

## WELLS CITY COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE & COUNCIL MATTERS COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2024 AT 7:00PM IN WELLS TOWN HALL

**PRESENT:** Cllrs: L Agabani, G Folkard, T Pullin (Mayor), T Robbins, H Siggs, I Von Mensenkampff, P Welch

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Town Clerk: S Luck  
WCC Cllrs: D Orrett, S Powell  
WCC Staff: S Glendinning  
0 members of the Public

**24/01/FCM APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS**  
Cllr: S Cursley (Chair)

**24/02/FCM DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**  
To receive Councillors' Declarations of Interests, made under the Council's Code of Conduct adopted 12<sup>th</sup> May 2022.  
None received

**24/03/FCM MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & COUNCIL MATTERS MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2023:**  
The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.

**24/04/FCM MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**  
None present.

**24/05/FCM FINANCE**  
i. To receive the Finance Reports for December 2023  
The Town Clerk presented the December monthly reports and clarified details when asked to do so by members. The accounts and expenses for December 2023 were approved by the committee.

**24/06/FCM ANNUAL GOVERNANCE REVIEW**  
i. Standing Orders  
ii. Financial Regulations  
iii. Scheme of Delegation

The committee were requested to review and advise of any changes to these three documents by email to the Town Clerk, before the next meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> February. The documents would then be presented to Full Council for approval.

**24/07/FCM OUTSTANDING INVOICES**  
The Town Clerk sought advice from the committee on introducing a specific policy for non-payment of invoices. After discussion it was agreed for the Town Clerk to continue chasing outstanding debts with a view to obtaining full recovery.

**24/08/FCM ARCHIVES AND CIVIC ASSETS**  
The annual WCC grant has been paid to the Museum.

The Civic Review will be completed and presented to the committee in February for approval.

**24/09/FCM UNITARY AND ACQUISITIONS**  
The Town Clerk provided an update.  
The next LCN meeting is scheduled for beginning of February.  
As Somerset Council has secured a further contract with IDVerde up until

June 2025, little change will happen in the next financial year. They have, however, advised they will be closing the toilet block in Union Street. WCC will need to consider the implications of taking over the running of this public service. Further meetings are planned with local clerks and Somerset officers to discuss markets and the timescale of any future devolution of services. The Town Clerk will report back to members on any outcomes from these meetings.

**24/10/FCM ANY MATTERS OF URGENT REPORT**

The Post Office scandal was raised and its relevance to Wells. It was agreed this was not a WCC matter and not for discussion at this meeting.

**24/11/FCM DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 7pm, Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

**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:** .....