



HEXHAM TOWN COUNCIL

I GIVE NOTICE that an online meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee will be held on 22 April 2021 at 6.30pm, when the following items will be discussed:

A G E N D A

1. Apologies for absence.
2. To receive minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting held on 24 March 2021, enclosed.
3. Matters arising, if any.
4. Declarations of interest (see enclosed).
5. To receive bank reconciliation and budget income and expenditure report to 31 March 2021 (attached).
6. To agree exclusion of the public during consideration of agenda item 7.
7. To consider funding applications received.
8. To agree a date for the next meeting of the Committee.
9. Any urgent matters at the Chairman of the meeting's discretion. (*Matters to be raised under this item should be written out (if possible) and given to the Chairman of the meeting or the Clerk before the meeting begins.*)

Jane Kevan
Town Clerk
14 April 2021

Hexham Town Council, Council Office, St Andrew's Cemetery, West Road, Hexham NE46 3RR
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H agenda 0421 FandGPCommittee

HEXHAM TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE ONLINE MEETING HELD ON 24 MARCH 2021

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| 796. | PRESENT: Councillors R Hull, S Ball, T G E Gillanders, T Cessford, T Dodds, C R Homer, T Pearson and J M Graham. |
| 797. | APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Councillor Ord. |
| 798. | MINUTES of the meeting held on 23 February 2021, having been circulated, were AGREED. |
| 799. | MATTERS ARISING: <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) MARKET STALLS (minute 786a and action log refers). It was noted that the level of interest from regular stallholders was still to be checked.b) SKATEPARK (minute 786b and action log refers). It was noted that Full Council had AGREED that the Council will contribute £25,000.00 to the total cost of resurfacing, dependant on the balance being sourced by Hexham Youth Initiative.c) HEALTH & SAFETY POLICY (minute 789 and action log refers). It was noted that the policy has been approved by Full Council.d) FINANCIAL REGULATIONS (minute 791 and action log refers). It was noted that these had been approved by Full Council.e) HEXHAM VISITOR SURVEY (minute 792 and action log refers). It was noted that this is progressing, to be paid for this financial year from the Town Plan budget.f) FUNDING (minute 794 and action log refers). It was noted that this has been paid. It was also noted that the organisation referred to in confidential note 794 will be further considered. |
| 800. | DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: Councillor Homer declared a non-pecuniary interest in one of the funding applications. |
| 801. | FINANCIAL REPORT: The bank statement and account reconciliation together with the 2020/21 budget report to 28 February 2021 were received and accepted. Copies are attached to the minutes. |
| 802. | STANDING ORDERS: It was AGREED to recommend the revised Standing Orders as attached to the agenda to Full Council. |
| 803. | DISCIPLINARY, EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES, EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY, AND GRIEVANCE POLICIES: It was AGREED that a working group will consider these. |
| 804. | TOWN COUNCIL PRESENCE IN TOWN CENTRE: After a discussion it was unanimously AGREED that there is no need for this, mostly on the grounds of cost and that the main service relates to the Cemetery. |

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| 805. | EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC: It was resolved and AGREED in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 that as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, namely consideration of staff salaries and funding requests, it is advisable in the public interest that the public and press be temporarily excluded from the meeting and they were requested to withdraw. |
| 806. | STAFF SALARIES: These were considered and AGREED as noted in confidential note 806. |
| 807. | FUNDING APPLICATIONS: These were considered and AGREED as noted in confidential note 807. |
| 808. | NEXT MEETING: It was AGREED that the next Committee meeting will be held online at 6.30pm on Thursday 22 April 2021. |

Action Log

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| Market Stalls: pursue checking interest (minute 799a) | Admin Officer |
| Consider the organisation/funding (minute 799f) | Councillors Hull, Ball, Gillanders and Clerk |
| Refer the Standing Orders to Full Council (minute 802) | Clerk |
| Consider the listed policies (minute 803) | Councillors Homer, Cessford, Graham and Clerk |
| Arrange the funding as agreed (minute 807) | Clerk |

Chairman

HEXHAM TOWN COUNCIL - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Under the Code of Conduct adopted by the Council on 3 September 2012 Councillors must declare if they have a disclosable interest in any matters under consideration.

To do so Councillors must use one of the following statements:

1. "I have a disclosable pecuniary interest
in..... (for example) Agenda item 3,
Planning application number 13/1234".
(NOTE: Code of Conduct paragraphs 11&15 apply).

2. "I have a disclosable personal interest
in..... (for example) Agenda item 4,
Grant aid application by Hexham Youth Initiative
(NOTE: Code of Conduct paragraph 13 applies).

Councillors should familiarise themselves with the Code of Conduct regarding the definitions of (A) pecuniary interest and (B) other personal interest and their obligations when declaring any interest.

To ensure Councillors interests are correctly minuted please use one of the above statements when declaring an interest.

NB. Should a Councillor wish to take part in the consideration and voting on a matter or matters in which he/she has a disclosable interest then they may request a dispensation be granted to enable them to take part in the discussion and voting on it but at least 10 days' notice must be given for any dispensation request. _