

Minutes of the Finance and Policy Committee Meeting

Held on Tuesday, 15th October 2024 at 7pm, in the Council Chamber, Springfield Parish Centre, St Augustine's Way, Springfield, Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 6GX.

Present: Councillors S. Bryne-Lagrué, D. Lumley, E. Nnadi, Y. Spence and S. Sullivan (Chair).

In attendance: J Watson (Locum Clerk) and N Nandi (Deputy Clerk).

023/24. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and agreed from Cllrs S King and R Stringer.

024/24. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations.

025/24. Minutes

The minutes of the Finance and Policy Committee meeting held on 30th July 2024 were agreed and signed. Proposed by Cllr Y Spence seconded by Cllr S Bryne-Lagrué and agreed unanimously.

026/24. Public Question Time

There was no public in attendance.

027/24. Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported ongoing issues with the Christmas fair. A meeting of the Events Committee is scheduled for next Tuesday to finalise plans.

028/24. Financial Transactions

The income and expenditure for September 2024 were received and agreed. Income was £109,679.35 and expenditure was £2,798.03. Proposed by Cllr S. Sullivan seconded by Cllr S Bryne-Lagrué and agreed unanimously.

029/24. Financial Review

The Clerk had circulated the budget summary up to 30th Sep 2024. A discussion was had, and the summary was agreed.

The cashflow report was not available.

Discussion on splitting funds into a savings account to generate income was held. It was agreed to explore options with Unity Bank and other institutions.

030/24. Council Split Working Group

An update was received from the working group. Discussions on the next actions were held, with locum clerk providing legal quotes for consideration.

It was noted that timesheets for the handyman and premises manager would be reinstated to ensure accurate allocation of time and costs between councils.

031/24. Updates from Councillors and Matters for Information

- Cllr John Spence has written to inquire about ideas for grant aid from the county. Last year, the grant was used for CCTV in Channel Village Hall. Suggestions for this year included:
 - Disability access improvements for Chamber Village Hall.
 - Solar panels for electricity.
 - Support for the youth club (the Hut) next to Asda, which is in a dilapidated state.
- It was agreed to investigate these options further and encourage relevant societies or charities to apply for the grant.
- The committee discussed the need to set up a savings account to generate income from council funds currently in the current account.
- Interviews for the new clerk position, shared with Springfield, are ongoing. The arrangement involves splitting the clerk's time between the two councils.
- The importance of accurate timesheets for shared staff was emphasized to ensure fair cost distribution.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.46pm.

31st October 2024

Signed.....Date.....