

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE POLICY MANAGEMENT AND FINANCE
COMMITTEE OF WANTAGE TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE BEACON, PORTWAY,
WANTAGE, ON MONDAY 11 NOVEMBER 2024 AT 7.30PM

Committee members Present: Councillors A Crawford (Chair), I Cameron, A Dunford, T Gilhome,
J Hannaby, E Johnson, A Menzies, P O'Leary, S Third, C Walters

Clerk: J Evans

Apologies for absence: Councillors V Wright, P Kirby-Harris, Keith Morris

Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests, other registrable interests and non-registrable interests

None

44. To approve the minutes of the meeting held 30 September 2024.

Approved

ON THE PROPOSITION OF CLLR Cameron
SECONDED BY CLLR Hannaby
IT WAS RESOLVED that the minutes be approved and signed

45. Statements and questions from the public.

None

46. Matters arising from the minutes:

- a) Update re community bus service working group.
The draft legal agreement had been received and was to be reviewed.
- b) Asset of Community Value - Wantage Community Hospital and allotment sites.
A meeting had been held with Vale. There was a lot of extra work to do which will take some time.

47. Briefings by applicants for donations and grants

- a) Newbury Street Practice
An event is organised every 2 years with the aim of getting together as many social and sports groups as possible to promote social and health facilities. They have booked the Beacon for half a day and funds were also required for advertising and a programme. They had received several donations from other sources. They had previously received donations from developers, but this was harder to come by this time. They were looking at increased publicity for this evening and were also including refreshments. Cllr Crawford to discuss ideas with Julie Maberley.

Policy

48. To review and approve the draft Emergency Plan

There had been a lot of discussion on this at the recent planning committee meeting, especially about the recent flooding issues. It was felt that there was a lot that the Council could do to help in future. It was noted that the Hanney flood group were keen to talk to the Council. It was agreed to set up a working group. Cllr Morris to be asked if he would be prepared to lead it.

Action: Clerk

Management and Finance

49. To receive the income & expenditure report.

It was noted that the donations budget had almost been spent. The Beacon costs were also pointed out.

50. Accounts for Payment.

Approved

ON THE PROPOSITION OF CLLR Walters
SECONDED BY CLLR Cameron
IT WAS RESOLVED that the accounts for payment are approved

51. To review the Barclaycard Statement for October.

Reviewed and approved.

ON THE PROPOSITION OF CLLR Cameron
SECONDED BY CLLR Dunford
IT WAS RESOLVED that the Barclaycard Statement for October was approved

52. Update o WTFC additional funding request.

CLlr Crawford left the room and CLlr Third took chair. The question about land ownership had been answered and financial information had been provided. It appeared that the club had not applied for funds elsewhere or carried out fundraising activities.

ON THE PROPOSITION OF CLLR Dunford
SECONDED BY CLLR Hannaby
IT WAS RESOLVED to approve the funds from general reserves and evaluate the club funds again next year

53. To confirm the preferred Grounds Maintenance Contractor for the next three years.

Clerk to clarify the total annual cost of the contract. The proposal was agreed subject to confirmation that it was within the rules.

ON THE PROPOSITION OF CLLR Crawford
SECONDED BY CLLR Gilhome
IT WAS RESOLVED that the proposal be agreed subject to confirmation that it is within the rules.

Confidential items

54. Grant application requests.

- a) Newbury Street Practice for Health & Wellbeing event
Requested £500. Approved. To come from health budget. Wantage Town Council to be mentioned in the literature.

ON THE PROPOSITION OF CLLR Hannaby
SECONDED BY CLLR Johnson

IT WAS RESOLVED that the requested £500 be approved to come from the Health budget

- b) WARP
Clerk to ask for more information and bring to the next meeting. **Action: Clerk**
- c) Around Table
Ongoing funding was unclear. Insufficient information had been provided and they were not compliant with our grants policy. Cllr Dunford offered to make a small donation from the Mayor's funds while the Council made a decision on this application. Someone from the organisation was to be invited to come and talk to the council. **Action: Clerk**

55. Request from October Club for an increased grant next year.

JH left the room. Not enough information had been supplied.

ON THE PROPOSITION OF CLLR Walters
SECONDED BY CLLR Crawford
IT WAS RESOLVED not to increase the grant next year

Councillors to send suggestions for the type of support they wish to provide from the Miscellaneous Donations budget. To be included in the Grants policy. **Action: All**

56. Grove Street traffic monitoring – next steps.

The clerk had to contact the OCC officer. Clerk to approach through a different route. **Action: Clerk**

57. Update on plans to pedestrianise the western end of the Market Place.

A meeting had been scheduled with the OCC team to walk around the market place. Written confirmation was required that the solution proposed by the taxi drivers would not work. The co-production process was questioned. Any questions for OCC were to be sent to the clerk. **Action: All**

Mtg closed @ 20.56pm