



MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE OF KETTERING TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE TOLLER CHURCH ROOMS, KETTERING AT 7PM ON 19TH JUNE 2024

Councillors Present: Cllrs Lloyd Bunday, Carolyn Carter, Robin Carter, Maggie Don, Scott Edwards, Mark Rowley and James Towns

Officers present:- Martin Hammond, Town Clerk

No members of the public/press attended.

Item Number	Description
FC24/01	Election of Chair It was moved by Cllr R Carter and seconded by Cllr C Carter that Cllr Bunday be elected chair. It was further moved by Cllr S Edwards and seconded by Cllr Towns that Cllr Mark Rowley be elected chair. For Cllr Bunday 5 For Cllr Rowley 2 RESOLVED that Cllr Bunday be elected chair of the committee for the municipal year.
FC24/02	Appointment of Deputy Chair It was moved by Cllr Bunday and seconded by C Carter and duly RESOLVED that Cllr Rowley be appointed as deputy chair of the committee for the municipal year.
FC24/03	Apologies for absence Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Fedorowycz, for whom Cllr Towns was acting as substitute.
FC24/04	Declarations of interest None declared

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FC24/05	Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on 1 st May 2024 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the chair, subject to a typing error being corrected on page three,
FC24/06	Public session None
FC24/07	Internal Audit Report for 2023-4 year A report was submitted incorporating the year end internal audit report for 2023/4. The internal auditor had made two recommendations - about debt write offs and the style of the asset register. In response to these recommendation, and to take advantage of the issue of new model standing orders by the National Association, it was proposed that a new draft set of financial regulations be submitted to Council. RESOLVED that a) The internal audit report be noted and b) that Council be asked to agree new financial regulations which incorporate a. the bad debts policy set out below b. a more detailed policy on asset management
FC24/08	Business Crime Partnership A report was submitted which sought the committee's views on the proposal, first aired at Council in April, that the Council should fund an anti-social behaviour reporting system for town centre businesses, managed by the Northamptonshire Crime Partnership. Similar schemes had been established in Northampton and Wellingborough. The reported detailed how the scheme would work, how it would be available for all town centre businesses to use and how it could also be extended to include the Grange shops. The annual cost of the scheme was £1500, which could be met from the community resilience budget. RESOLVED that a) the Council commit to a one year arrangement to test out the efficacy of the ASB reporting tool, at a cost of £1500, to be funded from the community resilience budget, to cover the town centre and the Grange Shops

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	<p>and</p> <p>b) a review be conducted after twelve months to establish, inter alia, whether there had been any dislocation of anti social behaviour to other more local shopping areas</p>
FC24/09	<p>New speed device</p> <p>A report was submitted seeking views on the need for and potential location of, a fourth speed warning device, to supplement those that the Council had already erected. A number of candidate locations had been gathered during the last budget consultation exercises and from other request made by members and others. Kier had produced speed and non speed related collision statistics for the roads mentioned which was reported verbally.</p> <p>After discussion, it was</p> <p>RESOLVED that the preferred street for a fourth speed device was St Mary's Rd and the clerk should explore with the highway authority the best location for a device.</p>
FC24/10	<p>Grants Programme for 2024-5</p> <p>A report was submitted which proposed the criteria and timetable for the two grants strands previously endorsed by members. Views were sought on:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The proposed timelines- The amalgamation of Love Wildlife and the environmental funds into one process- The right limit for grant applications, given the size of the available funding pots.- The draft policies on grants for 2024 <p>RESOLVED that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) The timescales set out in the report for both programmes be approvedb) The ceiling on grant applications be set at £3000c) The Love Wildlife and the new environmental allocation be combined, with proposals invited which are:-<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Very local £250-£1000- Town wide £1000-£3000d) The draft policies for both sets of grants as attached to the report, be approved for 2024

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FC24/11	Mayoral Activity A report detailing Mayoral activity to date was submitted. The report also detailed the outcome of the recent valuation of the mace and mayoral chains. In discussion, noting the values attached to the Mace and chains, it was agreed that, in the event of a calamitous loss of any one item, the Council would be asked to consider how and what replacement would be appropriate before seeking an insurance claim.
FC24/12	Climate Change Information regarding the Local Nature Recovery Strategy, which is being developed by North Northamptonshire Council was provided, including information about imminent workshops from the River Nene Trust and how to get involved. No response had been received from Eskdall medical centre, on blister pack recycling and it was agreed to try the chemist in Windmill Avenue instead.
FC24/13	Monitoring of the Corporate Plan A report summarising progress against the Council's corporate priorities was circulated and commented upon. Issues with power and water supply to the fountains in the market place and the fountain and other facilities in the art gallery gardens were flagged up.
FC24/14	Budget Monitoring and Invoices The committee received a report on spending in the first two months of the financial year and on current financial and asset management issues which needed resolving. RESOLVED that a) the financial position as at the 1 st June 2024 be noted b) the following payments be approved:- <ul style="list-style-type: none">• SLCC Enterprises Seminar -neighbourhood plans and planning reform £65 + VAT• NNC - planning fee – Northfield Avenue Fencing – £359

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NNC – planning fee – Town Centre noticeboard £359• Gildings – valuation of Mayoral chains and mace £310.80 plus VAT <p>c) That the payment limit on the Lloyds multipay card be increased to £400.</p> <p>d) That Council be asked to appoint a new member to carry out monthly bank reconciliation with the clerk.</p> <p>e) That the surplus double sized market stalls and surplus market stall tables be disposed of, starting with the local community and voluntary sector. .</p>
	Meeting closed at 7.50pm

Signed.....

Date.....