

DAWLISH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the
Finance & General Purposes Committee
held at **The Manor House, Old Town Street, Dawlish, EX7 9AP** on
Thursday, 23rd November 2023 at 7.00 pm

Present:

Councillors Wrigley (Chair), Littlewood (Vice-Chairman), James, J. Petherick, Weatherhead, Dawson (ex-Officio) and Goodman-Bradbury (ex-Officio)

Absent:

Cllr Graham-Ellis, Cllr Heath and Cllr L. Petherick

Officers In attendance:

Gemma Walker, Finance & Administration Officer

196 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Graham- Ellis, Heath, and L. Petherick.

Resolved that the apologies be noted.

197 AGREEMENT OF THE AGENDA BETWEEN PARTS I AND II

Resolved that the agenda between Parts I and II be agreed to.

198 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor J. Petherick advised that he was previously a trustee for Assist Teignbridge for 12 years and had previously left the room when Assist Teignbridge had applied for grants. However, as he was no longer a trustee, he advised that this year he would be discussing and voting on this item.

199 DISPENSATIONS

There were no dispensations.

200 MINUTES

Members considered the minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on 19th October 2023.

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 19th October 2023 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct and accurate record.

201 COST OF LIVING CRISIS

There was no update.

202 COMMUNITY GRANT SCHEME 2023-2024

Members reviewed the Community Grant Scheme budget 2023-2024 to date.

Resolved unanimously that the Community Grant Scheme budget be noted.

It was suggested by a member of the Committee that agenda items 9 and 10 be taken before agenda item 8 to allow for public participation.

Resolved that agenda items 9 and 10 would be considered before agenda item 8.

203 SMALLER GRANT APPLICATION- DAWLISH CHORAL SOCIETY

Resolved that the small grant application would be deferred to Full Council for consideration after the Full council had considered whether to further fund the Community Grant Scheme.

204 LARGER GRANT APPLICATION - ASSIST TEIGNBRIDGE

At this juncture, the Committee agreed to suspend Standing Orders to enable the public to address the meeting.

There was one member of the public that wanted to speak regarding the larger grant application for Assist Teignbridge. They explained what the grant was for and answered further questions from the Councillors.

Standing Orders were reinstated upon completion of public participation time.

The Committee discussed the application and then a further question arose for the applicant.

At this juncture, the Committee agreed to suspend Standing Orders to enable the public to address the meeting.

The member of the public answered the further question.

Standing Orders were reinstated upon completion of public participation time.

The Committee had further discussion on the application and a further question came up regarding volunteer training.

At this juncture, the Committee agreed to suspend Standing Orders to enable the public to address the meeting.

The member of the public answered the further question.

Standing Orders were reinstated upon completion of public participation time.

A proposal was made to offer a reduced amount, this wasn't seconded. A second proposal was made to offer the full amount.

Resolved with three votes for, 2 votes against and 2 abstentions that the larger grant application of £5000.00 to Assist Teignbridge be approved.

205 LARGER GRANT APPLICATION - EAST TEIGNBRIDGE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION

At this juncture, the Committee agreed to suspend Standing Orders to enable the public to address the meeting.

There was one member of the public that wanted to speak regarding the larger grant application for Assist Teignbridge. They explained what the grant was for and answered further questions from the Councillors.

Standing Orders were reinstated upon completion of public participation time.

Resolved that the larger grant application of £5000.00 to East Teignbridge Community Transport Association be approved.

The Committee further **resolved** that;

- The terms and conditions of the grant scheme will be reconsidered in a future meeting
- That the Committee would like to recommend to Full council that in light of the exceptional circumstances this year that the Full Council consider contributing a sum of money from the general reserves to Dawlish Community Transport to help with the purchase of replacement buses.
- To recommend to Full Council to consider closing the Large grant scheme but consider viring a sum of money from the reserves to continue to offer the small grant scheme until the end of the financial year.

206 DAWLISH LAWN TENNIS CLUB GRANT FEEDBACK FORM

The Committee reviewed the Community Grant feedback form received from Dawlish Lawn tennis Club.

Resolved that the feedback form be noted with appreciation.

207 BANK RECONCILIATIONS

The Chair advised that the Committee's representative had confirmed that the reconciliations for June 2023- October 2023 had been duly agreed and signed as an accurate record. The Chair passed his thanks on to Councillor Graham- Ellis for getting the bank reconciliation verifications up to date.

Resolved that the update be noted.

208 RBS YEAR END CLOSE DOWN

Resolved that the year end close down service offered by Rialtas would not be used at the end of this financial year.

209 INVOICES FOR PAYMENT, DIRECT DEBITS AND INCOME

Councillor Dawson declared that she was part of one of the organisations that had made a payment, however, this didn't stop her discussing the item.

Members present received and considered the report of invoices paid, direct debits and income received since the last report to the Committee.

It was discussed that the Covid Shop receipts would be discussed further as to whether the Council should be involved in taking repayments.

It was also discussed that a cashback option be looked into for purchases made through Amazon.

Resolved unanimously that the reports be approved.

210 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS & PUBLIC

Members **resolved** the following resolution:

That in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting for the duration of the following items on the basis that the information to be disclosed would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

211 DEBTORS AGED ACCOUNT BALANCES

Members received the Debtors Aged Account Balances and considered whether any further action needed to be taken at this time..

Resolved that the debtors Aged Account Balances be noted and that the reports to received quarterly going forward unless there is anything out of the ordinary that would require the committees attention earlier.

The meeting was closed by the Chairman at 8.19 pm

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Cllr Martin Wrigley, Chairman