

WELLS CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE & COUNCIL MATTERS COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY 12TH OCTOBER 2023 AT 7:00PM IN WELLS TOWN HALL

PRESENT: Cllrs: L Agabani, S Cursley (Chair), T Robbins, H Siggs, T Pullin (Mayor), P Welch

IN ATTENDANCE: Town Clerk: S Luck
WCC Cllrs: D Denis, S Powell
WCC Staff: C Hobbs
Somerset Cllr T Munt
Somerset Cllr E Hobbs

23/91/FCM APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS
Cllr G Folkard

23/92/FCM DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
To receive Councillors' Declarations of Interests, made under the Council's Code of Conduct adopted 12th May 2022.
None received

23/93/FCM MINUTES OF THE FINANCE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER 2023:
The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.

23/94/FCM MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
Cllr D Denis requested that two members from the Finance committee join two two members from Outside spaces committee to form a working party to assist with a review of the Wells in Bloom sponsorship scheme.
Cllr D Denis encouraged all Councillors to attend a meeting on the 7th November with the Church commissioners.

23/95/FCM FINANCE
i. To receive the Finance Reports for September 2023
The Town Clerk presented the September monthly reports and clarified details when asked to do so by members of the committee. The accounts and expenses for September 2023 were approved by the committee

23/96/FCM EXTERNAL AUDIT REPORT
i. To receive the external audit report .
The Town Clerk reported the external audit had been completed, the audit raised no issues and would be presented to the Full Council meeting.

23/97/FCM DRAFT BUDGET 2024-2025
To receive the first draft budget
The Town Clerk presented the first draft budget which has to be completed and presented to the Full Council meeting in December.
Discussions took place throughout the presentation regarding proposed changes, these would be included in Draft 2 ready for the November Finance meeting for further consideration.

23/98/FCM ARCHIVES AND CIVIC ASSETS
Civic Review update
Cllr H Siggs reported that work is continuing on the Civic review.

23/99/FCM UNITARY AND ACQUISITIONS
The Town Clerk reported that he would be attending a meeting on the 13th October 2023 with other Town Clerks and Officers of Somerset Council. A letter had been

sent to Cllr M Berry from Somerset Council in order to try and gain delegated responsibility to enable Wells City Council to take on minor repairs to pavements.

To receive an LCN update.

Cllr E Hobbs reported that there is an LCN pre meeting next week and there are plans to include other community organisations such as Spark and Mendip Connections at the meetings in the future.

23/100/FCM ANY MATTERS OF URGENT REPORT

None received

23/101/FCM DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 7pm, Thursday 9th November 2023

EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Note: It is necessary for matters to be considered in confidence, it was proposed by the Chair that a resolution be passed under the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 as amended to allow a private report.

Minutes signed by The Chair: **Date:**