



Minutes of Meeting of the Finance and Compliance Committee held on 18 November 2024 at 6.30 pm Hybrid Meeting at the Ostreme Centre & via Teams

Councillors Present: Rob Marshall (Chair), Pam Erasmus (Vice Chair) Ian Scott, Martin O'Neill, Phil Keeton, Tim Zhou and Carrie Townsend Jones

Officers Present: Kerry-Leigh Grabham – Clerk, Paul Beynon – RFO, Diane Athernought – Customer Services Officer and Ian Hughes – CSO

FI2411-01 Apologies: None

FI2411-02 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Townend Jones declared a personal and prejudicial interest in relation to agenda item as she is a member of the Upper Norton Field Allotment Association. Cllr Townsend Jones left the meeting during the relevant agenda item between 7.20pm and 7.23pm

FI2411-03 Minutes of the Previous Meeting of the Committee

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 21st October 2024 as a true record.

RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 21st October 2024 as a true record.

FI2411-04 Outstanding Actions from Previous Meeting

Outstanding actions outlined by CSO

RESOLVED outstanding actions updated, details recorded in 'outstanding action' report by CSO.



FI2411-05 Budget Monitoring Reports to 30/09/2024 - Paul Beynon, RFO

Financial reports prepared by RFO Paul Beynon, who had previously circulated reports to councillors.

No queries regarding these reports were raised prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED to approve the budget monitoring report to 30th September 2024

FI2411-06 Budget 2025/26

The RFO outlined the draft budget spreadsheet to Committee and each budget line was discussed in detail including the new budget proposal.

RESOLVED that the attached budget for 2025/26 be recommended to Council at the budget meeting to be held in January 2025.

FI2411-07 Policy Update

The Clerk set out how she had circulated three policy documents for the perusal of councillors, namely, A Safeguarding Policy, A Pay Policy and A Terms and Conditions of Hire for Ostreme Policy. The Clerk had received feedback and stated that a resolution in relation to the policies was urgently required. It was proposed to scrutinise the documents at the Policy Committee within the next two weeks, thereby allowing Full Council to consider any recommendation at The December Full Council Meeting.

The Chair, Cllr Marshall, a member of the policy committee is unavailable during the proposed timescale and Cllr Erasmus agreed to contribute at the committee in his absence.

RESOLVED; That the Policy Committee will convene on Wednesday 4th December 2024 at 9.30am to agree upon the proposed policies with a view to a recommendation being considered at December's Full Council Meeting.



FI2411-08 Mumbles Bowls Club Grant Application

Grant Application for £2,242.62 to contribute towards the maintenance of the playing surface at Mumbles Bowling Green.

A discussion ensued in relation to the merits of the application, in particular why Mumbles Bowls Club required the grant when they have £10,000 in their bank reserves. Also concerns were raised over the member application process, Councillors believed that applicants had been declined due to the waiting list being full with no apparent opportunity for an additional team being catered for.

RESOLVED: The application was deferred until the December Meeting pending enquiries from the applicant in relation to the need for funding and further details on the current application process.

FI2411-09

Upper Norton Field Allotment Association Grant Application

Grant Application for £1,836 to contribute towards the completion of boundary fencing along the eastern perimeter of the allotments.

Cllr Townsend Jones who had declared an interest in this agenda item at the outset of the meeting gave a brief overview of the application. This centred around safety concerns which included a beehive on the premises. Cllr Townsend Jones then left the meeting at 7.20pm returning at 7.23pm after the discussion and voting.

During the discussion Councillors noted that financial contributions had been made by Welsh Government and The Co-Operative. The application related to a good local cause and match funding had been achieved.

RECOMMENDED that a grant of £1,836 be made to The Upper Norton Allotment Association, towards completion of a boundary fence from **Budget FC1**

Meeting ended 7.25pm

Next Meeting 16th December 2024



Appendix 1

Finance and Compliance Committee - Draft Budget 2025/26

Item	Amount £	RFO Auth
Small and Medium Grants	35,000	
Mumbles Traders Annual Grant	8,500	
West Cross Youth Club Annual Grant	5,000	
Training Courses and Associated Costs	4,200	✓
Evaluation Services	1,500	
Hybrid Meeting Equipment Maintenance Contract	1,400	
Ostreme Centre - Development Costs	125,000	
Finance and Compliance - Draft Budget 2025/26	180,600	