



EVESHAM

TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 24th JUNE 2024
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, EVESHAM TOWN HALL AT 6:30PM

PRESENT: Councillors: J. Clatworthy (Chair), S. Brotherton, R. Raphael, M. Goodge, Mrs S. Amor, M. Arens and Mrs E. Stokes

OFFICERS PRESENT: Mrs J. Adams, Town Clerk; Mrs S. Schaathun, Finance Officer

1. Election of Chairman

It was proposed by Cllr Raphael, seconded by Cllr Arens and agreed to elect Cllr Clatworthy as chairman for the municipal year. There were no other nominations.

2. Election of Vice Chairman

It was proposed by Cllr Goodge, seconded by Cllr Raphael to elect Cllr Brotherton as vice-chair for the municipal year. There were no other nominations.

3. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from Cllrs A. Booth and D. Davis.

4. Declarations of pecuniary or other interests

There were none.

5. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 4th December 2023 be adopted as a true record.

6. Clerk's Report

VAT: Local authorities can recover VAT attributable to exempt activities where it is, in HMRC's opinion, an insignificant proportion of the total VAT incurred. To be insignificant, and so fully recoverable, the VAT attributable to exempt activities needs to be less than the greater of:

- £625 per month on average, i.e. not more than £7,500 per year
- 5% of the total VAT incurred on all purchases in a year, including those for non-business activities.

In the event that the VAT incurred went above the de minimus level, none of the VAT incurred would be recoverable. The expenditure for the Almonry restoration project would put the



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council above the threshold, as the admission fees for the Almonry was an exempt supply. A VAT consultant had been engaged to investigate solutions to this issue, as the council would be liable to meet the cost of the VAT due on supplies related to the £2.1M grant and other council expenditure. The consultant's report would be discussed at an upcoming meeting.

Almonry Loan progress: There had been some queries from the Public Works Loan Board following the application. An updated cashflow forecast was awaited and when sent off would complete the queries made.

7. Investment Policy

The investment policy was reviewed and no amendments were necessary, other than the addition of the date reviewed.

8. Council Investment

The council's investment is with the CCLA (Churches, Charities and Local Authorities Investment Management Ltd). The value of the fund as at 31/03/2024 was £93,335.19 from an initial investment of £100,000 a number of years ago. The interest was set to pay out each quarter as income. In the year 2023/24, the fund had yielded £4,713.79 of income which was then paid into the council's current account, losing its ability to earn income as part of the fund. It was agreed that the council consider reinvesting the interest back into the fund when budgets were set.

9. Internal Controls

The internal controls were reviewed and no amendments were necessary. Cllr Brotherton asked if monitoring of VAT claimed for exempt supplies could be added.

10. Banking Arrangements

The banking arrangements were reviewed and no amendments were necessary.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.15pm.

Date of next meeting: 2nd September 2024

Cllr John Clatworthy
Chairman