

Hedon Town Council

Minutes of the Proceedings of a Meeting of

Finance & General Purposes Committee

held at the Town Hall, St Augustine's Gate, Hedon

27 FEBRUARY 2025

Present: In the Chair – Cllr S Gallant
Cllrs: S Archer, S Banks, C Billany, J Brindley, J Dennis, P Hinch, G Pocklington,
S Rommell, D Thompson and S Wright
C Addy (Acting Town Clerk)

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllrs: B Goldspink (prior commitment).

2. Confirmation of the Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on the 23 January 2025 were agreed as being a correct record of the proceedings thereat.

Resolved: That the minutes were confirmed as a true record.

3. Updates on the Minutes

Resolved: There were no updates to the minutes.

4. Declaration of Interests

4.1 To record declarations of interest by any member of the council in respect of the agenda items listed below. Members declaring interests should identify the agenda item and type of interest being declared.

4.2 To note dispensations given to any member of the Council in respect of the agenda items listed below.

5. To approve Accounts Payable Schedule – February 2025

The Schedule previously circulated to Members, will form part of the Minutes.

Resolved: that the schedule of payments for February 2025, signed by two Councillors, in the sum of £16,809.41 was approved.

6. To receive an update on the financial position of the Council as at 31 January 2025

The Chairman referred to the documents attached to these Minutes which had been circulated to all Councillors; the documents indicated the financial position of the Council as at 31 January 2025.

Resolved: that the schedules showing receipts/payments made during January 2025 and the budget monitoring report were approved.

7. To receive the Internal Auditors Interim Report (dated 8 November 24 – omitted from Nov F&GP meeting and note recommendations to be actioned

Members discussed the report and the recommendations that it had contained and agreed action as follows:

7.1 The Town Clerk was asked to put an item on the March agenda to review the Council's Financial Regulations in light of NALC's revised model.

7.2 Investigation professional company to advice on H&S matters - already completed.

7.3 Password protect external hard drive – already completed.

7.4 To clarify agreed charge for Town Hall Dinners at £75 – agreed.

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8. To review Risk Reports for Management Systems, Markets, Meetings of the Council, Newsletter, Parish Property and Documents, Provision of office accommodation, Provision of website/Internet Access Policy
The Chairman referred to the Risk Reports for Management Systems, Markets, Meetings of the Council, Newsletter, Parish Property and Documents, Provision of office accommodation, Provision of website/Internet Access policies.

Resolved: that the Risk Assessment Reports for Management Systems, Markets, Meetings of the Council, Newsletter, Parish Property and Documents, Provision of office accommodation, Provision of website/Internet Access policies were approved as tabled

9. Update on VE-Day Working Group
Cllr Billany updated members on the discussion at the working group meeting which had taken place immediately before the F&GP meeting; notes of the meeting would be circulated. He confirmed that arrangements were underway and asked for Councillor volunteers to join in the singing of a hymn during the event.
Members raised the possibility of holding 'Scrufts' in 2025 – although this had not been discussed by the Events Working Group. Cllr Banks agreed to consult with the Town Clerk to see if it would be possible to hold this event in April 2025; she would report back to the next meeting with any arrangements made.

10. Update re request from St Augustine's Church re clock
Members noted that Smiths of Derby had refused to maintain the clock until a professional clean of the area had been completed due to pigeon droppings being a health and safety hazard. A request had been made by St Augustine's that the Town Council paid for this to take place; and they had indicated that the cost would be approximately £1000.
After discussions members did not feel that the Town Council should be responsible for the cleaning of the clock tower as well as the maintenance of the clock and suggested other streams of funding that might be available for the PCC to apply for. Also, Members suggested that an application to the Hedon Town Council Grant Fund (which re-opened in April) could be submitted. Cllr Billany (as a member of the PCC) would update that group.

11. To discuss renewal of water bowser machine
The Town Clerk confirmed that the current water bowser machine had been due for replacement for the last few years and the cost of maintaining it further would be at least £1000 or more just to get another year. Members had received information on the size of machine that was available and after discussion agreed to purchase the EP500 with hose, reel and extendable watering pole and electric pump at a cost of £11,500 (ex VAT/delivery).

Resolved: that the Council purchase a new water bowser machine (EP500) at a cost of £11,500 (ex VAT and delivery)

12. Correspondence
12.1 Price for signs for Horsewell Pond: The Town Clerk updated members on the quotes received for replacing the signs which was £45 plus delivery.

Resolved: that the signs would be purchased and K Sanderson would fit

13. Members' points of information and items for the agenda
13.1 Cllr Thompson raised the early planning for Hedfest 2026 and requested that a working group meeting be held at 12 noon on 14 March 2025; the Town Clerk would arrange.

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- 13.2 Members noted information provided by the Town Clerk from ERYC confirming that the HART bus service would be continuing on Wednesdays only and the Friday service would cease from Friday 31 March 2025.
- 13.3 Members in attendance agreed that the council should go ahead with the application to join The Yorkshire Society including the provision of a Spotlight Plaque; this would be an item on the next agenda for ratification.

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Chairman of Finance & General Purposes Committee