



Minutes of the meeting of Handforth Town Council

Finance Committee held on Tuesday 18th July 2023 at 6:30pm Held at the Youth Centre, Old Road, Handforth.

Present: Cllr Peter Moore, Cllr Susan Moore, Cllr Cynthia Samson (Chair of the Finance Committee) & Cllr Kerry Sullivan

Mr Comiskey Dawson - Town Clerk.
Cllr Roger Small
Three members of the public.

The meeting commenced at 6:41pm

23/16/1 To receive apologies for absence.

None.

23/16/2 To note Declarations of interest and requests for dispensation to discuss or discuss and vote on a matter in which a member or co-opted Member has a Disclosable Pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest (DPI).

None.

23/16/3 Open Forum- Comment and questions concerning items on this agenda may be put to the Council by the public during this period. Matters which, in the Chairman's view require debate and/or a discussion will be referred to the next Committee/Council meeting, as appropriate. The Public Forum is restricted to 15 minutes unless the Chairman allows otherwise.

Cllr Small spoke in the public forum as he was a HTC grant representative, he noted that he had reviewed the grant application made by 1st Handforth Scouts and that they were a local charity and had requested funding for three crossbows. The crossbows had 8.1kg draw force and therefore, are subject to the Crossbow Act of

1987. Arrangements have been made to secure them in a locked steel cabinet with high security padlock. Noted that they had insurance cover and permits were in place from the district scouting association and two of the scout leaders had been fully trained and permitted to use and teach. Also noted was the fact that 1st Handforth Scouts were looking to apply for funding from other sources. A resident commented that he was concerned about then use of Crossbows and their security. He likened them to firearms and suggested that the scout group treat them as such, storing the crossbows in a locked steel cabinet and the bolts in a separate locked steel cabinet. He raised concerns about other scouts / members of the public's safety in the vicinity when the crossbows were being fired.

23/16/4 To elect a vice-chair to the Town Councils Finance Committee.

Cllr Sullivan proposed Cllr Susan Moore as vice-chair to the HTC finance committee, seconded by Cllr Samson.

Resolved: Unanimously.

23/16/5 Recommendations for expenditure:

a) To retrospectively approve the following items:

None.

b) To consider any other recommendations/requests:

None.

23/16/6 To receive a copy of the latest bank reconciliation month ends June 2023.

Cllr Sullivan proposed, seconded by Cllr Susan Moore to accept the latest bank reconciliation for month end June 2023.

Resolved: Unanimously.

23/16/7 To review the YTD budget summary for 23/24.

Cllr Peter Moore proposed, seconded by Cllr Sullivan to agree the YTD budget summary for 23/24.

Resolved: Unanimously.

23/16/8 To approve the Quarterly Income and Expenditure accounts for Q1 2023/24.

Cllr Susan Moore proposed, seconded by Cllr Sullivan to approve the Quarterly Income and Expenditure accounts for Q1 2023/24.

Resolved: Unanimously.

23/16/9 Report from relevant councillor regarding Internal Controls for Quarter 1 2023/24.

Cllr Susan Moore had conducted the Quarter 1 2023/24 internal control audit and reported that everything was in order, balanced and had been signed.

Cllr Sullivan proposed, seconded by Cllr Peter Moore to accept the report.

Resolved: Unanimously.

23/16/10 To review a grant application received from 1st Handforth Scouts and to make recommendation to the full council. Grant Applied for £1,000.00.

This item was brought forward by the Chair of the HTC finance committee and was debated / voted on following item 23/16/4.

All members of the finance committee noted their concerns regarding the purchase and use of crossbows and felt that ordinarily they would always support 1st Handforth Scouts in all their endeavours, however, they considered this activity to be too dangerous and that they felt that should the scouts wish to pursue this, then they should send interested members on appropriate day courses rather than attempting to pursue the activity in-house.

Cllr Susan Moore proposed, seconded by Cllr Peter Moore that the finance committee recommend refusal of the application to the full council.

Resolved: Unanimously.

The meeting closed at 7:10pm

Cllr Cynthia Samson
(Chair of the Finance Committee)
18th July 2023