



BARROW TOWN COUNCIL

Town Hall, Duke Street, Barrow-in-Furness LA14 2LD

Minutes of the Finance Committee held on Wednesday 11th October, 2023 at 18.00pm in the Law Library at the Town Hall, Duke street, Barrow-Furness

Cllr P Jackson	Apology	Cllr M Younger	Apology
Cllr F Chatfield	Present	Cllr D Palmer	Apology
Cllr A Coles	Present	Cllr C Altree	Present
Cllr B Elliot	Present Vice Chair	Cllr N Phillips	Present
Cllr S Herbert	Present	Cllr J Tyson	Present

In attendance: Lesley Smyth (Town Clerk)

F/32/2023 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr. P Jackson, Cllr. M Younger and Cllr. D Palmer

F/33/2023 Declarations of Interest

Received from Cllr. Phillips and Cllr. Coles in respect of Westmorland and Furness Council, and Cllr. Herbert in respect of Agenda Item no.14.

F/34/2023 Exclusion of Press and Public (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960)

No issues were considered for exclusion.

F/35/2023 Minutes of the previous Meeting

Resolved: To receive the Minutes of the previous meeting of the Finance Committee held on 6th September, 2023 and to authorise the Chair to sign them as a correct record. Proposed by Cllr. Altree and seconded by Cllr. Chatfield. All agreed.

F/36/2023 Report on the Finance Action Sheet

The Town Clerk presented the current work programme to enable the Committee to note the progress made across the various actions in which the Committee was involved.

F37/2023 Defibrillator Government Funding

Resolved: The Clerk to make application to the DHSC AED Fund for a share of the £1m Government Funding available for the purchase of life-saving defibrillators. Proposed by Cllr. Elliot and seconded by Cllr. Tyson. All agreed.

F38/2023 Allotment Officer Car Lease Costs

Resolved: To consider the costings previously distributed, and to authorise the Clerk to proceed with the Lease of a Vauxhall Corsa Electric Hatchback at a cost of £260.66/month. Budget to be updated to reflect additional annual expenditure. Further, the car to be made available as a Town Council Pool Car when required. Proposed by Cllr. Elliot and seconded by Cllr. Herbert.

F39/2023 Councillor Mobile Phones

Resolved: To consider the Report and associated costs previously distributed, and to authorise the Clerk to seek phone requests from Councillors and to proceed with the purchase. Proposed by Cllr. Chatfield and seconded by Cllr. Herbert. All agreed.

F40/2023 Christmas Lighting and Christmas Tree

Resolved: To consider the Report previously distributed.

Cllr. Chatfield noted a meeting he and Cllr. Altree had recently held with Barrow Bid in connection with this matter where it was confirmed Barrow Bid intend to purchase additional lighting for the Town for 2024 and to assist the Town Council in the festival celebration.

In 2023 Westmorland and Furness Council have agreed to fund the lighting and the tree. From 2024 the costs are to be met wholly by the Town Council. The Clerk noted a meeting she will attend in November with the Clerks of Dalton, Lindal and Askam to discuss this matter and to determine the funding implications for all four Parish/Town Councils. Further the Clerk is to enquire if Westmorland and Furness Council intend to make a charge to the Town Council in 2024 for the use of electricity, and if so how that will be determined.

The Members considered the Christmas 'Switch-on Event' and it was agreed that from 2024 the Town Council shall be responsible for all such arrangements. The Clerk to verify the Contract with the existing supplier terminates in December, 2023. Proposed by Cllr. Chatfield and seconded by Cllr. Altree. All agreed.

F/41/2023 Contract for Payroll Provision.

Resolved: To consider the Report previously distributed.

Proposed by Cllr. Herbert and seconded by Cllr. Phillips that the Clerk secure a Contract with T.I. Accountancy Service Ltd, Duke Street, Barrow-in-Furness. All Agreed.

F42/2023 Budget for 2023-2024

Resolved: To consider the revised Budget previously distributed.

Statement Accepted. Proposed by Cllr. Chatfield and seconded by Cllr. Herbert. All Agreed.

F/43/2023 Public Events Funding

The Committee examined all applications received to date, as previously distributed.

Resolved:

1. Theatre for Learning Disabled and Neurodivergent Audiences.

Funding approved of £1,750. Proposed by Cllr. Altree and seconded by Cllr. Elliot. All agreed.

2. Barrow's Christmas Carol

This application is from the same organisation as the funding awarded at 1. above. Therefore the Members requested the Clerk to request more precise details as to how the funding will be utilised, and when received to present this application to the next Finance meeting in November. Proposed by Cllr. Tyson and seconded by Cllr. Herbert. All Agreed.

3. Furness Pride

The Members requested the Clerk to request more precise details as to how the funding will be utilised, and when received to present this application to the next Finance meeting in November. Proposed by Cllr. Tyson and seconded by Cllr. Altree. All Agreed.

The Town Council to be acknowledged as a Sponsor on all advertising/literature

F/44/23 Central Barrow Initiative

To consider the Report from Cllr. Herbert previously distributed.

The Members raised a number of queries with Cllr. Herbert, following which he retired from the Meeting to facilitate a discussion.

Resolved: Funding approval of £1,000 – proposed by Cllr. Phillips and seconded by Cllr. Chatfield. All Agreed.

Further it was agreed the Town Council increase the Budget by £5,000 to provide a Sports Funding Grant. An application Form is required and is to be posted on the Council Website and on social media. Proposed by Cllr. Phillips and seconded by Cllr. Altree. All Agreed.

Cllr. Herbert re-entered the Committee Room.

F/45/23 Any Other Business

1. Barrow Civic Pride Award

Cllr. Hyland requested the Committee consider the granting of an annual Civic Pride Award to be presented by the Mayor in recognition of the contribution of individuals/groups/volunteers to the community. The proposal is for a non-monetary Award of a Certificate and photo opportunity.

Resolved: This matter to be raised at the next Town Council Meeting for either:

- possible funding from the Mayoral Budget or
- seeking permission from Westmorland and Furness Council to devolve the 'Love Barrow Awards' to the Town Council.

2. Mayoral Term of Office

The Clerk to ascertain the costs of 'End of Term of Mayoral Office' memorabilia.

F/46/23 Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 15th November, 2023 at 18.00pm in the Law Library,
Town Hall, Duke Street, Barrow-in-Furness. LA14 2LD

The meeting closed at 19.20pm.

Lesley Smyth

Town Clerk