



COITY HIGHER COMMUNITY COUNCIL
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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE & RESOURCES COMMITTEE HELD AT COITY
HIGHER COMMUNITY CENTRE 7.00 PM ON 8TH NOVEMBER 2022 AT 7.00 PM**

Present: Councillor M Williams

Councillors: L Jeffreys
A Wathan (Chair of Council ex officio member)
D Wingar

Apologies: L Richards

Also Present: Mrs A C Harris, Clerk & RFO
Mr P Ley, Asst Clerk & FO

FR13/22: As above

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

FR14/22 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL OR PREJUDICIAL INTEREST

Councillors A Wathan and M Williams declared an interest in all BCBC matters.

FR15/22 TO RECORD THE ACCURACY OF THE MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 1ST AUGUST 2022

The Minutes of the meeting held on 1st August 2022 were accepted as a true and accurate record and the Chair signed the Minutes.

FR16/22 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE AUGUST 2022 MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

Resolved: This was noted.

FR17/22 TO REVIEW THE BUDGET FOR 2022/2023

The current budget monitoring document was discussed. No matters of concern were raised. Forecasted budget lines were discussed

Resolved: The information was noted. It was agreed to recommend to full council the following changes to the budget:

- Increase the salary budget line by £500 to cover the recent NALC salary increase for 2022/23 which is backdated to April 2022.
- To increase the Coity Castle play area fence budget line from £3,000 to £10,000. The original budget being one for repair but the fence is beyond repair and needs replacing. Quotes for the fencing had been received and the committee recommendation is that the cheapest quote of £10,823.51 is accepted and that the Clerk purchases the materials direct.

FR18/22 BREAKDOWN OF DOG WASTE BAGS AND GENERAL MAINTENANCE EXPENDITURE

The Finance Officer had circulated a breakdown of the expenditure and it was noted that a sizeable sum will be refunded from Persimmon for litter bin emptying and this was discussed.

Resolved: It was agreed to recommend to full council that the dog waste dispensers are only filled once a fortnight going forward and for councillors to inform the public through their social media pages why this is being done and to remind them that these bags are for emergencies only not as a general provision.

FR19/22 PRECEPT 2023/24

A quote had been received for one of the ideas put forward for next year's precept, which is to lay all weather ground cover at Coity Castle play area and to replace the gate that leads onto Heol Spencer.

The quote is for £31,585.

The Clerk would check whether this may be eligible for T&CC grant match funding as it is an asset transfer but not from BCBC and this would be discussed further at the next Finance Committee meeting for possible inclusion in the draft precept budget.

It was also suggested that the black path project be included in the precept budget.

Resolved: It was agreed to recommend to full council that the Black Path project is included as a precept project and to investigate the likelihood of match funding for the play area ground cover.

FR20/22 FINANCE & GOVERNANCE TOOLKIT

The toolkit is designed to support all councils to meet their statutory responsibilities, have strong financial management and governance to deliver the best outcomes for their communities. There are two parts to it the Health Check and the Self-Assessment. There are however statutory obligations in it, and they are highlighted in blue in the document. Use of the toolkit is not compulsory and it was discussed.

Resolved: It was agreed to recommend that the Chair and Clerk work through the recommendations to ensure the Council is compliant with all items highlighted in blue.

FR21/22 IRPW REPORT

This is a draft which has been sent out to all councillors to respond to. However the Clerk highlighted the proposals which will affect T&CCs if agreed and will have an effect on the precept budget:

- Councillor Allowance to increase from £150 to £156 a year
- Councils must either pay their members £52 a year for the cost of office consumables or alternatively enable them to claim full reimbursement for the cost of their consumables.

Resolved: The information was noted for consideration when setting the precept budget for 2023/24.

FR22/22 CILCA FEEDBACK

The Clerk gave feedback on discussions held with other Clerks in the borough who had enrolled on the training and gave her view on the training.

Resolved: The information was noted.

FR23/22 CLERK'S REPORT

There was nothing to report.

Resolved: This was noted.

FR24/22 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT FINANCE & RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING

- Precept 2023/24

To keep the agenda open for items on the agenda.

FR25/22 TO AGREE THE DATE AND LOCATION FOR THE NEXT FINANCE & RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING

Resolved: Provisionally 1st December 2022 at 7.00 pm

With there being no further matters to discuss the Chair thanked Members for their attendance and closed the meeting at 8.01 pm