



MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE OF KETTERING TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE TOLLER CHURCH ROOMS, KETTERING AT 7PM ON 20th SEPTEMBER 2023

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

Officers present:- Martin Hammond, Town Clerk

No members of the public/press attended.

Item Number	Description
FC23/027	Apologies for absence Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Perrett
FC22/028	Declarations of interest Cllr Edwards declared an interest in item FC22/035 (payment of invoices) and took no part in the discussion on that item.
FC22/029	Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on 23 rd July 2023 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the chair
FC22/030	Public Session None
FC22/031	Budget for 2024/35 year A report was submitted which sought the committee's views on the Councils' overall budget for the next financial year. The report set out the likely out-turn for this financial year and the main pressures on the budget for the following year. Known or anticipated new pressures were listed and estimated, and it was reported that the inclusion of them all would imply a precept of approximately £500,000 (compared to a precept of £400,000 in 23/24).

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	<p>Members considered the issues within the report and sought clarification on some of the items, including the delivery timescales for the toilets project and for a town centre neighbourhood plan. Several aspects of the budget would be dependent on the views of the Marketing and Events Committee on 4th October.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the budget as set out in the report be endorsed and submitted to Council subject to the views of the Markets and Events Committee on relevant aspects.</p>
FC22/032	<p>Climate Change Priorities</p> <p>A report was submitted which listed potential areas for expenditure or promotional work in this financial year which addressed climate change mitigation. Members debated the competing merits, affordability and achievability of various items and it was</p> <p>RESOLVED that</p> <p>a) The Love Wildlife biodiversity grants programme be re-run in 2023-4</p> <p>b) The Allotment Societies and Groundwork Trust be invited to the next meeting to discuss how the Council might help promote and support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Seed exchanges- Fruit and veg exchanges- Community composting
FC22/033	<p>Mayoral activity</p> <p>A report was submitted and noted, which detailed the Mayor's activity in the last two months and which set out what was planned for the remainder of her term.</p>
FC22/034	<p>Monitoring of the Corporate Plan</p> <p>Members noted the update on the corporate plan monitoring report and debated several items, notably the role and function of Town Meetings. The clerk also outlined issues with Christmas lights installations raised by NNC as highways authority and would report more fully to Markets and Events Committee.</p>

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	RESOLVED that a report on options for how Town Meetings are managed and conducted be brought to a future meeting
FC22/035	Budget Monitoring and Invoices The current financial position was submitted and noted. Members asked for more certainty on the likely costs of the 2025 elections and the clerk undertook to try and establish what they might be. The external audit had been concluded satisfactorily. RESOLVED that the following payments be approved PFK Littlejohn – external audit fee £840 plus VAT 3 Lions Security – Christmas giving tree £504.15 plus VAT
	Meeting closed at 8.05 pm

Signed.....

Date.....