

WELLS CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE REMOTE MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY 11TH FEBRUARY 2021 AT 7:00PM VIA ZOOM

PRESENT ON ZOOM: Cllrs: L Agabani, S Briton, P Crummay, S Cursley (Chair), O Hartley (Deputy Mayor), N Kennedy, J Osman, P Welch (Mayor)

IN ATTENDANCE ON ZOOM: Town Clerk/RFO, S Luck
WCC Staff: A Westwood
SCC Cllr T Munt
No members of public

21/12F APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
None received.

21/13F DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
To receive Councillors' Declarations of Interests, made under the Council's Code of Conduct adopted 26th July 2012.
None Declared

21/14F MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 14TH JANUARY 2021:
Minutes of the previous meeting were proposed, seconded, approved and will be signed in due course.

21/15F MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC
None present.

21/16F ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN
Cllr L Agabani was proposed, seconded and elected.

21/17F FINANCE REPORT
To receive the Finance Reports for January 2021
The bank statements were checked prior to the meeting by Cllr Kennedy.
The Town Clerk/RFO answered questions from members on the accounts.
The accounts for January were proposed, seconded and approved.
The Chairman suggested when lockdown was over the Internal Auditor be invited to a meeting to explain the role of an Auditor to members and answer questions.

21/18F ANNUAL GOVERNANCE REVIEWS
To finalise the review under Standing Order 5:
i. Standing Orders
ii. Financial Regulations
iii. Committees' terms of reference 'Scheme of Delegation'
Members submitted the following,
Cllr Rust suggested the election of Chair for committees needed to read the same in Standing Orders and the Scheme of delegation. Members agreed the wording needed changing and also it was agreed Chair of committee would stay in place until the formation of a new committee and election of chair was complete each year.
The Mayor Cllr Welch suggested the heading of the Town Clerks management committee needed changing and this was also agreed by members.
It was suggested by Cllr Agabani that the next years review of these documents could be looked at over a longer period by a small group of Councillors and their findings reported to a future meeting of the Finance committee, this was agreed.

21/19F ASSET REGISTER 2021

The updated register was received and the Town Clerk answered questions.

21/20F PROPERTIES UPDATE

The Town Clerk updated members on two property matters.

1. The signing of the lease for the old Post Office building now legal matters had been agreed.
2. The Priory road buildings lease is ending this year and the Town Clerk asked for members approval to instruct our property agent to start negotiations with the tenant for a new lease. This was agreed and members will be updated on progress.

21/21F ANY MATTERS OF URGENT REPORT

Cllr Agabani enquired about our Precept request and the budget set for elections in view of the cost of another by-election. While the Precept and budget is now set for next year members agreed this would need to be considered in the next budget and future provision provided.

21/22F DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 7pm, Thursday 11th March 2021