

**BRIGHTLINGSEA TOWN COUNCIL
FINANCE & PROPERTY COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the Meeting held at the Parish Hall, Victoria Place, Brightlingsea
on Tuesday 15th October 2024 at 10.00 a.m.

Present:

Councillors

D Atkinson (Chairman)

J Chapman (Vice Chairman)

J Carr, M Court (10.29am onwards), J Howard,

R Morgan and C Paveley

Also in Attendance:

Tracey Pulford - Town Clerk

3 Members of the Public

Before the meeting started, the Chairman mentioned that he would like to add an agenda item, after item 5, this being for Pawsons Playground. Also at item 6, Councillors Atkinson, Carr and Paveley would leave the meeting whilst the item is discussed.

F.060 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: None received.

F.061 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 17TH SEPTEMBER 2024, RECEIVED BY COUNCIL ON THE 19TH SEPTEMBER 2024:

The Minutes were accepted as a true record.

F.062 DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS:

Members were reminded of the requirement to disclose any interest in relation to items on the agenda when these are discussed.

F.063 BUDGET AND FINANCIAL REPORT UP TO 30TH SEPTEMBER 2024, INCLUDING:

- **CHAIRMAN'S SUMMARY**

A copy of the Chairman's Summary – September 24 and Budgets & Actuals 2024/25 had been circulated to all members. Councillor Atkinson briefed members and a discussion took place.

Councillor Paveley informed members that he and the Town Clerk have looked at another investment bank account, and are applying to CCLA, who offer a 5.03% return. He then recommended that this account is used as an investment account, for the precept. Seconded by Councillor Chapman. Agreed.

Recommendation: The new CCLA account is used as an investment account, for the precept.

- **FINANCIAL MONTHLY OVERVIEW:**

The Town Clerk informed members that:-

Income for September 2024	£7,841.23
Expenditure for September 2024	£31,822.66
Current Account (7055)	£1,520.86
Business Premium Account (8295)	£3,067.52
Business Premium Account (9433)	£401.95
Instant Access Account (0373)	£83,207.42
Current T2 Account (0360)	£1,581.19
Making a total on all accounts of	£89,778.94

- **DEBTORS LIST AS OF 30TH SEPTEMBER 2024:**

A copy of the Debtors List as at 30.09.24 had been circulated to all members. The Town Clerk informed members that the debtor for the Lakeside now relates to the period June – September 2024. This report was noted.

F.064 EXAMINING OF ACCOUNTS:

The Town Clerk informed members that there are 15 payments in the sum of £4,674.82 to be authorised for payment, and Councillors Carr and Chapman agreed to examine the accounts after the meeting.

Recommendation: 15 payments totalling £4,674.82 are approved for payment, with Councillors Carr and Chapman signing off the invoices.

F.065 PAWSONS PLAYGROUND:

Councillor Paveley briefed members on the recently purchased Kinetic Wheel, and that the safety surfacing of Pawsons Playground needs urgent attention to make the area more suitable for its use and to enable the equipment to be installed. He said that 4 quotations have been received, and that S106 monies from Tendring District Council could be used to cover the cost. He then proposed that S106 monies are applied for to be used for works on the safety surface of Pawsons Playground. Seconded by Councillor Chapman. **Agreed.**

Recommendation: S106 monies are applied for to be used for works on the safety surface of Pawsons Playground.

F.066 DISCRETIONARY GRANT APPLICATION:

Councillors Atkinson, Carr and Paveley all declared an interest in this item and left the room whilst any discussion took place. Councillor Chapman took the Chair for this item.

A copy of the Grant Application from the Colne Yacht Club had been circulated to all members. A discussion took place, and it was **agreed** that as the Town Council do not have a budget for this and are not in a financial position to support this application, it is refused at this moment in time. The Council also wishes them luck with the event.

Recommendation: As the Town Council do not have a budget for this and are not in a financial position to support this application, it is refused at this moment in time. The Council also wishes them luck with the event.

Councillors Atkinson, Carr and Paveley returned to the meeting at 10.29am.

Councillor Court joined the meeting at 10.29am.

Before closing the meeting to the public, the Chairman invited questions from the public:-

Q1) Pawsons Playground, I totally agree with the upgrade to the safety surfacing. From the Museum to the Promenade is the 'golden mile' however the building at the end is a mess and has been so for 5 years. What is being done about this?

A1) Councillor Morgan replied that the Council is pushing for a meeting with the tenant and their Project Manager, and hopefully we should receive correspondence from them before the end of this week.

Q2) I would like to see the playground on the Bayard Recreation Ground updated. Was the Activity Centre on the Lower Park Recreation Ground discussed at the recent Teams meeting?

A2) Councillor Atkinson replied yes, however this will not be in the first round of applications. The Council are enthusiastic and behind the scheme.

Q3) With Councillors being excluded from the meeting, why are Tendring District Council dictating control?

A3) Councillor Carr replied that the Council have been guided by the District Council on this method. He added that dispensation can be given, and Councillors will, in future, ask for dispensation when an interest arises.

Councillor Atkinson then moved, in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, in order to discuss items of a sensitive nature and items which are commercially confidential, the press and public be excluded. This was seconded by Councillor Chapman.

F.067 MOTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960 –To discuss the following:-

- Disputed Debtors

F.068 DISPUTED DEBTORS:

The Chairman advised members that there are no disputed debtors, however the outstanding invoices for the Playcentre have been looked into and much correspondence has taken place with Octopus Energy. He added that invoices are being prepared for the first three months, with corresponding invoices relating to last year.

The Chairman advised members that the card machine has now been ordered.

Councillor Paveley asked about a Banking Hub being in Brightlingsea. Councillor Chapman advised that we do not apply as Lloyds Bank still attend the Library every two weeks.

F.069 CLOSE OF MEETING: There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10.46 a.m.

Received by Council on: 17.10.24

Approved by Committee on:

Signed by Chairman:

Signed by Chairman: