



MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE OF KETTERING TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE TOLLER CHURCH ROOMS, KETTERING AT 7PM ON 25th JANUARY 2023

Councillors Present: Cllr Mark Rowley (Chair)
Cllrs Lloyd Bunday, Robin Carter, Maggie Don, Emily Fedorowycz and Scott Edwards

Also present Cllr James Towns

Officers present:- Martin Hammond, Town Clerk

No members of the public/press attended.

Item Number	Description
FC22/061	Apologies for absence An apology for absence was received from Cllr Skinner
FC22/062	Declarations of interest Cllr Don declared a non pecuniary interest as a trustee of KCU, in relation to item FC22/068.
FC22/063	Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on 23 rd November 2023 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the chair
FC22/064	Ward Initiative Fund A report was submitted which updated members on the pattern of spending under the ward initiative fund and which reviewed the policies which underpinned the fund's operation. A total of £7881 had been spent, leaving £2119 for re-utilisation within the grants fund. RESOLVED to a) note the use of the fund in 2022, b) recommend to Council that the rules be amended to remove the provision preventing members

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	<p>supplementing a project already funded by the Town Council.</p> <p>c) agree to invite applications to use the remaining funds of £2119, together with the uncommitted amount of the community resilience fund.</p>
FC22/065	<p>Grants Policy for 2023-4</p> <p>A report was submitted, reviewing the grants policies for the coming financial year and seeking views about proposed changes to the policies and practice.</p> <p>RESOLVED that</p> <p>a) no further changes be made to the criteria for the small grants fund or the community resilience fund</p> <p>b) the small grants fund be rebranded as support for the voluntary and community sector</p> <p>c) that applications to access both the voluntary and community sector grants fund and the community resilience fund be advertised simultaneously and applications allocated between the two, as deemed appropriate, before being submitted to members for consideration</p> <p>d) That no change be made to the maximum amount of any award but that the option be retained to offer organisations less than applied for if committee chose.</p>
FC22/066	<p>Fencing, Windmill Ave Allotments</p> <p>Following a meeting with the allotment societies in late 2022, a priority investment list for allotments had been agreed by this committee, and one of the items was the replacement of fencing at Windmill Avenue allotments.</p> <p>Cllr Towns had prepared a specification for a 6 foot high wire mesh fence along the whole frontage of the site, and adjoining the two adjacent domestic properties at either side of the allotments.</p> <p>The Allotment Society was happy with this proposal. It was possible that the works would exceed the available budget in 2023/4 of £5000, so it may be necessary to revisit the specification once quotes had been received.</p>

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	<p>RESOLVED that the specification attached to the report be the basis for engagement with the neighbouring properties, the submission of a planning application and securing quotes for the work.</p>
FC22/067	<p>Monitoring of the Corporate Action Plan</p> <p>The committee received a report on progress against the action plan within the 22/23 corporate plan. Updates on most items were made verbally. Cllr Bunday undertook to raise with NNC officers some of the items where progress had stalled.</p>
FC22/068	<p>Budget Monitoring and Invoices</p> <p>The financial position as at 16th January 2023 was submitted and noted. Expected budget variances were highlighted and also noted.</p> <p>RESOLVED that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) The report be notedb) The following payments be approved<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Clerk expenses stamps £ 7.60- Attendance at SLCC conference £120.00c) The payment of £380.80 outstanding VAT to NCALC, as detailed in para 3.5 of the report be approved, on the basis that it is fully recoverable from HMRCd) The fridge referred to in para 3.6 of the report be disposed off to KCU and treated as a donation, to be paid for by the community resilience fund.e) A further payment be made into the reserve account in the sum of £50,000
FC22/069	<p>Climate Change Responsibilities</p> <p>A report was submitted which advised the committee of the decision by Council to include within its remit the work of climate change mitigation. The report summarised what needed to be done to implement this decision.</p> <p>The report also heard verbally from the clerk and Cllr Fedorowycz about the project work underway at present.</p> <p>As part of the discussions about how future items should be brought to committee, it was acknowledged that it was for any</p>

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	<p>member or committee to submit ideas and proposals, and this committee's role was to ensure the financing and management of a project. The use of time limited working groups was envisaged for some projects. All ideas should be routed through the clerk in the first instance.</p> <p>RESOLVED that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) an item entitled climate change actions and policies be placed on every F&G Ctte agenda.b) Cllr Fedorowycz continues in her role as climate change champion whilst she remains a member of this committee and that she and the clerk agree what material should be placed in front of the committee each meetingc) All Council and committee reports will carry a section heading entitled "climate change mitigation"d) The clerk is authorised to update the committee's terms of reference and publish them
	Meeting closed at 8.07pm

Signed.....

Date.....