

Minutes of the **remote Governance, Staffing and Finance Committee, joined by Assets, Resources and Projects Committee**, held via Zoom video-conferencing **31 January 2022** at 6.30pm.

PRESENT: - Councillors: George Turner (Chair), Their Worship the Mayor, Owen Hurcum, Councillors Les Day, Medwyn Hughes, Derek Hainge, Elin Walker Jones, Huw Wyn Jones, John Wynn Jones, Kieran Jones, John Martin, Enid Parry, Nigel Pickavance, Gwynant Roberts, Mair Rowlands, Luke Tugwell, John Wyn Williams.

Officers:- Martin Hanks (Acting Town Clerk), Delyth Davies (Translator), Sioned Jones (Minutes).

226/22 APOLOGIES

No apologies had been received.

227/22 DECLARATION OF FINANCIAL INTEREST OR PERSONAL CONNECTION

Cllrs John Wynn Jones and Les Day declared an interest in item 232/22 Financial Donations.

228/22 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

229/22 WELCOME

The Chair explained that this was a combined meeting of the Governance, Staffing and Finance Committee, and the Assets, Resources and Projects Committee. The reason for this was that financial decisions needed to be made in order to be able to set the precept in time.

230/22 TO ACCEPT THE 9-MONTHS BUDGET VERSUS ACTUAL REPORT

The Acting Town Clerk presented the figures. He explained that there would be a considerable underspend by the end of this financial year, and that most of this figure would be carried forward. The Council would be going into the next year in a strong financial position.

IT WAS REOLVED to accept the report.

231/22 TO ACCEPT THE TOWN CLERK'S FINANCIAL REPORT

The Town Clerk explained the position for carrying money forward. It is a legal requirement to have a certain percentage of reserves. The remaining reserves could then be allocated.

He proposed that the main items of expenditure for the coming year would be:

Structural upkeep of Pier

Underpinning work on Pier Master's house

Insurance premium for Pier

Repairing roof of Penrhyn Hall

May elections (this could be significantly reduced if there are seats being contested for Gwynedd Council at the same time).

In addition to these, he proposed the following:

More events and promotions (if pandemic situation keeps improving)

More training for Councillors, new and existing. This would eventually become essential with new legislation stating that Councils could apply for a “Certificate of Competency” thus giving them more powers.

Substantial annual investment in open spaces – more grass cutting, flowers, etc. Christmas trees and lights, public footpaths, maintenance of play equipment.

Members expressed their thanks to the Acting Town Clerk for his hard work on the budget, which they believed to be an excellent and positive one. The Project Manager was also thanked for working alongside the Town Clerk.

IT WAS RESOLVED to accept the Town Clerk’s Financial Report.

232/22 TO AGREE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ESTIMATES FOR 2022 – 2023

IT WAS RESOLVED to approve the estimates.

233/22 TO APPROVE THE 2022 – 2023 PRECEPT

Following the discussions above, the precept was approved.

233/22 TO RECEIVE APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL DONATIONS

Cllr John Wynn Jones expressed an interest in this item (Papur Goriad), also Cllr Les Day (Bangor Civic Society).

Applications had been received from the following:

Maes Tryfan Community Group
Bangor Civic Society
Papur Goriad
Eisteddfod yr Urdd

IT WAS RESOLVED

- i) to ask the Town Clerk to draw up guidelines for the awarding of donations
- ii) until then, to give £250 each to the 3 local charities (Maes Tryfan, Bangor Civic Society and Papur Goriad) and £75 to the Urdd Eisteddfod.

234/22 TO DISCUSS FUTURE OF PLAY AREA

The new restaurant by the Pier will be opening at the end of March so a decision was required about the play area outside it. The equipment has fallen into disrepair, however, the general feeling was that members would be sorry to see a play area disappearing from the site. It was felt that the whole site needs careful consideration. Following a discussion, it was suggested that the Council employs a landscape architect to draw up plans for the area.

It was felt that as this was a delicate matter with many elements to it, it would be more appropriate for it to be discussed in the Assets Committee.

IT WAS RESOLVED

- i) to discuss this issue further in the Assets Committee.
- ii) to ask the Town Clerk to look into hiring a specialist to draw up ideas.

235/22 TO APPROVE INVOICES FOR PAYMENT

The list of payments had been distributed. With one query, Town Clerk to check the 2 separate payments to British Gas.

IT WAS RESOLVED to approve the payment list.

The meeting came to an end at 8.00pm

ACTING TOWN CLERK – Martin Hanks – CLERC Y DREF DROS DRO