

Please note these are notes of the meeting until approved by the council as a true record

Minutes of the Finance and Policy Meeting held on Thursday 10th February 2022 at 7pm in the Council Chamber, Franklin Hall, Halton Road, Spilsby

Present: Cllr T Taylor (Chairman)

Cllr M Gibson Cllr S Haddock Cllr D Mangion Cllr M Wragg

Also present: Mrs Y Smith (Town Clerk) (TC)

1. Chairman

It was agreed to wait until the Annual Meeting to elect a Chairman and that Cllr Taylor should chair the meeting.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Rose

3. Declarations of Interest under the Localism Act 2011

None

4. Review of Policies

- a. **Complaints Policy** – TC explained that Cllr Wright was redesigning the flow chart to take into account the amendment which has been accepted previously however he had been unable to reproduce this at present.

Cllr Gibson arrived at 7.10pm

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the Complaints Policy

- b. **Lone Worker Policy** – TC said that there had been no changes to legislation since the previous version was accepted.
It was **RESOLVED** to accept the Lone Worker Policy.

- c. **Communications Policy**
It was **RESOLVED** to accept the Communications Policy.

- d. **Health and Safety Policy**
It was **RESOLVED** to accept the Health and Safety Policy.

5. Budget Review

TC explained that there had been an overspend on the office equipment due to the purchase of a new stand-alone computer system for the CCTV.

There had been an underspend on the Newsletter as it had been decided to issue 3 times a year instead of 4.

Cllr Taylor said that, regarding the Play Area budget, equipment needed to be gradually replaced and a new perimeter fence be installed. He said he would like to see a 10ft high fence to give an element of security.

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TC said that the Deputy Clerk was already looking at funding for replacing the surface in the play area and had received several quotations already.

Cllr Mangion offered to speak to Martin Key at ELD and liaise with the Deputy Clerk regarding the play area refurbishment.

TC said that the committed expenditure for the remainder of the financial year was £7600 approximately however there were some tree work to be carried out which would cost around £1000 and the Scribe annual payment of £600. There will be another invoice from the contractors for the churchyard wall which would be approximately £13000 and there may be other expenses for the wall.

She continued that she had transferred £13,000 from the Reserves account to pay for the last contractor's invoice which only left £371.00 in the Reserve account.

There was £13,000 to claim for the VAT which should just about cover all expenditure to the end of the financial year along with the current account balance of £13,132.26.

Cllr Taylor brought up the subject of the state of the Public Conveniences. A lengthy discussion took place and it was agreed that they are an essential facility for the town. Cllr Mangion suggested obtaining quotations for refurbishment. It was generally felt that this was not helping tourism and is a facility which is used. Cllr Wragg said that more tourists in the town were needed.

6. Agenda Items for Next Meeting.

Play Area (quotations)

Toilets (quotations)

Precept for next financial year (2023/24)

Town Manager (costings for one)

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.15pm