

DAVENTRY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Finance, Policy & Assets Committee held at 3 New Street, Daventry on Monday, 12th August 2024 at 18:30hrs.

PRESENT: Cllr Scott Cameron – Vice Chair

Councillors

Ian Adkins
Mike Arnold
Stephen Dabbs
Ted Nicholl
Janet Matthews
Lynne Taylor

IN ATTENDANCE: Sarah Fox - Responsible Finance Officer (RFO)
Deborah Jewell - Chief Officer (CO)
Mel Bland – Operations Officer
2 Members of the Public
0 Members of the Press

OPEN FORUM.

Representatives from the Danetre Ukulele Orchestra advised that they were in attendance to support their application and advised that they would be happy to answer any questions.

FP2408.1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Councillor	Apologies	Resolved
Alan Knappe	Received and considered	Apologies Approved
Katie Thurston	Received and considered	Apologies Approved

FP2408.2 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS.

Councillor	Declaration Of Interest	Minute Number
Ted Nicholl	Member of the Danetre Ukulele Orchestra – pecuniary	FP2308.4 (i)

FP2408.3 MINUTES.

RESOLVED:	That the Minutes of the Finance & Policy Committee meeting held on Monday 15 th July, be approved, and signed as a correct record.
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FP2408.4 COMMUNITY GRANT(S)

Members considered the grant application submitted by Daventry Ukulele Orchestra, and it was

RESOLVED:	That the sum of £350 be awarded to Daventry Ukulele Orchestra to provide a financial contribution towards the costs of equipment.
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FP2408.5 POLICIES.

Members reviewed policies, as identified for review in the schedule, and it was

RECOMMENDED	(i) Mayoral Allowance, as amended be approved. (ii) Leave of Absence, as amended be approved.
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FP2408.6 LICENCES.

Members noted the licences identified within the report that had been issued for events, works and access on land owned by the Council and expressed concern in relation to the request to bury a time capsule on land adjacent to DACT and the children’s play area. Their concern centred around setting a precedent, the Chief Officer suggested they consider adopting a policy to help manage similar requests to enable the office to regulate requests to ensure the safe and sustainable management of open spaces and amenity land going forward.

RESOLVED:	That the request for a time capsule and tree be approved on the proviso the tree is a cherry tree, of the same species as those located within the avenue of cherry trees planted as a symbol of the longstanding friendship between Japan and the UK.
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FP2408.7 OPEN SPACE MANAGEMENT & MAINTENANCE.

Members noted the report on travellers unlawful entry onto council land and praised the actions taken by the office and the Police in liaising with travellers to ensure they respected local residents and the wishes of the Council to vacate council owned land within the timescale they were given.

CONSULTATION – WEST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE PARKS DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY.

Members referred to the draft submission, from the Operations Officer and agreed with all points raised. Cllr Arnold expressed concern in relation to the over-commercialisation of all country parks, suggesting they were no longer wildlife sanctuaries and more of an opportunity to generate income. Members agreed and added that with the introduction of parking charges visits to the park were no longer inclusive to all.

RECOMMENDED	That the draft submission be approved, emphasising the detrimental effect of the addition of commercial activities on the environment, wildlife and affordability for all.
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FP2408.8 FINANCIAL REPORTS.

Members referred to the financial reports and the Chair confirmed they had seen the bank statements and reconciled the balances. Councillor Scott Cameron entered the chamber.

RESOLVED:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) That the Council budget/income and expenditure report for July 2024 be received. (ii) That the statement of Earmarked Reserves for July 2024 be received. (iii) That the CIL receipts and expenditure report be received. (iv) That the statement of balances and reconciliation as of 31st July 2024 be approved and signed. (v) That the schedule of payments for the period 16th July 2024 to 12th August 2024 be approved and signed. (vi) It was noted that there were no petty cash payments, inter account transfers or virement for the period 16th July 2024 to 12th August 2024.
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FP2408.9 CORRESPONDENCE.

None.

FP2408.10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING.

The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Monday, 9th September 2024.

The meeting closed at 19:14 hrs

SIGNED DATED

FOR APPROVAL