

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on
Tuesday 16 March 2021 via Zoom**

PRESENT: Cllrs S Hellewell, L Newton, R Brook, N Denby, G Turner, M Blanshard, K Waites, P Flinders & W Simpson

IN ATTENDANCE: C Wadsworth, Clerk to the Council

19/074 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest

19/075 Open Session

There were no members of the public present

19/076 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Carr.

RESOLVED that the reasons for absence were accepted. Cllr Patterson & Baskeyfield were absent.

19/077 Admission of the Public

RESOLVED that there were no items requiring the exclusion of the press and public.

19/078 Budget Outturn 2020/2021

Budget Outturn – Cllr Brook referred to the budget outturn circulated, which gave a good indication of the level of expenditure at the end of the financial year, with the council being on target to reduce its level of reserves as per the Reserves Policy. Certain lines had had limited or no spend due to the pandemic, such as Citizens Advice, and there had been some areas of additional spend, for example donations to the Denby Dale Food Fund. Cllr Brook also noted that all schools in the area had taken up the schools grant this year, but due to the pandemic, small grants applications had been limited. Cllr Brook stated that looking towards next year's budget, the council would look closely at budget lines where there was continued underspend or no spend and suggested this be discussed at the June F&GP. **RESOLVED** that the outturn was noted by councillors.

HWP Accounts – Cllr Brook referred to the accounts circulated. He stated that this was concerned with the 5 local history books. produced by the late Leslie Robinson This year there had been no expenditure but there had been some income from sales.

19/079 review and adoption of policies

- Sickness Absence Policy to adopt
- Review GDPR policy and Data Review policy
- Health & Safety Policy
- Financial Regulations
- Scheme of Delegation (revised)
- Model Publication Scheme
- LGPS Discretions Statement
- Allotments Risk Assessment

It was recommended that the Sickness Absence Policy be taken to the Staffing Committee for further scrutiny.

RESOLVED that all other policies be approved, with the revision made to the Scheme of Delegation.

19/080 Approval of Payments over £500 to be published on website

RESOLVED to approve payments for website.

19/081 Review of Heads of Terms for sub-letting of the library room to Kirklees Council

RESOLVED to accept the heads of terms for Kirklees to continue with existing arrangements for a period of 5 years when they would again be reviewed.

19/082 Internal Audit

RESOLVED to re-confirm Torevell Dent as the Internal Auditor, however due to having to move the internal audit forward in time for the 4 May meeting for accounts approval and AGAR sign-off, the auditor may be either Kay Hemingway or Andrew Ogden.

This has been done in order to comply with existing legislation around 'remote meetings' being allowed only up until 7 May, to avoid the possibility of an inquorate face to face meeting in June.

(The current Covid regulations that allow local authorities to hold meetings remotely apply to local authority meetings that are required to be held, or held, before 7 May 2021. This means that, without any further action from the government, all local authorities including local councils must return to face-to-face meetings from 7 May. By holding Audit early, the AGAR and accounts can be approved at the 4 May meeting and thereby avoid having to convene a Full Council face-to-face in June if this is deemed necessary).

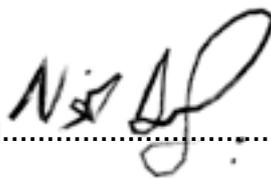
19/083 Grant Application for Bromley Park Residents Association: RESOLVED to award the grant of £700 towards a mower to the Bromley Park Residents Association using the General Power of Competence provided by the Localism Act 2011.

19/084 Orders for Payment

RESOLVED that orders for payment number 779 totalling £6738.96 be approved for payment

19/085 Date of next F&GP meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for 15 June 2021

Signed.....  CHAIR