

Minutes of a meeting of the **FINANCE and GENERAL PURPOSES** Committee held in the Council Offices, Pine Grove, Crowborough on Tuesday 28th June 2022 at 7.30pm

Present	Councillors	Peter Bucklitsch Mike Cooke Martyn Garrett Kay Moss* David Neeves Neil Waller	Chairman Vice-Chairman
Also present		Melanie Street	Assistant Town Clerk

*Denotes non attendance

APOLOGIES

Cllr Kay Moss

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held on 26th April and 10th May 2022

It was noted that the minutes of 1st March 2022 stated quotes for IT support would be on the next agenda, but this has not been included. The officer was asked to provide this for the following meeting.

- 9815** **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting held on 26th April 2022 as confirmed be signed by the Chairperson.
- 9816** **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting held on 10th May 2022 as confirmed be signed by the Chairperson.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

To note the Finance Report and supporting appendices and agree any action

The Income and Expenditure was noted. A member asked for clarification regarding the credit showing in code 4807/113 and the officer explained this had been received due to inaccurate meter readings at the end of the previous financial year.

The Earmarked Reserves were noted. A member noted that the monies in the Training earmarked reserve could now be spent as courses have returned to normal after covid, and that training should still remain an important part of the council.

To review the Internal Auditors Report

The report and the Responsible Finance Officer's written comments were noted. The committee agreed that it is necessary to clarify the situation regarding assets listed on the council's Asset Register which appear to sit on Trust land. The Internal Auditor had recommended engaging a solicitor who specialises in Trust issues.

- 9817 RESOLVED** to engage a solicitor who specialises in Trust work to investigate and offer advice regarding council and Trust land and buildings

To note the latest figures from Basepoint

The report was noted. The committee requested that the Basepoint occupancy figures are reported to the next meeting.

To note the property valuations for insurance purposes

Members discussed the property valuations. A question was raised regarding the valuation and re-build cost for the Pine Grove building. The committee asked for the Responsible Finance Officer to investigate whether the council is overpaying for the insurance of this asset and to report back to the next meeting.

The Assistant Town Clerk reported that a question had also been raised concerning whether the Alderbrook stadium should have been included on this report. The Responsible Finance Officer will also investigate this matter.

To note the Confidential Aged Debtor report

- 9818 RESOLVED** that pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 that the public and press be excluded from the meeting on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reasons of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

The report was noted. The Assistant Town Clerk updated the committee with information regarding two of the debts for which payment had now been received.

MEETING DATE

To change the meeting date in December from 20th December to 13th December

The committee agreed to change the date of the meeting in December from 20th to 13th December 2022.

URGENT MATTERS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN FOR NOTING AND/OR INCLUSION ON A FUTURE AGENDA

None

The meeting closed at 7.52pm.