



EMERSONS GREEN  
TOWN COUNCIL

## Minutes of a Meeting of the Finance Committee

17 December 2020

Held via Zoom due to COVID-19 restrictions

**Present:** S Budd (Chairman), C Johnson, S Hill and D Somers

**Attendees:** Kath MacConnachie (Town Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer)

### 155. Election of Chair for the meeting

As Councillor J Hunt was absent for the meeting, it was **Resolved** that Councillor Budd would Chair the meeting.

### 156. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Todd and Hunt.

### 157. Declarations of interest under the Localism Act 2011

There were no declarations of interest.

### 158. Minutes of 26 November 2020

It was **Resolved** that the minutes of 26 November 2020 were an accurate record of the meeting.

### 159. Outstanding items from these minutes

There were no outstanding actions from these minutes.

### 160. Bank Statements & Bank Reconciliations

Councillor Somers reported that he attended the Town Council offices and reconciled the bank statements. Councillor Somers reported that all was found to be in order.

### 161. Draft budget for 2021/22

Members considered the draft 2021/22 budget which had been drafted and circulated in advance by the Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer. The Clerk drew members attention to the explanatory notes on the first sheet of the budget document.

It was **Resolved** that the draft budget be recommended for approval to Full Council.

**Action:** Clerk

162. **Precept for 2021/22**

Members considered the level of precept for 2021/22. The Clerk explained that the draft budget for 2021/22 was calculated on the confirmed council tax base with the application of 0.5% increase to reflect inflation (based on CPI 12 months to Sept20). The Clerk noted that the removal of the inflation uplift would reduce total income by £1294, and precept by £0.20 per household.

It was **Resolved** to recommend a precept level of £39.60 per household for 2021/22 to Full Council.

**Action:** Clerk

163. **Grant application**

Members considered the grant application from Artel 31 Co-operative for the Mangotsfield Pavillion Project. It was noted that the project had been presented previously to the Full Council. Match funding, on the basis of an Arts Council England (ACE) bid, was requested to the value of £15,000.

It was **Resolved** to funding of the grant, using powers under the Local Government Act 1972, s.145 relating to the arts and recreation, to the maximum value of £15,000, subject to match funding from ACE.

**Action:** Clerk

164. **Covid-19 Supplier Relief payments**

Members noted that the only payments currently ongoing were those to Emersons Green Village Hall. The Clerk noted that the payments to Youth In Sodbury had ended when youth works had recommenced, although they had since been suspended again due to the change in pandemic restrictions.

It was **Resolved** that Covid-19 Supplier Relief payments should recommence to Youth In Sodbury until they were able to safely provide youth services once more.

**Action:** Clerk

165. **Payments**

The meeting considered the schedule of payments for December 2020 which was circulated in advance of the meeting.

It was **Resolved** that the December payments were approved and authorised for payment by Councillor Nichols and Clerk.

**Action:** Clerk and Councillor Nichols

The Clerk noted that the payment run would be earlier in the month due to the Christmas break it was **Resolved** to delegate authorisation of an additional payment run, if required, to the Chairman and Clerk, in the instance that any urgent invoices were received after the payments authorised above were processed.

**166. Items to report from members**

There were no items to report from members.

**167. Date of next meeting:** 1900 on Thursday 28 January 2021, by Zoom