

WELLS CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE & COUNCIL MATTERS COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2022 AT 7:00PM IN WELLS TOWN HALL

PRESENT: Cllrs: S Cursley (Mayor), G Folkard, T Pullin (Deputy Mayor & Chair), T Robbins, H Siggs, I Von Mensenkampff,

IN ATTENDANCE: Town Clerk/RFO, S Luck
Administration & Facilities Officer, K Westwood
Assistant Town Clerk, Claire Woodland
WCC Staff, S Glendinning
WCC Cllrs, L Agabani & D Orrett
SCC Cllr, T Munt

No attendance: None

22/77/FCM APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Cllrs: J Browne, P Welch

22/78/FCM DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive Councillors' Declarations of Interests, made under the Council's Code of Conduct adopted 12th May 2022.

None declared.

22/79/FCM MINUTES OF THE FINANCE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 13TH OCTOBER 2022:

The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.

The Town Clerk gave an update on 22/68/FCM. Cllr Siggs had asked for more transparency on the entries marked 'sales receipt'. For confidentiality reasons the names of some groups using the Town Hall and Portway Annexe should not be in the public domain. It was agreed for a sample to be provided for councillors each month.

22/80/FCM MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Nobody wished to speak.

22/81/FCM FINANCE

The Town Clerk presented the Finance Reports for October 2022 and answered questions.

The accounts and all expenses for October 2022 were approved by the committee.

22/82/FCM BUDGET 2023-24

The Town Clerk provided a detailed outline of the draft budget and answered questions from the committee.

Members requested utility and climate emergency budgets were increased.

It was agreed no contingency budget to be included for the Neighbourhood Plan, any additional cost would be found from reserves.

It was agreed the changes would be made and the draft budget returned for agreement at the next meeting on 8th December.

22/83/FCM ARCHIVES AND CIVIC ASSETS

Lead Councillor, Cllr Siggs advised there was nothing new to report.

22/84/FCM UNITARY AND ACQUISITIONS

- i. The Town Clerk advised there were still a lot of unknowns but any information received will be communicated to all councillors.

- ii. New Somerset Council – precept process
Correspondence was circulated to members prior to the meeting, outlining the process New Somerset Council were putting into place for Precept requirements.

22/85/FCM STAFFING

Lead Councillor, T Robbins advised the Wells City Council staff were still operating with staff shortages. Three job advertisements had been placed and the position of Ukraine Hub Manager at the Portway Annexe had been filled. The closing date for the position of Town Hall Caretaker and Portway Annexe Assistant is Friday 18th November.

22/86/FCM ANY MATTERS OF URGENT REPORT

The Town Clerk confirmed the second budget would be presented to this committee at the next meeting on 8th December and then to Full Council on 22nd December.

22/87/FCM DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 7pm Thursday 8th December 2022

EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Note: It is necessary for matters to be considered in confidence, it was proposed by the Chair that a resolution be passed under the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 as amended to allow a private staffing report.

Minutes signed by The Chair: **Date:**