

MINUTES of the meeting of the **FINANCE COMMITTEE** held in Room 11 at the Town Hall, at 7.30pm on Monday 25th March 2024.

PRESENT: Councillor Haugh (Chair)
Councillors Antony, Brown, Harrison, Inwood, Lockett and Squire-Smith

In attendance: Town Clerk
County Councillor Hill
Town Councillor Freeman

The Chair welcomed everybody to the meeting and informed those present that the meeting was being recorded. The Chair reminded Members of the Climate & Biodiversity Emergency declared by Royston Town Council and asked Members to be mindful of this when making decisions on behalf of the Council.

340/24 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

There was none.

341/24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Councillors Adams, Compton and Jani.

342/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS:

Members were advised to declare any interests at the commencement of the relevant item on the agenda. No requests for dispensations were received.

343/24 APPROVAL OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES:

Members **RESOLVED** to approve as a correct record the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on Monday 26th February 2024 (minutes 301/24 to 311/24). The minutes were signed by the Chairman.

344/24 MINUTES OF SUB-COMMITTEES AND WORKING PARTY MEETINGS:

- a) Members received the notes of the Cinema Working Party meeting held on 22nd February 2024 into the workings of the council.
- b) Members received the notes of the Events Working Party meetings held on 8th February and 5th March 2024 into the workings of the council.
- c) Members received the notes of the Markets Advisory Sub-Committee meeting held on 29th February 2024 into the workings of the council.

345/24 BANK RECONCILIATION AND INCOME AND EXPENDITURE:

- i) Members received and noted the Bank Reconciliation for February 2024.
- ii) Members received and noted the February 2024 Income and Expenditure reports compared against budgets for 2023-2024.

346/24 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:

Members **RESOLVED** to approve the March 2024 accounts for payment and the transfers between the Town Council accounts.

347/24 PLANTATIONS TREE SURVEY:

- a) Members received and noted the tree survey conducted on 26th February 2024.

- b) Members **RESOLVED** to agree to publish the full tree survey on the Town Council's website.

348/24 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS ON TOWN COUNCIL ACTIVITIES AND AS REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS:

There were none.

349/24 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC:

Members **RESOLVED** that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, in the public interest, the public and press be excluded from the remainder of the meeting under the provision of The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

350/24 STAFF MATTERS:

- a) Members **RESOLVED** to approve the appointment of five Cave Guides on fixed term contracts from 6th April 2024 to 31st December 2024 at a rate of £40.50 per standard guiding session and £13.50 per hour for other Cave duties.
- b) Members **RESOLVED** to approve the salaries of the Caretakers at £11.50 per hour for weekdays and £13.00 per hour for weekends and the Market Assistant at £12.00 per hour for weekdays and £13.50 per hour for weekends from 1st April 2024.

Date of next meeting: 29th April 2024

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.54pm.

Signed: _____

Date _____