

Minutes of the **RESOURCES COMMITTEE** held on **WEDNESDAY 11th OCTOBER 2023** at **6.00pm** at **Ferryhill Town Hall**.

PRESENT: Councillor: Councillors C Atkinson (Vice Chair)
P Atkinson, C Bihari, K Conroy, J Donald, J Makepeace

Officials: L Owens, Town Clerk
D.Shingleton, Accountant
S. Hewitson, Committees & Civic Administrator

R.20.23-24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors L Fellows and S Jones.
Councillor D Farry was not present but no apologies were received.

R.21.23-24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations.

R.22.23-24 MEMBERS DISPENSATION

There were no members dispensations in relation to any item of business on the agenda.

R.23.23-24 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was one member of the public present but no public participation.

R.24.23-24 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS AND INCOME

Consideration was given to the Statement of Accounts & Income which had previously been circulated.

Councillor J Makepeace queried the following items:

- Payment for defib machine at Mainsforth, Councillor P Atkinson confirmed he provided funding for this.
- Kiosk Rent Arrears - the Clerk advised that this issue was ongoing and she was awaiting a date for court, Mr Shingleton pointed out there may become a point where the costs incurred to recover the outstanding monies becomes more than what is owed, Members agreed it might worth looking into whether Council will be reimbursed for costs if win case. Councillor Bihari pointed out that Members had previously discussed this and agreed to pursue retrieving the outstanding monies.

Moved by Councillor P Atkinson, **Seconded by** Councillor K Conroy to accept the Statements of Accounts and Income.

RESOLVED

That the Statement of Accounts and Income be received.

R.25.23-24 BUDGETARY CONTROL TO 31 AUGUST 2023 AND BUDGET UPDATE

Members considered a report from the Accountant which had previously been circulated.

Councillor J Makepeace queried the following points of the budget:

- Allotments – have the cleared plots at Storehouse now been allocated, the Clerk agreed to find out and provide an update.
- Swann House – are there any plans for this property, the Clerk said this is something that needs looking at in near future.
- DCC Street Lights – Have we received an update, the Clerk advised that Durham County Council have been in touch and will be speaking with the legal team to find out if the Council can get out of the agreement, she would report back.
- Station Toilets – was there a reason for high energy bill, the Clerk confirmed that this had been looked into, a heater had been left on, this issue has now been resolved.
- Asked members to note the difference in rents between Dean Bank and Mainsforth

Councillor K Conroy commented on the 30 Market Street budget, for the loss of rent has affected this budget, the repairs needed would have cost a lot more. Mr Shingleton reminded Members they also have the proceeds from sale of the property to spend.

Councillor C Bihari questioned if there were any timescales regarding the LCTRS grant, Mr Shingleton confirmed the best way forward is to process the budget on what we know with a contingency in the background.

Moved by Councillor K Conroy to accept the recommendations of the report and Mr Shingleton was thanked for his report.

RESOLVED

The financial position of the Council at 31 August 2023, the financial projection for the year and the situation at 31 March 2024 be noted.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 6.20pm.

CERTIFIED AS A TRUE RECORD

CHAIR.....

DATE.....