

WYMONDHAM TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL
PURPOSES COMMITTEE held on Tuesday 15th August 2023
in the Council Offices commencing at 7.00 pm

Present:

Cllrs	Fulcher (Chair)
	James
	Frosdick
	Perry
	Rosen

Also Present 0 member of the public
Cllr. Nuri-Nixon, P Barrett & J Barrett

F25/23	<u>CHAIR</u> Upon the resolution of Cllr. James and seconded by Cllr. Frosdick it was unanimously resolved to appoint Cllr. Fulcher as Chair.
F26/23	<u>VICE CHAIR</u> Upon the resolution of Cllr. Fulcher and seconded by Cllr. James it was unanimously resolved to appoint Cllr. Frosdick as Vice-Chair.
F27/23	<u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u> – None.
F28/23	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS</u> – None.
F29/23	<u>MINUTES OF MEETING</u> On the proposition of Cllr. Frosdick and seconded by Cllr. Perry it was unanimously resolved to approve the minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held on 20 th June 2023 as a correct record.
F30/23	<u>PROGRESS UPDATES</u> - None
F31/23	<u>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr. J Barrett read out a statement objecting to the proposed Cemetery regulations amendments as he felt they were discriminatory and therefore unlawful and could be seen as a disability tax. • Cllr. Nuri-Nixon voiced concerns regarding the Cemetery proposals as the regulations were being amended following 1 complaint, no mention of the electoral role, the requirement for 10 years’ worth of documents (30 documents). They were bureaucratic unworkable and ill advised.
F32/23	<u>ROTHBURY ROAD PARK EARMARKED RESERVE</u> After discussions upon the proposition of Cllr. James and seconded by Cllr. Rosen it was unanimously resolved to ‘ <i>vire</i> ’ to the Rothbury Road Park Earmarked Reserve the following £10,000 from the New Projects Reserve, £4,000 from the Open Spaces Reserve and £6,000 from the Play site safety Reserve.
F33/23	<u>KETTS PARK</u> Upon the proposition of Cllr. James and seconded by Cllr. Rosen it was unanimously resolved to approve an application for 8 days work at £350 per day plus £250 to renew a felling licence for the Norwich Fringe Project to continue woodland management work at Ketts Park. Funding from the New Projects earmarked reserve.

F34/23	<p><u>CEMETERY REGULATIONS</u> Discussion took place on the proposal by Cllr. Baker and seconded by Cllr. Perry to amend Cemetery regulations to determine the qualification (s) for residential fees as follows:</p> <p>This Council resolves to amend its previous decision on fees and qualifying conditions for use of the Wymondham Cemetery as set out below.</p> <p><i>The residents' fee applies to those for whom there is evidence that:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>* They were residing in Wymondham at the time of their death</i> <i>* They were residing in Wymondham within the four years prior to their death</i> <i>* They were residing in Wymondham for a period of at least four years and can evidence that they have relocated due to independent living needs. This evidence is at the discretion of the Town Clerk.</i> <i>* They resided in Wymondham for a period of 10 years or more (in one or separate periods combined) at any point in their life</i> <p><i>The Council will accept the following as evidence: property deeds, rental agreements, utility or council tax bills at a ratio of 3 for each year evidence is required for. Further evidence is at the discretion of the Town Clerk.</i></p> <p>We propose that this amendment is applicable from 1st April 2023 and is backdated to any fees since then.</p> <p>Several concerns were expressed to allow further work to be undertaken on the wording Cllr. Perry withdrew the proposal.</p>
F35/23	<p><u>FINANCIAL REGULATIONS</u> Cllr. Rosen introduced his motion to amend financial regulations, as attached to these minutes.</p> <p>A recorded vote was requested.</p> <p>Upon the proposition of Cllr. Rosen and seconded by Cllr. Perry the amendments contained within the paper were proposed.</p> <p>For: Cllrs. Rosen and Perry Against: Cllrs. James, Frosdick & Fulcher</p> <p>The motion was lost.</p>
F36/23	<p><u>GENERAL</u> Cllr. Rosen introduced his motion in respect of work to be carried out by the Committee.</p> <p>It was agreed that the 4 points be taken and voted on individually.</p> <p>Cllr. Frosdick ask for his comments to be noted.</p> <p>The FGP committee will develop a four-year financial review based on the strategic intent of the Town council across this period. The review will include spend timings, financial risks and recommendations to mitigate risks and take advantage of opportunities. This will be reviewed on a quarterly basis with a report sent to the full council for discussion and agreement at town council meetings.</p>

<p>After discussion upon the proposition of Cllr. Rosen and seconded by Cllr. Perry it was unanimously resolved that.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A four-year development plan with detailed spending proposals be developed by Finance & General Purposes Committee in time for consideration at November Full Council taking account of views contributed by the other committees and working groups of the Council. <p>After discussion and upon the proposition of Cllr. Rosen and seconded by Cllr. Perry it was unanimously resolved.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. To recommend to Council that in order to enable this work, and improve the strategic management of finances, that Finance & General Purposes Committee meet monthly until the 4-year plan is completed and then review meeting dates. <p>After discussion during which the Clerk offered to produce budget comparison and details of quarterly draft accounts for discussion upon the proposition of Cllr. Rosen and seconded by Cllr. Perry it was unanimously resolved that.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. The RFO shall provide at the next monthly meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee a statement of receipts and payments to date (under each head of the budgets, comparing actual income and expenditure to the end of the previous calendar month against the profile agreed in the approved budget. Explanations and proposals for remedial action will be provided for any significant variances) together with draft ½ yearly internal Accounts for discussion. 4. To recommend that Council on 5th September amend Council Standing Order 17c be to be consistent with the amendment made to Financial Regulation 4.6. After discussion Cllr. Rosen agreed to withdraw this item pending further discussions under amendment point 3 above.

(The meeting closed at 20.38 pm)

DATED this day of2023

SIGNED (Chairman)