



P&R Committee Minutes

Time and date

6.30pm on Wednesday **13 March 2024**

Place

The Lights, Andover

Councillors Present:

Arrival time noted if after meeting start

Cllr S Hardstaff (Chairman)	✓	Cllr K Bird (Vice Chairman)	✓	Cllr E Reynolds	✓
Cllr L Gregori	✓	Cllr R Meyer	✓	Cllr H Neate	✓
Cllr J Hughes	✓ (18:34pm)	Cllr R Hughes	✗	Cllr R Kidd	✓

Officers Present:

Gail Foster (Town Clerk)

Members of the Public:	1
County/Borough Councillors:	0
Members of the Press:	0

PUBLIC SESSION	
PR 064/03/24	No questions were raised by members of the public.
APOLOGIES	
PR 065/03/24	Apologies had been received from Councillors R Hughes.
INTERESTS	
PR 066/03/24	Non-pecuniary declarations were received from: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Councillor E Reynolds, as a member of the Drove Association, and as an allotment plot holder. 2. Councillor H Neate, as a plot holder at Ox Drove allotment site. No pecuniary declarations were received.
MINUTES	
PR 067/03/24	It was proposed by Councillor Reynolds and seconded by Councillor Bird and RESOLVED: Unanimously , that the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 31 st January 2024, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record, as soon as possible after the meeting had closed. Action: Committee Officer
CONTRACTUAL & DELEGATED PAYMENTS	
PR 068/03/24	It was proposed by Councillor Meyer and seconded by Councillor Bird and RESOLVED: Unanimously , that the contractual and delegated payments that had

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	been made in the period of 14 th February 2024 to 5 th March 2024, as per report detailed in item 5 on the agenda be approved.
PAYMENTS FOR APPROVAL	
PR 069/03/24	Members noted that there were no payments that required approval above the RFO's delegated authority.
BANK RECONCILIATION	
PR 070/03/24a	(Cllr J Hughes joined the meeting at 18:34pm) It was proposed by Councillor Meyer and seconded by Councillor Reynolds and RESOLVED: FOR – 7, AGAINST – 0, ABSTENTIONS – 1 , that the Bank Statements and Bank Reconciliation showing the following balances be approved: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. UTB 1 = £448,173.25 ii. UTB 2 = £87,834.70 iii. Redwood Bank = £87,207.18 iv. Total = £623,215.13 Cllr Reynolds advised that Redwood bank had introduced a second sign in requirement for logging into the online banking. He had found it a bit problematic and had been assured by Redwood Bank that this was being addressed.
PR 070/03/24b	Additional signatories would be added to the Unity Trust Bank Account. Action: Committee Officer.
PR 070/03/24c	Another attempt to open the Cambridge and Counties bank account would be made. Action: Committee Officer.
CASHBOOK	
PR 071/03/24	It was proposed by Councillor Meyer and seconded by Councillor Reynolds and RESOLVED: Unanimously , that the Cashbook showing the following balances be approved: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Gross receipts to date = £416,789.35 ii. Gross payments to date = £352,633.01
BUDGET REPORT	
PR 072/03/24	It was proposed by Councillor Reynolds and seconded by Councillor Bird and RESOLVED: Unanimously , that the Budget showing the net budget remaining of £33,576.09 be approved.
EARMARKED RESERVES	
PR 073/03/24a	It was proposed by Councillor Gregori and seconded by Councillor Reynolds and RESOLVED: Unanimously , that the Earmarked Reserves as listed in the report be approved: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Elections = £79,036.28 ii. Allotments = £ 86,662.26 iii. Christmas Lights = £ 12,591.74 iv. Property Purchase = 102,000.00 v. CIL Funds = £ 99,099.83

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PR 073/03/24b	The Town Clerk advised that the recent payments for Tree works had not yet been taken out of the Allotments Earmarked Reserves. This would be completed before year end. Action: Town Clerk.
POLICIES – FINANCIAL RISK ASSESSMENT	
PR 074/03/24a	Councillors considered the Financial Risk Assessment and it was proposed by Councillor Meyer and seconded by Councillor Kidd and RESOLVED: FOR Unanimously , that the following amendments be made before bringing the revised document to Full Council on Wednesday 20 th March: Action: Town Clerk.
PR 074/03/24b	A line would be added to ensure that there are sufficient officers and councillors able to view or action the bank accounts. Action: Town Clerk.
PR 074/03/24c	Two more councillors would be added as signatories to the Unity Trust Bank account. Action: Committee Officer.
PR 074/03/24d	A section for Treasury Management would be added to the Financial Risk Assessment. Action: Town Clerk.
PR 074/03/24e	The coloured column would be removed. Action: Town Clerk.
PR 074/03/24f	A line will be added under the section “Asset Controls” requiring that the stability of banks holding council funds are regularly reviewed. Action: Town Clerk.
PR 074/03/24g	A line will be added under the section “Asset Controls” requiring that a formal process is put in place in case office entry cards are lost. Action: Town Clerk.
PR 074/03/24h	A line will be added under the section “Risk Management Arrangements “questioning whether FOI requests are received by more than one officer to ensure prompt handling. Action: Town Clerk.
PR 074/03/24i	A line will be added under the section “Risk Management Arrangements” in relation to holding passwords securely. Action: Town Clerk.
PR 074/03/24j	A line will be added under the section “Risk Management Arrangements “ to prevent GDPR breaches. Action: Town Clerk.
PR 074/03/24k	The annual GDPR review will be undertaken and documented. Action: Committee Officer.
POLICIES - RISK MANAGEMENT SCHEME	
PR 075/03/24a	Councillors had discussed the Risk Management Scheme at the same time as the Financial Risk Assessment. It had been suggested that extra lines be inserted in the Risk Management Scheme so that it could be revisited at the next Policies WG on Monday 18 th March: Action: Deputy Clerk.
PR 075/03/24b	A section for Treasury Management would be added in the Risk Management Scheme. Action: Town Clerk.

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PR 075/03/24c	Under the section "Legal / Liability" the line relating to GDPR and FOI would be split into two separate risks. Action: Town Clerk.
PR 075/03/24d	Under the section "Financial Risk" a line will be added showing "Financial institution holding council funds collapses" Action: Town Clerk.
PR 075/03/24e	A process would be drawn up to monitor Bank Stability Ratings. Action: Cllr Neate and Town Clerk
PR 075/03/24f	Under the section "Security Risk," lines will be added showing "Loss of office entry access cards," "Loss of IT Passwords" Action: Town Clerk.
PR 075/03/24g	Under the section "Reputational Risk," a line will be added showing "Loss of IT Passwords" Action: Town Clerk.
PR 075/03/24h	Under the section "IT Risk," a line will be added showing "Loss of IT Passwords" Action: Town Clerk.
PR 075/03/24i	Under the section "IT Risk," a line will be added showing "Data Quality Risk" Action: Town Clerk.
PR 075/03/24j	Under the section "IT Risk," a line will be added showing "Website information Risk" Action: Town Clerk.
NEXT MEETING	
PR 076/03/24	Members noted that the date of the next Full Council meeting would be Wednesday 20 March 2024 , to be held in the Upper Guildhall, Andover, at 6.30pm and the next Policy & Resources Committee meeting would be Wednesday, 10 April 2024 , to be held at The Lights, Andover, at 6.30pm.
EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC	
PR 077/03/24	It was proposed by Councillor Gregori and seconded by Councillor J Hughes and RESOLVED: Unanimously , that the Press and Public would be excluded from the rest of the meeting due to the confidential nature of the next item and to comply with GDPR.
CONFIDENTIAL – STAFFING MATTERS	
PR 078/03/24a	Cllr Hardstaff and the Town Clerk gave a short verbal report to Councillors in relation to the staffing review that was currently being undertaken. It was noted that a matrix has been produced of all the tasks that the staff currently perform, and discussions were underway to reallocate some of the tasks to different staff members. Every officer would be gaining some responsibilities and losing others in the reshuffle. The aim was that the small admin team would become more effective and

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	<p>efficient and better able to serve the Council and Community within the next six months.</p> <p>An important reason for the job reallocating was to ensure that officers were cross trained in all areas. This would provide that holiday, sickness and other absences did not result in a lack of productivity.</p> <p>Any absence of the Town Clerk had been identified as a “Single Point of Failure,” and Councillors were reassured that this was being addressed. Back up training to cover key functions had already been started.</p> <p>As soon as all the staff had agreed to their new roles, further training would start. A six-month review would be scheduled, when any necessary tweaking to the roles could be discussed.</p> <p>Initial responses from officers had been positive, although it is early days and discussions are ongoing.</p> <p>All changes are allowing officers the opportunity for growth and additional learning required to follow a more defined career path suited to their strengths and abilities.</p>
<p>PR 078/03/24b</p>	<p>The Town Clerk advised that the staff structure had been updated on the website to show the current structure before any amendments had been made.</p> <p>If the staff agreed to a new structure, this would be amended and the website updated. Action: Town Clerk.</p>
<p>PR 078/03/24c</p>	<p>All Staff contracts were being reviewed and the HR Panel would assist with the rewriting. Action: Town Clerk and HR Panel.</p>

The Chairman of the Committee closed the meeting at **19:13 pm.**

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