

HUNGERFORD TOWN COUNCIL

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DRAFT MINUTES of the **F&GP Meeting** held on Wednesday 27th November 2024 at 7.00pm in the Fire Station Community Room, Hungerford.

Present: Cllrs Winsor, Simpson, Cole, Keates. Cllrs Carlson and Fyfe (entered later). Also, present Clerk and RFO.

FGP202400109 Apologies for absence – None

FGP202400110 Declarations of interest – None

FGP202400111 Minutes - To approve and sign the minutes of the F & GP meeting on 13th November 2024.

Proposed: Cllr Winsor

Seconded: Cllr Simpson

Resolution: Minutes were agreed as a true record.

FGP202400112 Receive an update on actions –

RFO will arrange one payment to be passed onto SUH up to the end of this financial year. Clerk has checked and the £2,000 Housing Needs Survey budget could come out of the existing NDP funds.

The Clerk has spoken to our insurers who confirmed employee helpers come under ‘volunteers’ and are covered for liability insurance. The approx. number of volunteers are disclosed at renewal and volunteers attend relevant training and are risk assessed.

The following actions are outstanding:

ACTION: **Resolution:** RFO to open an account with CCLA with a transfer from Barclays of £150k.

Money would be instant access through a Barclays account. Top up Newbury Building society with £15k and Nationwide with £10k. It was noted CCLA is not protected by FSA however it is widely used by other councils and by the diocese.

ACTION: **Social Media Policy** – Cllr Reeves is to review this.

All other actions are complete or underway.

Cllr Carlson entered.

FGP202400113 Consider costs for legal fees for Hungerford Shed and new allotments

Proposed: Cllr Simpson

Seconded: Cllr Cole

Resolution: Agree our solicitor’s (Dickens Hopgood Chidley) fees of £850 plus vat and disbursements for acting in connection with a land transfer for the new allotments. Also agree costs of £950 plus vat to arrange a Hungerford Shed agreement providing that Hungerford Shed reimburse us. One abstention.

FGP202400114 Consider any further amendments to the Action Plan

The draft action plan was read through and amendments made line by line. It was noted that as soon as the NDP is adopted we should follow up Donnington Homes’ progress with planning and delivery of the allotments in perpetuity.

Cllr Fyfe entered.

Cllr Reeve and Winsor are arranging a meeting with Everyone Active to address some concerns about Hungerford Leisure Centre.

Proposed: Cllr Winsor

Seconded: Cllr Carlson

Resolution: Agree changes to action plan.

Confidential PART 2

The public and press may be excluded from the meeting on the grounds that publicity might be prejudicial to the public interest as per the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960.

FGP202400115 Consider proposed Draft Annual Budget for 2025-26 for all committees – refer to spreadsheet.

Proposed: Cllr Simpson

Seconded: Cllr Cole

Resolution: Proposed total draft budget of £383,589, a 4.5% increase on the Precept.

Meeting closed 8.15pm