

**MINUTES of a MEETING
of the
FINANCE AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

**held in the
Council Chamber, Buckley**

**on
Tuesday 25th February 2020**

PRESENT

Councillor N Phillips – in the Chair

Cllr V E Blondek	Cllr H D Hutchinson	Cllr C M Preece
Cllr D Ellis	Cllr J S Jones	Cllr P G Shone
Cllr L G Fox	Cllr R B Jones	Cllr M P Teire
Cllr I D Howes	Cllr M J Peers	Cllr A G Williams
Cllr E J Hutchinson	Cllr I Peters	Cllr A Woolley

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr M B Wright – Town Clerk & Financial Officer
Mrs L George – Personal Assistant
Mrs T J Reece – Personal Assistant
Mr A J White – Town Centre Manager & Technical Officer (Contractor)

17926- APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence and reasons were received and approved from Councillors C A Ellis (family commitments), W A Lewis (illness), E L Preece (illness) and J F Thornton (recuperating).

17927- DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No Declarations of Interest were made in relation to this Agenda. It was –

Resolved – that no Declarations of Interest were noted.

17928- MINUTES

Resolved - that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance and Economic Development Committee held on 28th January 2019, as now submitted, be signed by the Committee Chair.

17929- ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Resolved - (i) that the accounts numbered 11975 – 12002 (inclusive as detailed in the Schedule of Accounts Number 507 dated 25th February 2020 [a copy of which had

been distributed to all Members] and amounting in total to the sum of £26,530.19) be approved for payment and the Town Clerk be authorised to make the necessary arrangements to ensure that the payments were properly actioned through the Council's Bank Current Account in accordance with the Council's Internal Financial Controls.

(ii) that the expenditure be authorised in accordance with powers contained within the relevant local government acts and as identified and described within Appendix 1 of the NALC advice 'Governance and Accountability in Local Councils in England and Wales, a Practitioners' Guide' as revised and amended.

17930- BANK RECONCILIATIONS

The Committee received the monthly Bank Reconciliation as at 31st January 2020.
It was –

Resolved – that the Bank Reconciliation as at 31st January 2020 be received, noted and approved.

17931- OCCUPATION OF AN OFFICE ON THE LEFT HAND SIDE OF THE GROUND FLOOR OF THE OLD LIBRARY BUILDING

The Committee received a report from the Clerk that advised that the North Wales Energy Advice Centre, which occupied an office on the left hand side of the ground floor of the Old Library Building would cease to operate from 31st March 2020. The Clerk advised the Committee that the Licence fee had been paid up to date as had the recharges for heat, light and rates. There were therefore no outstanding debts. The Clerk sought the Committee's permission to approve any future tenant of the office under Licence, at the same Licence conditions as the previous occupants. It was –

Resolved – that the Clerk's report be received and noted and that the Clerk's request be acknowledged and approved.

17932- AUDITOR GENERAL FOR WALES – FUTURE AUDIT ARRANGEMENTS FOR COMMUNITY COUNCILS IN WALES 2020-21 ONWARDS

The Committee received a report from the Clerk which enclosed a copy of a consultation document from the Auditor General for Wales in respect of future audit arrangements for Community Councils in Wales 2020/21 onwards. The Committee was advised that the consultation document was open for comment until Thursday 19th March 2020. It was –

Resolved – that the Clerk's report and enclosed correspondence be received and noted and that the Clerk be delegated to respond to the consultation document.

17933- SUMMER PLAYSCHEMES 2020

The Committee received and considered a report from the Clerk and an email from the Play Development Officer, Flintshire County Council, with regard to the above. The email outlined that the cost of the playschemes for 2020 would be £1,428.90 per playscheme for three weeks and additional weeks could be provided at a cost of £476.30 per site. The Clerk advised the Committee that if it wished to fund four playschemes for four weeks the total cost would be £7,621. As the Approved Budget carried a provision of £7,054, the Clerk advised the Committee that there would be an overspend of £567. If, however, the Committee wished to have three playschemes for four weeks and one playscheme for three weeks the overspend on the Approved Budget would be approximately £91.

During the ensuing debate emphasis was placed on the importance of the playschemes and that the Town Council had normally funded four playschemes for four weeks. The Clerk advised the Committee that should it resolve to fund the four playschemes for four weeks then savings required for the year 2020/21 would have to be found from other Budget Heads. It was –

Resolved – that the Clerk’s report and enclosed correspondence be received and noted and that Flintshire County Council be advised that the Town Council would fund four playschemes for four weeks, the location of the playschemes to be decided by Flintshire County Council.

CHAIR