

THATCHAM TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of a meeting of the
Finance and General Purposes Committee
held on Monday 28th October 2024 at 19:00hrs
in the Council Chamber, Brownsfield Road, Thattham

Present: Councillor Mike Cole (Chairman)
 Councillors Jeremy Cottam, Iain Cottingham, Owen Jeffery,
 Mark Lillycrop and Tom McCann

In attendance: Mel Taylor (Town Clerk) and Miri Willan (Finance Manager)

FGP/2024/30 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
 An apology for absence was received from Councillor Jay Lunn.

FGP/2024/31 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
 There were no declarations of interest.

FGP/2024/32 MINUTES
RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 22nd July 2024, having been previously circulated, be taken as read, confirmed, and signed as an accurate record.

FGP/2024/33 BUDGET REVIEW 2024/25
a) Committee reviewed a report of all Council budgets for the period 1st April 2024 to 30th June 2024, including projected year-end figures.

- b)** Reserves and CIL:
- i. Committee noted a report on Reserves and CIL funds held.
 - ii. Committee considered the following movements of Reserves:

RESOLVED £24,480 from EMR345 (Thattham Library contribution) to EMR322 (Major Projects Fund).
 to transfer £24,480 from EMR345 (Thattham Library contribution) to EMR322 (Major Projects Fund).

RESOLVED £25,000 from EMR347 (Henwick Worthy) to EMR322 (Major Projects Fund).
 to transfer £25,000 from EMR347 (Henwick Worthy) to EMR322 (Major Projects Fund).

RESOLVED £5,000 from EMR310 (General Fund – Working Reserve) to EMR331 (Events), for ‘Themed Markets’ as proposed during 2024/25 budget setting.
 to transfer £5,000 from EMR310 (General Fund – Working Reserve) to EMR331 (Events), for ‘Themed Markets’ as proposed during 2024/25 budget setting.

RESOLVED £21,000 from EMR310 (General Fund – Working Balance) to EMR321 (Neighbourhood Development Plan).
 to transfer £21,000 from EMR310 (General Fund – Working Balance) to EMR321 (Neighbourhood Development Plan).

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FGP/2024/33 **BUDGET REVIEW 2024/25 continued**
 £10,000 from EMR310 (General Fund – Working Balance) to EMR327 (Election Expenses) to support expenditure of £18,979.51 for local election costs. (plus £6,000 allocated in 2024/25 budget).

RESOLVED to transfer £10,000 from EMR310 (General Fund – Working Balance) to EMR327 (Election Expenses).

RESOLVED Use of £4,405.87 from EMR324 (Recreation Development Fund) to fund replacement of a ‘Springer’ unit in Dunstan Green play area.
 to approve use of £4,405.87 from EMR324 (Recreation Development Fund) to fund replacement of ‘Springer’ unit in Dunstan Green play area.

c) Committee noted a report on external grants and sponsorship received.

d) Committee noted a report on vandalism costs.

FGP/2024/34 **MINUTES GRANTS SUB-COMMITTEE**
RESOLVED to adopt the Minutes of the Grants Sub-Committee meeting held on 9th September 2024.

FGP/2024/35 **ADDITIONAL IT INFRASTRUCTURE TO SUPPORT ACCESSIBILITY NEEDS**
RESOLVED to approve expenditure of £665.83 (plus peripherals + setup) to purchase an enhanced laptop to support an accessibility need within the Council, funded from the Rolling Capital Fund.

FGP/2024/36 **REQUEST FROM EVENTS WORKING PARTY FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDS**

RESOLVED i. Committee considered a request from the Events Team to utilise a surplus of £2,200 in the Fun Day budget, to invest in infrastructure to support future Fun Day events [and other events]. Items to include various site signage (feather flags, directional arrows etc).
 to approve investment of the £2,200 surplus in the 2024/25 Fun Day budget in additional event infrastructure.

RESOLVED ii. Committee considered a request from the Events Working Party, arising from its meeting on 25th September 2024 (EVWP/2024/23), for additional funds of £800 to enhance activities at the Warming Up For Christmas weekend 2024.
 to approve additional expenditure of £800 for the Warming Up For Christmas weekend 2024, funded from the 2024/25 Fun Day surplus.

FGP/2024/37 **ALLOTMENT RENTS 2025**
RESOLVED to agree allotment rents for the calendar year 2025 as follows:

	Rent 2025
Full Plots	£88.00
Half Plots	£44.00
Third Plots	£29.00
Quarter Plots	£22.00

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RESOLVED

COMMUNITY PROJECT FUND APPLICATIONS

to award the following grants from the Community Project Fund:

- i. Alice Bye Court - £350 for 'Gardening Project'.
- ii. Sally Mitchell - £250 for 'Jubilee Garden Volunteers'.
- iii. Life Education Wessex & Thames Valley - £555 for 'Helping Children Make Healthy Choices'.
- iv. West Berkshire Heritage Forum - £50 contribution towards 'Local listing, Conservation Area Appraisals, others'.

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COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT WORKING PARTY

Committee noted that Councillor Simon Pike had requested to step down from the Community Engagement Working Party.

RESOLVED

to appoint Councillor Suzanne Adamantos to the Community Engagement Working Party.

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FINANCIALS

- i. Committee noted BACS payments made from the current account in the previous quarter, which had been audited by Councillors in advance of the meeting (appendix I).
- ii. Committee noted details of other payments made from the current account and Clerk's account during the period 1st July 2024 to 30th September 2024 (appendix II).
- iii. Committee noted a bank reconciliation report.
- iv. Committee noted an Aged Creditor report.
- v. Committee noted an Aged Debtor report.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 20:53hrs.

Signed _____ Date _____