

Minutes of a meeting of the Finance and Governance Committee held on 11th November 2024 in the Council Chamber, The Old Courthouse, Jaycroft Road, Burnham-on-Sea at 7 pm

Present: Councillors P. Clayton, M. Facey, R. Keen, A. Matthews, M. Murphy, C. Searing, B. Vickers

In attendance: K. Noble (Town Clerk), N. Brookes (Responsible Finance Officer) and two members of the public.

Councillor Matthews chaired the meeting.

Public Participation:

There were no representations made.

255.0.F24 To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Gudka and Pearce.

256.0.F24 To receive any declarations of interest on items included on this agenda

There were no declarations of interests.

257.0.F24 To receive and approve the minutes of the Finance and Governance Committee meeting held on 30th September 2024

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Finance and Governance Committee, held on 30th September 2024, were presented by the Chairman.

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 30th September 2024 were approved as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

258.0.F24 Matters arising from previous minutes

A thank you letter had been received from the Citizens Advice Bureau for their grant monies.

259.0.F24 To receive for information minutes of sub-committees

A meeting of the Human Resources Sub-Committee took place today.

260.0.F24 Chairman's report

There was no report available.

261.0.F24 To receive the list of payments up to 3rd November 2024

The list of payments attached to these minutes were noted and no queries were raised.

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262.0.F24 To note the income and expenditure and earmarked reserves reports up to end of October 2024

There were no queries raised and the reports were noted.

263.0.F24 To approve the bank reconciliation for October 2024

Resolved the bank reconciliation was approved and signed by the Chairman.

264.0.F24 To draft committee budget for 2025/26

The draft budget was reviewed. It was noted that with additional services being taken on from Somerset Council, there will be an increase in the Precept, so budgets need to be carefully considered.

Further information is awaited in relation to the devolution of services e.g. insurance costs etc.

Several Councillors spoke in favour of the fireworks event which attracted many visitors to the town and gives a boost to the economy. It is also safer for people to attend organised events.

The provision of Christmas lights is in contract for another year.

Resolved that the following updates were agreed;

The events budget should remain at £10,000.

The grants budget should be reduced to £30,000. The Committee should consider lowering the maximum grant amount available per application.

The budget for the CAB grant should remain at £2,700.

265.0.F24 To review progress of the contracts list

Work to the contracts list is still ongoing and recommendations from the Internal Auditor are being implemented.

The report was noted.

266.0.F24 To receive an update on aged debtors

The update was received and debtors are being followed up.

267.0.F24 To note Interim External Audit report

The report was noted and recommendations will be implemented.

268.0.F24 To review the Financial Risk Management Policy

Resolved the updated Financial Risk Management Policy is approved.

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269.0.F24 To receive Responsible Finance Officers verbal update

The grant monitoring forms for 2023/24 have been received and the process has now been completed.

BARB returned £200 from unspent grant monies.

The majority of the payments of grants from the last round will have been paid by the end of this week.

The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) annual report for 2023/24 has been accepted by Somerset Council. The CIL payment to St Johns Church is being challenged.

Further CIL payments of £3,890.36 for Burnham and £243.16 for Highbridge have been received. A Further payment for Highbridge of £103,228.88 is due shortly.

In light of the transfer of services, an extension to the deadline for the CIL monies due to be spent in October/November has been made.

The government procurement cards have now been received and accessed.

The RFO explained how the autumn budget will affect the Council's payroll and that confirmation had been received that Town Councils would not receive compensation for the additional costs.

270.0.F24 To receive feedback from the internal check (Q2) undertaken by Councillors Facey and Vickers

Councillor Vickers gave an overview of the areas reviewed and thanked the RFO for her time and patience.

271.0.F24 To receive verbal update regarding Health and Safety

The majority of recommendations have now been completed. A couple of policies are outstanding, but these need to be implemented Council wide.

The Deputy Clerk and Operations Officer were thanked for their work.

272.0.F24 Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Finance and Governance Committee will be held on 16th December 2024 at 7 pm.

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DATE OF						
INVOICE SUPPLIER	INVOICE NUMBER		DESCRIPTION	NET	VAT	GROSS
08/10/2024 Stephanie Anne Hamer	PT01		Seated exercise September x 3 - PT			£180.00 pd 30/10/24
16/10/2024 Lowes Pottery Painting	16.10.24		30 x pottery items			£360.00 pd 30/10/24
19/10/2024 Electro SW Ltd		558620	socket & bit set	£94.50	£18.90	£113.40 pd 30/10/24
21/10/2024 Screwfix		1551335875	cable ties x 2	£30.82	£6.16	£36.98 pd 30/10/24
22/10/2024 AIM Ltd		4954	Desperados show settlement			£2,355.08 pd 30/10/24
22/10/2024 AIM Ltd		4953	Women in Rock show settlement			£2,760.87 pd 30/10/24
23/10/2024 DP Sweets & Confectionery Ltd	0090221		sweets - PT	£163.88	£32.78	£196.66 pd 30/10/24
01/10/2024 Business Waste	P1496985		Waste collection - Cemeteries	£35.00	£7.00	£42.00
08/10/2024 Panter-Way Event Productions	INV-000104		No Deal Deal show settlement			£200.00
09/10/2024 Craig Morris		91024	Psychic Medium show settlement			£1,115.44
14/10/2024 V Jones		6488	water heater - Brent Rd Cem			£307.99
14/10/2024 ITEC		1037684	photocopier services	£102.92	£20.58	£123.50
17/10/2024 Proper Job	Z0009T02-561548		batteries	£6.25	£1.25	£7.50
22/10/2024 Proper Job	Z0009T03-1541492		light bulb	£2.49	£0.50	£2.99
22/10/2024 Toolstation	XWW804340591		sledgehammer	£15.82	£3.17	£18.99
24/10/2024 EvacChair	INV171641		Evac Chair maintenance contract	£101.00	£20.20	£121.20
25/10/2024 Proper Job	Z0009T02-562459		toilet duck	£5.00	£1.00	£6.00
25/10/2024 Screwfix		1553283201	fire door retainer guard	£90.83	£18.16	£108.99
25/10/2024 Screwfix		1553283228	fire document holder x 3	£19.98	£3.99	£23.97
27/10/2024 Amazon	GB41H9GTABEY		key box & plant labels	£30.85	£6.17	£37.02
28/10/2024 Toolstation	XIJ810051525		credit note-sledgehammer exchange	-£3.16	-£0.64	-£3.80
29/10/2024 BKSafetywear	BK122317		PPE - 3 x jackets, 3 x trousers	£217.48	£43.50	£260.98
29/10/2024 Spot on Supplies		31667692	cleaning products	£175.68	£35.14	£210.82
29/10/2024 Screwfix		1554371406	wellies x 3, cable cover x 2	£99.38	£6.08	£105.46
29/10/2024 Toolstation	X01811327645		PPE - work trousers	£13.44	£2.69	£16.13
29/10/2024 Toolstation	X02811327645		PPE - work trousers	£13.44	£2.69	£16.13
30/10/2024 Amazon	GB41HYC0ABEY		ethernet port	£87.48	£17.50	£104.98
30/10/2024 iHasco	SIN2109132		training licence	£200.00	£40.00	£240.00
31/10/2024 Biffa	308C90174		waste collection - PT	£181.19	£36.24	£217.43
31/10/2024 Lyreco		6723944516	stamps & stationery	£153.25	£12.75	£166.00
31/10/2024 Cabaret Café	020607		buffet - senior event			£360.00
31/10/2024 Iris	INV-ISL-0666233		payroll services	£112.61	£22.52	£135.13
01/11/2024 Sansum	INV-12450		cleaning - TC	£289.94	£57.99	£347.93

01/11/2024 Amazon	GB46P04VABEI	vintage letterbox wall mounted	£43.51	£8.70	£52.21
01/11/2024 Business Waste	P1522489	waste collection - cemeteries	£111.26	£22.26	£133.52
03/11/2024 Amazon	INV-GB-1791664705-2024-19606	modem cable	£8.73	£1.75	£10.48
03/11/2024 Wessex Ambulance Service	03.11.24	ambulance cover-Fireworks			£400.00
04/11/2024 Business Waste	P1531056	waste collection - cemeteries	£35.00	£7.00	£42.00
Highbridge Community Hall	CIL	CIL payment authorised @ TC 28/10/24			£1,000.00
Burnham BMX Club	CIL	CIL payment authorised @ TC 28/10/24			£1,500.00
Ms Davis	refund Princess membership				£30.00
				_	£13,463.98