

STURMINSTER NEWTON TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the FINANCE & POLICY COMMITTEE

held on Wednesday 23rd April 2025 at 7.15pm in The Council Chamber

Present:

Cllr P Batstone
Cllr N Dobson (Chair)
Cllr A Donaldson

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

In Attendance:

K Squire (Clerk)

Members of the Public: 1

MINUTE NO COMMENTS

- 24/25/335 To receive comments and questions from members of the public.**
The Chairman of the Sturminster Newton Allotment Association spoke in support of the proposed lease to be considered in agenda item 24/25/342 and assured co-operation with the Town Council in this project.
- 24/25/336 Apologies for Absence.**
All members present.
- 24/25/337 To receive declarations of interest and approve any written applications for dispensation.**
No applications for dispensation were received or interests declared.
- 24/25/338 To approve the minutes of the previous Finance & Policy Committee meeting held on 29th January 25.**
The minutes of the previous Finance & Personnel Committee meeting held on the 29th January 2025, 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.
- 24/25/339 To approve any payments for invoices over £2000.**
No payments to approve.
- 24/25/340 Report on payments made under delegation between 1st January – 31st March 2025 and confirm a sample of payments made between these dates had been checked by Cllrs Batstone and Donaldson.**
Cllrs Batstone and Donaldson confirmed they had checked a sample of payments. The Committee resolved to approve payments made under delegation between 1st January and 31st March 25.
- 24/25/341 To consider earmarked and general reserves as at 1st April 25.**
Item deferred to the next Committee meeting.
- 24/25/342 To consider referral from Town Council regarding funding the setup of a lease agreement with Sturminster Newton Allotments Association.**
The Committee considered a request from Full Council (agenda item 24/25/329) to consider funding of legal costs to set up lease agreements with the Sturminster Newton Allotments Association to manage the Filbridge Rise and Chinnocks allotments site.
The Committee resolved to approve spending of up to £6000 from the Ear Marked Reserve for Commuted Sums providing confirmation from the Internal Auditor that this is appropriate. If legal costs rise above the agreed limit, this must be reconsidered by the Committee before proceeding.

- 24/25/343 To receive information from members and discuss proposals for future business.**
 No information was received from members.
 The Clerk shared with members that the planning application for the new Youth Club at Butts Pond had been approved.
- 24/25/344 To consider an update from the Staffing Committee. Confidential Item.**
 The staffing committee confirmed the appointment of a Finance and Admin Officer under delegated powers.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.39pm

Approved onChairs Signature