

Sandy Town Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Policy, Finance and Resources Committee of Sandy Town Council which was held in the Council Chamber at 10 Cambridge Road, Sandy, Bedfordshire on Monday 6th January 2025 commencing at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs S Baker, A Effiong, J Hewitt, R Lacey, A Lock, R Lock, C Osborne (Chair), M Pettitt, M Scott and P Sharman

Absent: Mrs N Sewell (Clerk)

In attendance: Mrs C Baker-Smith (Admin Team Leader), Cllrs N Aldis

Actions

1 Apologies for absence (PFR 94-2024/25)

Apologies were received from the Town Clerk.

Admin

2 Declarations of interest (PFR 95-2024/25)

i) Disclosable Pecuniary Interest – *none*

ii) Non-disclosable Pecuniary Interest – *none*

iii) Dispensations – *none*

3 Financial Regulations 4.8 (PFR 96-2024/25)

No disclosures were made.

4 Minutes of previous meeting (PFR 97-2024/25)

RESOLVED to receive the minutes of the meeting of Policy, Finance and Resources Committee held on Monday 25th November 2024 and to approve them as a correct record of proceedings.

5 Public Participation Session (PFR 98-2024/25)

No members of the public were present.

6 Financial Reports (PFR 99-2024/25)

i) Members considered the balance sheet and detailed financial report showing income and expenditure against the revenue budget ending 30th November 2024. The Chairman took Members through the report page by page.

A Member queried if the monies allocated in EMR to the Neighbourhood Plan were all still required. It was stated that they were.

The Chair queried the high spend of electricity on the Car Park Public Toilets and a Member queried the electricity payments for Sunderland Road and asked for them to be checked and reported back to committee. He also queried whether the rent from Sandy Bowls Club had been paid and again asked for this to be checked and

Sandy Town Council

reported back to committee.

RESOLVED to note the reports.

ii) Members received and considered a budget report from the Town Clerk.

RESOLVED to note the report.

iii) Members scrutinised a schedule of payments for November 2024.

RESOLVED to approve the list of payments.

iv) Bank reconciliations and statements.

RESOLVED that the Chair of Policy, Finance and Resources check and approve the bank reconciliations and statements.

7 2025/26 Draft Budget and Precept (PFR 100-2024/25)

i) Members received and considered the latest draft 2025/26 budget and precept documents including capital project report.

It was **RESOLVED** to delete the Community Gardens, Beeston project from the Capital Expenditure Report as this funding was already in the revenue budget and to add Sandye Place as a future project, as the Council may be required to spend funds.

ii) Members received and considered the updated draft 2025/26 budget reports by costs centre.

It was **RESOLVED** that the 2025/26 budget and precept as set out in the papers submitted to the committee be recommended to the Full Council for approval. The proposed budget will require an increase in the budget of £52,652 resulting in a total precept of £733,404. This will result in a Precept per Band D equivalent to £180.37, which will be a £12.37 (7.36%) increase per Band D equivalent for the financial year 2025/26 (23.72 pence per week).

8 Calendar of Meetings 2025/26 (PFR 101-2024/25)

Members received and considered a calendar of meeting dates for Council and Committee meetings across the Civic Year 2025/26.

RESOLVED to approve the Calendar of Meetings for 2025/26.

Town
Clerk

Sandy Town Council

9 Cemetery Extension Update (PFR 102-2024/25)

Members received and considered the minutes from the Cemetery Working Group regarding response from CBC Planning to the application to Variation of Conditions and next steps.

It was **RESOLVED** that the gate columns had to be moved as soon as possible and that more fencing is required to be installed, therefore quotes need to be obtained.

Town Clerk

10 Spending under Delegated Authority (PFR 103 -2024/25)

Members received the following payment made under delegated authority:

- £1,000 to flail brambles at the old railway embankment at Sunderland Road.

TOTAL = £1,000

RESOLVED to note the payment.

11 Action Plan (PFR 104 -2024/25)

Members reviewed the PF&R Action Plan for 2024/25.

RESOLVED to note the Action Plan and to add that the Scale of Charges had been completed and the renewal of the lease for Sandy Bowls Club be changed to April 2025.

Town Clerk

12 Chairman's Items (PFR 105-2024/25)

There were none.

13 Date of Next Meeting

24th February 2025

The meeting closed at 20.09.