

## **BUDLEIGH SALTERTON TOWN COUNCIL**

**MINUTES** of the Meeting of the Finance Committee held in the Council Offices, Station Road, Budleigh Salterton on Monday 9 September 2024 on the rising of the Planning Committee.

Meeting commenced at 7.16pm.

### **PRESENT**

Cllr Ms G Woodcraft (Chairman)  
Cllr M C Hilliar (Deputy Town Mayor)  
Cllr R J Doorbar  
Cllr Mrs M P Lewis

**In Attendance:** Mrs J E Vanstone (Town Clerk), Cllr C M Cunningham, Cllr S J Horn and Cllr D Walsh

### **24.179 Public Speaking Time**

No Members of the public were present.

### **24.180 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Mrs C A Sismore-Hunt (Town Mayor).

### **24.181 Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance Committee held on 27 November 2023 had been circulated prior to the Meeting. It was unanimously agreed they be signed as a true record.

### **24.182 Chairman's Report**

Cllr G Woodcraft started saying that she was very new to the post and therefore did not have a lot to report!

- She had spent the last few months looking at the income and expenditure vouchers and now had a better understanding of the Council's finances.
- She had also looked at the CCLA Property Fund and Public Sector Deposit Fund; she felt these Funds were a stable way of getting interest to the Council; she was comfortable with both funds.
- She had had a long meeting with the Clerk where they had discussed each line of the budget and the history behind the expenditure.
- She felt the finances were in a strong position and in a good state to hand over to the new Clerk.

### **24.183 Income & Expenditure 2024/25**

- (i) Details of the Income and Expenditure for the period 1 April 2023 to 31 August 2024 were received and approved.

The Clerk explained some of the larger variances. Hall lettings were doing quite well but down on previous years; she thought it prudent to under-estimate income from this source in 2025/26. The Chairman added that the Hall would be closed for two weeks when the acoustic work was carried out.

Cllr R J Doorbar asked if it was possible for the Clerk to make some time to go through some of the budget headings with Councillors. The Clerk suggested that when the new Clerk had been in post for a few weeks, a meeting be organised which all councillors could attend and she would then go through each budget heading.

Cllr M C Hilliar asked about the Statutory Sick Pay. The Clerk explained that it was at that level in case the Clerk was ever on long term sick leave and a locum was required.

- (ii) The suggested increases to the various Budget Headings as listed on Appendix A had been circulated prior to the Meeting. The Chairman advised that the majority of the increases were to accommodate the addition of a new Clerk.

**Resolved:** The increases, as listed, were agreed.

**24.184 Any Other Business at the Chairman's Discretion**

No other business was raised.

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 7.38pm.

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Chairman

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Date

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