

FINANCE, RESOURCES & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER ON MONDAY 28TH OCTOBER 2019 AT 7.10PM

Present:

Cllr A Allen
Cllr R Bradshaw
Cllr S Brooke
Cllr D K Elphick
Cllr D Fletcher
Cllr G J Gribble**/*

In attendance:

Cllr A J Kerswell*
Mr M Wells – Town Clerk
Mrs L Warren – Assistant to the Town Clerk
Two members of the public
One member of the press
**County Cllr
*District Cllr

The meeting was chaired by Cllr Fletcher

Interests Declared: None

FR&GP.19/63 Apologies for absence:

Cllr O Mills - Unwell

****Public Participation:** None

FR&GP.19/64 Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting of 2nd September 2019 (**copy previously circulated*) were confirmed as a correct record and were approved.

FR&GP.19/65 Standing Item – Climate Emergency:

Members noted the Council Declaration to embed the climate emergency declaration across all Council services, activities, plans and other relevant work, considering the impact (emissions and biodiversity etc) of decisions, ensuring a fully integrated and systematic approach to the Council's own response to this challenge.

FR&GP.19/66 Accounts & Financial Statement:

Members received and approved:

i) payment and receipt transactions between 24th August 2019 and 18th October 2019 (**copy previously circulated*).

ii) bank reconciliation between 24th August 2019 and 18th October 2019 (**copy previously circulated*).

iii) and noted the bank balances as below:

General Account:	£ 18,654.27	(as at 18.10.19)
Business Bank Instant A/C:	£186,182.88	(as at 18.10.19)
Business Bank Instant A/C:	£ 390,580.38	(as at 18.10.19)
Business Bank Instant A/C:	£ 22,542.43	(as at 18.10.19)

The Town Clerk responded to enquiries raised by Councillors. It was noted that Cllrs Brooke and Bradshaw would like further detailed understanding regarding the Council's budget.

FR&GP.19/67 Budget Monitoring – Position Statement:

Members noted the Town Council's half yearly budget monitoring statement as at 18th October 2019 (**copy previously circulated*). Councillors requested a quarterly budget monitoring statement in the future.

FR&GP.19/68 Budget Planning 2020/21 – Preliminary Discussion:

Members considered any additional areas of expenditure for consideration as part of the budget preparation process for 2020/21. A discussion took place regarding various items of expenditure and funding sources. It was agreed that for the time being the setting of the budget will continue under the current process, summarised as follows:

Oct 19 - Finance Committee preliminary discussion

Nov 19 – Community newsletter seeking input to budget

Dec 19 – Draft option(s) prepared by Town Clerk, Chair & Vice-Chair of Finance

Jan 20 – Finance Committee to consider budget/precept setting

Jan/Feb 20 – Full Council to consider budget/precept setting

Feb 20 – Precept request issued to Teignbridge District Council

FR&GP.19/69 Council Assets – Utility Providers:

Item brought forward by Cllr Mills to consider information relating to Green Energy providers (**copy previously circulated*). The Town Clerk provided an update and noted that the current contracts are due for renewal in November 2019 and March 2020. A discussion took place.

Resolved:

To transfer to a two year contract with Ecotricity when the current contracts expire, saving approx. 5% whilst achieving a Renewable Energy Guarantee of Origin certificate

FR&GP.19/70 Financial Regulations:

Members considered the adoption of new National Association of Local Council's (NALC) financial regulations (**copy previously circulated*). The Town Clerk explained the amendments.

Resolved:

To recommend to Full Council approval of the document.

FR&GP.19/71 Banking/Bank Mandate:

Members considered the Town Clerk's report (**copy previously circulated*). The Town Clerk clarified the current banking arrangements and noted the delay in setting up online payment control.

Resolved:

To approve the continuation of the current banking signatories until online payment control is complete and payments are made electronically.

FR&GP.19/72 Matters brought forward by Councillors: (*for information only*).

Cllr Bradshaw, on behalf of Bovey Paradiso, requested a letter of support from the Town Council to support applications for grants. The Town Clerk confirmed the Town Council had previously resolved the issue of a letter. The Town Clerk agreed to re-send the letter.

The meeting closed at 7.50pm.

DRAFT