO, S Luck
WCC Staff: A Westwood
SCC Cllr T Munt
No members of public

21/23F APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
Cllr O Hartley (Deputy Mayor),

21/24F DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
To receive Councillors' Declarations of Interests, made under the Council's Code of Conduct adopted 26th July 2012.
None declared.

21/25F MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 11TH MARCH 2021:
Minutes of the previous meeting were proposed, seconded, approved and will be signed in due course.

21/26F MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC
None present.

21/27F FINANCE REPORT
To receive the Finance Reports for February 2021
The bank statements were checked prior to the meeting by Cllr Kennedy.
The Town Clerk/RFO answered questions from members on the accounts.

21/28F ANNUAL GOVERNANCE REVIEWS
To finalise the review under Standing Order 5:
i. Standing Orders
ii. Financial Regulations
iii. Committees' terms of reference 'Scheme of Delegation'

Members agreed with the changes made and proposed, seconded and approved to recommend them for adoption at Full council.

21/29F ETHICAL PROCUREMENT POLICY (attached)
After discussion members approved changes and recommend the policy for adoption to Full council. The Town Clerk will circulate the revised policy to members.

21/30F PROFESSIONAL FEES
To approve:
I. After discussion members proposed, seconded and approved expenditure on a specialist charity solicitor to represent WCC for work on the Wells Recreation Ground Trust.
II. After discussion members proposed, seconded and approved expenditure on a building survey for Portway Annexe. It was agreed the Town Clerk would get additional quotes and members delegated the decision on accepting a quote to the Chairman and Town Clerk.

21/31F AWARDS PRESENTATION (attached)

1. Cllr J Browne presented a request for expenditure to cover refreshments and gifts at the presentation event. Members proposed, seconded and approved expenditure of £800.

21/32F PROPERTIES UPDATE

Taken in private session due to the commercial content.

21/33F ANY MATTERS OF URGENT REPORT

Cllr S Briton spoke about the Sew Buntiful project, as the City Council were one of the sponsors of the event she had asked the Town Clerk if we could provide one of the prizes of £25, members were happy to agree.

21/34F DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 7pm, Thursday 8th April 2021

21/35F EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Note- It is necessary for matters to be considered in confidence it was proposed by the Chairman that a resolution be passed under the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) act 1960 as amended, excluding the press and public, in order that confidential property items can be discussed. Approved.

The Town Clerk updated members,

- I. The new Post Office was progressing and hopefully due to open in Queen street in June.
- II. Negotiations have taken place regarding a new lease for the Priory road property,
Members accepted the recommendations from our property agent and it was proposed, seconded and approved to accept the terms negotiated.