

WINSLOW TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES of the MEETING of the FINANCE & RESOURCES COMMITTEE
Tuesday 13th June 2023, at 7.00pm, in the Council Chamber, 28 High Street, Winslow

Present: Cllrs. Bishopp (Chair), Keys, Slevin, and van de Poll.

Absent: Cllr. Wiseman. Apology accepted.

Clerk: C Loch:

In attendance. Cllr S Cawdell. No members of the public were present.

23/11 Election of Chair

Nominations having been received, members voted unanimously and RESOLVED that Cllr. Colin Bishopp be elected as Chair.

23/12 Declarations of Interest in matters to be discussed:

Cllr. Bishopp noted that he was a member of the Bowls Club.

23/13 Minutes of Meetings held 7th. March 2023:

RESOLVED that the minutes be signed as a true record.

Matters Arising:

None.

23/14 Items deferred from previous meetings: not elsewhere on the agenda.

None

23/15 Items delegated by Council - not dealt with elsewhere on the agenda

None.

23/16 Winslow Centre and Sports Hub Development:

There was no further information to report.

23/17 Property and Assets

Provision of EV charging. Several options were being investigated and Buckinghamshire Council were currently going through the procurement process. Once more information was available from Buckinghamshire Council the next steps would be agreed.

Scout Hut Wall. Discussion with a former resident of the area appeared to substantiate the opinion that the wall was not part of the Scout Hut property and at this stage no further action would be taken although the safety of the wall would be monitored.

23/18 Council Offices

The Clerk reported that there was a need to clear waste items from the compound and expenditure up to £850 was approved.

23/19 Administration and Finance:

Grants:

Members considered an application from the Bowls Club for a contribution towards a ramp and other equipment to make the green accessible and to assist less able players. Cllr. Bishopp having abstained from the vote, it was RESOLVED that a grant of £500 be approved but should funding from all sources be inadequate then the committee would consider a further grant.

The Clerk reported that work on three trees in the Closed Burial Ground which had been approved previously was now being progressed.

Emergency Plan:

The Clerk reported on an update to the Emergency Plan and it was RESOLVED that Cllr. Richard Hamley be appointed as Emergency Officer.

Salary Review:

*Members considered the matter of the salary review of the nature of the considerations RESOLVED that under the Public Bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded due to the sensitivity of the business to be discussed).
The Clerk left the meeting.*

Members discussed the full and final offer which had been made by the Government for the 2023-24 NJC award. Although it had not been agreed by the NJC, members considered that a review should no longer be delayed, and it was RESOLVED that the offer of £1,925 on Scale Points (prorated as necessary) be implemented immediately and to review the matter again if there was a material difference when an award was agreed by the NJC.

The meeting was again open to the public.

Members also discussed a recommendation from the Amenities committee to recruit an Estates Assistant to enable some work to be brought in house as well assisting with general duties and providing back up for part time staff. It was RESOLVED that the recruitment be progressed at a scale point to be finalised. It would be for 12 hours per week with some flexibility to cope with seasonal work and reasonable extra hours if required.

23/20 Outside Bodies

Public Hall Trust:

As Trustees had expressed a desire to update the trust deed and the general approach to management of the hall following the extension and refurbishment members agreed that the considerable investment of taxpayer's money required the most effective and efficient management structure possible. It was therefore RESOLVED to approve engaging a solicitor specialising in charitable trusts to advise on the trust structure and an updated trust deed which would meet all current requirements.

The trust had also had to incur expenditure during the refurbishment without any significant income, in particular electricity which had been much higher than normal during the building period. The relevant electricity usage had been calculated as accurately as possible in the circumstances and it was RESOLVED to reimburse the Public Hall Trustees the amount of £5,725.90 on receipt on an invoice.

23/21 Correspondence – None not included elsewhere on the agenda.

Items to Report: for information only.

Next meeting Wednesday September 13th. 2023

Meeting Closed 20.43 pm.

Signed: (Chair) at Meeting (date)