

WHITTLESEY TOWN COUNCIL - Finance & Policy Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 20th January 2025 at Peel House, 8 Queen Street, Whittlesey, PE7 1AY

Present: Cllr Boden, Arman, Dorling, Sennitt-Clough, Wicks

Officer in Attendance: Sue Piergianni – Town Clerk & RFO

Recording: The recording is made as an aide memoir for the Clerk.

FP01/2025. To receive apologies from absent Members.

Cllr Mockett (personal), no apologies from Cllr Nawaz

FP02/2025. To receive members' declarations of disclosable pecuniary, non-disclosable pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in relation to any agenda items.

Cllr Dorling – FP06/2025 (3) – He is an adjudicator for England Athletics.

Cllr Wicks -FP06/2025 (a) Cllr Wicks declared an interest as the request for funding is in addition to a submission made to Glassmore Bank.

FP03/2025 - Public Forum – 15 minutes

There were no members of the public present.

FP04/2025 - To confirm and sign the Minutes from the Finance & Policy Committee on Monday 16th December 2024

Ratified: The Minutes were approved and signed as a true record.

FP05/2025 – Financials.

1. Bank Reconciliations to 31st December 2024 Members received the balanced bank reconciliation. Cllr Boden asked the Clerk to achieve the best possible rate for our funds, Cllr Dorling proposed we move 130K to one account as we are not included under the FSCS scheme, seconded Cllr Arman with a unanimous vote in favour.
2. Year to date Figures – Whittlesey in Bloom have written to advise they do not require the funding for this year, Cllr Boden advised we will retain the figure in the budget. The Chairman asked if Jubilee Wood / Platinum Wood could just have one name, members agreed it would be Platinum Wood. Cllr Boden asked the Clerk to update members on the receipts. The Clerk advised that the LHA for the flats had not been paid for December, and she has chased and been advised it had been missed and would be paid for Flat B until 6th January which was handover and Flat A until the remedial works have been completed. The Clerk also advised that one of the commercial tenants had not paid the December or January rent, they have contacted and will be making the payment in the next 2 days.
3. Payment List for approval – Vouchers 209 – 227 to value of £6603.59 proposed Cllr Dorling, seconded Cllr Sennitt-Clough with a unanimous vote in favour.

FP06/2025 - Agenda Items for Discussion

1. Budget 2025/2026 – Cllr Boden
 - a. Request from Cllr Gerstner for £3,000 for storage and education facility at Platinum Wood.
 - b. Cllr Boden suggested an increase the precept by £3,000.
Cllr Boden proposed these changes to the proposed budget, seconded Cllr Arman, unanimous vote in favour.
The clerk advised about the hanging basket watering issue – She will endeavour to source a new contractor; the Chairman advised the figures for baskets and watering will remain in the budget.

2. Chamber use proposal – Cllr Dorling presented his proposal which was discussed at length, it was agreed to defer to the February meeting, Cllr Boden will revise some of the wording.
3. Gazebo – Cllr Boden – The Clerk reported that as we have significantly reduced the cost of St John's Ambulance for the music events by not having the ambulance, part of the new booking is they must have a covered area and proposed the purchase of a heavy-duty Gazebo 3m x 3m along with weights. The cost of both items in total being £430.00. Members suggested a light colour, Cream, Beige or Light Grey. Members agreed that this will not be loaned to outside organisations and will only be used for WTC events.
4. Nominated Substitute – Committee Meetings – Cllr Wicks suggested substitutes should be in place for committees and who should apologies be given to. Cllr Boden suggested further discussion is required around these items, therefore it will be deferred until the next F & P meeting. Cllr Arman suggested apologies should be given to the Clerk, Chair and Vice Chair of each committee

FP07/2025 – Information

Whittlesey In Bloom – Cllr Sennitt-Clough offered her thanks for this letter, Cllr Boden advised we will be retaining this in the budget

FP08/2025 - Donation Requests

There were no donation requests.

FP09/2025 - Date of Next Meeting - 17th February 2025

Meeting closed: 19.14

CP Boden.

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Cllr Chris Boden
Chairman
Finance & Policy Committee