

STURMINSTER NEWTON TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the FINANCE & POLICY COMMITTEE

held on Wednesday 29th January 2025 at 7.15pm in The Council Chamber

Present:

Cllr N Dobson (Chair)
Cllr A Donaldson
Cllr M Jones

Cllr H Lacey
Cllr D Mantock
Cllr J Rose (Vice Chair)

In Attendance:

K Squire (Clerk)

Members of the Public: 0

MINUTE NO COMMENTS

- 24/25/248 To receive comments and questions from members of the public**
No Members of the Public were present.
- 24/25/249 Apologies for Absence**
Apologies were received from Cllr Batstone. These were accepted by the members present.
- 24/25/250 To receive declarations of interest and approve any written applications for dispensation.**
Relating to agenda item 24/25/257 Cllrs Donaldson, Mantock and Rose declared being members of the Heritage Trust. Cllr Dobson declared being a member of the Community Benefit Society who had awarded grants to the Amateur Dramatics Society and Literary Festival. These were all non-pecuniary interests.
- 24/25/251 To approve the minutes of the previous Finance & Personnel Committee meeting on the 14th November 2024**
The minutes of the previous Finance & Personnel Committee meeting held on the 14th November 2024, having been circulated and published prior to the meeting, were taken as read and approved for signature by the Committee Chair as a true and correct record.
- 24/25/252 Financial Matters**
- i. To approve any payments for invoices over £2000.**
The Committee resolved to approve the following payments:
- | | | |
|-------------------|----------|------------------------|
| 1. Dorset Council | £3821.03 | Elections May 24 Costs |
| 2. Prodigy IT | £2115.60 | 2 x Laptop Upgrades |
- ii. To approve Income & Expenditure at 31st December 2024**
The Committee resolved to approve the Income & Expenditure as at 31st December 2024.
- iii. To approve the Balance Sheet at 31st December 2024**
The Committee resolved to approve the Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2024.
- 24/25/253 Report on payments made under delegation between 1st October – 31st December 2024 and confirm a sample of payments made between these dates had been checked by Cllrs Dobson and Rose**
Cllrs Dobson and Rose confirmed they had checked a sample of payments. The Committee resolved to approve payments made under delegation between 1st October and 31st December 2024.

- 24/25/254 To consider recommendations from Internal Audit Report**
 This agenda item was referred to committee from the 8th January 2025 Town Council meeting.
 The Committee discussed the recommendations of the report at length.
 The Committee resolved to approve all the recommendations from the Internal Audit report.
- 24/25/255 To consider purchase of an additional speed indicator device.**
 The Planning & Environment Committee had approved the purchase of an additional speed indicator device subject to the funding approval of the Finance & Policy Committee.
 The Committee resolved to purchase the additional speed indicator device from the assets and infrastructure ear marked reserve.
 The Committee wished to minute that while they thanked the Newton Residents Association for their kind offer of a £500 donation towards the purchase, the cost could be financed from earmarked reserves rather than significantly depleting the associations funds.
- 24/25/256 To consider purchase of additional CCTV equipment.**
 The Committee resolved to approve the purchase of additional CCTV equipment at Church Street car park following incidents of criminal damage. The cost being funded from the assets and infrastructure earmarked reserve.
- 24/25/257 To consider grant applications:**
 The Committee considered grant applications received.
 The Committee resolved to approve grant payment as detailed below:
- | | | |
|-----------------------------|------|---------------------|
| Citizens Advice Bureau | £240 | Withdrawn |
| Read Easy | £250 | Approved |
| Tots 'n' Toast | £250 | Approved |
| SN Amateur Dramatic Society | £500 | More details needed |
| SN Football Club Youth | £750 | More details needed |
| SN Heritage Trust | £500 | More details needed |
| SN Literary Festival | £500 | Approved |
| U3A SN Croquet Club | £700 | Refused |
- Where more details were needed, the Committee requested that information was provided to Town Council on the 5th February for a decision as they would not meet again until the end of the financial year.
- 24/25/258 To receive information from members and discuss proposals for future business.**
 There was no information or proposals from members present.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.40pm

Approved onChairs Signature