

Minutes of the Meeting of the **FINANCE COMMITTEE** held in the Four Clocks Centre, Bishop Auckland on **TUESDAY, 17TH OCTOBER 2017 AT 5.00 P.M.**

Present: Councillor Wilson (Chairman) and Councillors Brownson, Chappell and S. Zair.

Also Present: David Anderson (Town Clerk)

FIN.25/17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Allen, Blackburn and Tucker

FIN.26/17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor S Zair declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in respect Item No 4.4 Authorisation of cheques, a. written under delegated powers' cheque no 1489 and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

FIN.27/17 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public in attendance.

REPORT OF TOWN CLERK

FIN.28/17 ACCOUNT BALANCES AS AT 17TH OCTOBER 2017

The Town Clerk reported account balances as follows:-

Account	Balance
Lloyds Deposit Account	£14,413.27
Lloyds Current Account	£2,213.74
Lloyds Mayors Charity Account	£1,850.30
Darlington Building Society	£97,326.21
Nationwide	£98,260.75
Santander	£100,000.00

Members noted that an account had been opened at the HSBC in 2016 was to be closed by the bank due to it being inactive for over a year. It was noted that the account had not been used due to its low interest rate and a charge would be incurred to withdraw funds. There was no objection to the bank closing the account.

RECOMMENDED: That the information be noted.

FIN.29/17 BANK RECONCILIATIONS AT END OF QUARTER 2

Members noted and confirmed that accounts held by the Council had been reconciled and signed by the Chairman of Finance Committee.

RECOMMENDED: That the bank reconciliations be noted and confirmed.

FIN.30/17 SPEND AGAINST BUDGET AS AT 30TH SEPTEMBER 2017 (QUARTER 2)

A schedule detailing spend against budget as at 30th September 2017 (end of Quarter 2) was circulated and considered. (For copy see file of Minutes).

RECOMMENDED: That the provisional outturn be noted.

Signed:
Chair

FIN.31/17 AUTHORISATION OF CHEQUES – DELEGATED POWERS

In accordance with delegated powers, payments totalling the amounts below had been made as detailed in the report. (For copy see file of Minutes).

Current Account £21,443.54

RECOMMENDED: That the action taken be confirmed.

FIN.32/17 CHEQUES PRESENTED FOR AUTHORISATION

It was noted that there were no cheques presented for authorisation.

RECOMMENDED: That the information be noted

FIN.33/17 ICT EQUIPMENT

Consideration was given to a report in relation to reviewing the Council's ICT (Information Communications Technology) equipment which was between 5 and 6 years old and in need of replacing. (For copy see file of Minutes).

The Town Council did not have the necessary expertise in house to be able to draw up a specification of suitable requirements and therefore it was suggested that proposals be obtained from a number of service suppliers.

The intention was for the Council to have a modern ICT network which was fit for purpose and complied with current security requirements and was adaptable to cope with future updates. A number of options would be considered including outright purchase and leased equipment. A service contract would also be considered for routine maintenance and to deal with any problems that occur.

RECOMMENDED: That proposals and quotations be obtained from a three ICT service suppliers to provide equipment as described in the report.

FIN.34/17 SKATEPARK LIGHTING – ELECTRICITY PROVIDER

Consideration was given to a report regarding the provision of electricity to the Skate Park lights. (For copy see file of Minutes).

- RECOMMENDED**
1. That NPower continue to provide electricity for the skatepark lights for the winter months.
 2. That a comparison be made with alternative suppliers in spring 2018.