

Minutes of a meeting of the **FINANCE and GENERAL PURPOSES** Committee held in the Council Offices, Pine Grove, Crowborough on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at 7.30pm

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Present	Councillors	Peter Bucklitsch* Suzanne Dixon* Martyn Everitt* Martyn Garrett Kay Moss Matthew Street Neil Waller Natalie Whittle	Vice-Chairman      Chairman
Also present		Caroline Miles Karen Whiley	Town Clerk Responsible Financial Officer (RFO)

\*Denotes non attendance

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#### **APOLOGIES**

Clr Suzanne Dixon  
Clr Martyn Everitt

#### **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

#### **MINUTES**

Minutes of the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2024

**10489 RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2024 as confirmed be ratified by the Chairperson.

#### **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

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

To note the current income and expenditure against budget and earmarked reserves (EMR)

The current Income and Expenditure position was noted.

Earmarked Reserves were noted.

Asset register

Members noted the report

- 10490 RESOLVED** to approve the additions and disposal on the asset register and to recommend the asset register to Full Council

Return on Investments

The council's return on investments was noted.

Bank reconciliation as at 31.03.2024

- 10491 RESOLVED** to approve the bank reconciliation as at 31.03.2024

PWLB summary as at 31.03.24

Members noted the loan value summary at 31.03.2024

Insurance claim information

The information was noted.

It was suggested that a notice is installed in each cab advising the height of the vehicle in relation to height barriers.

The clerk will ensure this actioned.

**Draft AGAR statement**

- 10492 RESOLVED** that the statements in Section 1 of the Annual Governance Statement have been complied with and to recommend the AGAR to Full Council for approval.

Bank signatories

The report was noted.

It was disappointing to note that despite requests from the finance assistant to all councillors to authorise payments, it is the same councillors who take on the duty. This is not best practice.

The RFO will submit a report to Full Council advising that all councillors, unless exempt, must sign off payments at least twice in six months. All councillors have a responsibility for payments. Training will be provided is this a barrier to carrying out this duty.

Energy Contracts

The report was noted.

- 10493 RESOLVED** to agree to a further one year extension tying in all rates until September 2029 on a blend and extend package.

**POLICIES**

To review the following policy and agree any further action

Risk Management Policy

**10494 RESOLVED** to adopt the Risk Management policy.

**URGENT MATTERS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN FOR NOTING AND/OR**

**EXEMPT BUSINESS**

**10495 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.

To note the confidential aged debt report

The report was noted.

The meeting closed at 20:10hrs