

# Minutes of a Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting held in the Market Hall, The Square, Holsworthy, on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2025 at 2.00pm.

**Present:** Councillors; J. Hutchings, H. Parker, J. Allen

**In Attendance:** Assistant to the Town Clerk (ATTC)

**Absentees:** P. Brown

## 1603. To Elect a Chair for 2025/26

Councillor J. Hutchings proposed that Councillor J. Allen be elected as Chair of Finances & General Purposes for 2025/26 and be agreed. This was seconded by Councillor H. Parker and approved. (unanimous)

## 1604. Apologises for absences

Councillors; D. De ste Croix, N. Kenneally

## 1605. Declaration of Interest

Councillor J. Allen asked Councillors to declare any relevant interests as they arose.

#### 1606. Public question time

No members of public were in attendance.

**1607.** Minutes of the last meeting – to sign and agree the Minutes of the F & GP Committee Meetings held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2025.

Councillor J. Hutchings proposed the minutes of the meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2025 be signed as a true record and be agreed. This was seconded by Councillor H. Parker and approved. (Unanimous)

Committee were unable to sign the minutes of the meeting held on the 18th June 2025.

**1608.** Matters arising – To consider matters arising from the Minutes of the Meetings held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2025 not already covered by the Agenda. For information only. To amend grants to Mayor charities 2024/25.

## 1609. To review the Finance & General Purposes Committee Action Plan.

The committee reviewed the Action List noting that the addition of John Bailey's name has not yet been finalised and requested an update. The Football Club lease is ongoing.

#### 1610. Account payments/receipts and Budget Review – To examine and agree the accounts.

The committee reviewed the payments, receipts, earmarked reserves and budget review. Discussions ensued. It was agreed to include monthly budget and earmarked reserves separate once the staff have progressed further with their training with Scribe. The committee noted that the funds for the works to the Sun Lounge are running low however, furniture is due to be purchased. Cllr. J. Allen noted that there are funds remaining in the Victory Events budget and queried if there will be any celebrations for VJ Day on 15<sup>th</sup> August 2025. The committee agreed that if an event is not organised a wreath will be laid. Committee agreed to discuss this further at Full Council.

Councillor J. Hutchings proposed the Finances for June 2025 are a true record and be agreed. This was seconded by Councillor H. Parker and approved. (unanimous)

## 1611. To discuss and recommend banking investments

Cllr J. Hutchings briefed the committee on the current banking investments rates and noted that 6 months has a higher interest rate. Discussion ensued. The committee discussed viability of higher amounts being invested and noted that with ongoing projects with large costs it may not be suitable to invest a large amount of funds for a long period of time. Further discussions ensued. Cllr. J. Allen noted that the Financial Regulations will need to be approved once amended. It was also suggested to invest £50,00 for 3 months / 6 months, whichever is more suitable for the Town Council's upcoming expenditure.

Councillor J. Hutchings proposed recommending Full Council to invest £50,00 in a short-term investment with HSBC and be agreed. This was seconded by Councillor H. Parker and approved. (Unanimous)

## 1612. To discuss and agree Agreement renewal for the local bus stops

The committee reviewed the agreement for the local bus stops. The committee discussed the contract and felt the contract was not relevant to Holsworthy Town Council. Councillors came to an agreement that Holsworthy Town Council cannot give permission for the bus shelters, therefore unable to renew the contract. The landowners of the locations whereby the bus shelters are erected would need to give their permission, it is likely Devon County Council. Further discussions ensued.

Councillor J. Hutchings proposed to recommend to Full Council to not renew the contract and be agreed. This was seconded by Councillor H. Parker and approved. (Unanimous)

**1613. Town Clerk's Report** – to receive a report from the TC for information only The ATTC reported to the committee that the recent Civic service has raised funds for the Mayor's Charity will be seen in the July finances.

## 1614. Exchange of information

No information exchanged.

Councillor J. Allen closed the meeting at 18:36

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Signed	 	 Date