

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE OF BOURNE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2024 at 7:00PM AT THE COUNCIL OFFICES, 3 ABBEY ROAD, BOURNE**

<b>Present</b>	<b>Chair</b>	<b>S Mallett</b>			
	<b>Councillors</b>	P Fellows	A Kelly	R McKinney	S Giullari
		N Oglesbee	Z Lane	L Panrucker	A Willis
		B Baricz	N Eveleigh	H Crawford	
		Hughes			

(Recorded by Town Clerk)

**2866F To receive/approve reasons for Apologies for Absence**

Proposed by Cllr H Crawford, seconded by Cllr A Kelly and unanimously.

**RESOLVED:** To receive/approve reasons for Apologies for Absence from Cllr's B Johnson, C Pattison and R Baker.

**2867F To receive Declarations of Interest in accordance with The Localism Act 2011**

*None Received*

**2868F To consider requests for Dispensation.**

*None received.*

**2869F To ask if members of the public, resident or employed within this Parish, have any intention to speak under any Agenda Items of this meeting (this will be to a maximum of 3 minutes)**

*There were no members of the public present.*

**2870F To adopt the Notes of the Meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2024 as a true record and to resolve for the Chair to sign them.**

Proposed by Cllr A Willis, seconded by Cllr Z Lane, and

**RESOLVED:** To adopt the Notes of the Meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2024 as a true record and for the Chair to sign them

**The clerk recorded 2 abstentions.**

**2871F To receive reports, if any, by District/County Councillors or representatives on other Organisations.**

There were none.

**2872F To answer questions from Councillors**

Cllr Mallett wished to ask a question relating to the proposed footpath coming from Elsea Park On to West Road. It was decided that this would be deferred to the next Town Council Meeting (17.12.24).

Cllr Giullari wished to seek clarification on the Events Committee and whether it was achieving its original objectives, this was answered by Councillors to Cllr Giullari's satisfaction.

**2873F To adopt the period trial balance and bank reconciliation – month ending 30.11.24 (Month 08)**

Proposed by Cllr P Fellows, seconded by Cllr L Panrucker and unanimously

**RESOLVED:** To adopt the trial balance and the bank reconciliation – month ending 30.11.24

**2874F To adopt the Income & Expenditure Budget Report – month ending 30.11.24**

The clerk presented the Income & Expenditure report for the period to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2024.

Various Questions were posed by members. The clerk explained that all categories were in line with their respective budgets.

Proposed by Cllr P Fellows, seconded by Cllr A Willis, and unanimously

**RESOLVED:** To adopt the Income & Expenditure report for the period to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2024

**2875F To Approve accounts for payment**

Proposed by Cllr H Crawford, seconded by Cllr P Fellows, and unanimously

**RESOLVED:** To approve the accounts for payment as listed

**2876F To receive the 2<sup>nd</sup> draft of the Town Council Budget 2025/2026**

The clerk presented the draft budget to the members. The clerk explained that all adjustments asked for collectively by members had been made and were as follows:

- a) Staff Costs had been amended as per discussions held at the last HR&G Committee meeting. Budget Figure £201,909.33
- b) Skatepark costs had been increased to £4,000.00
- c) Events budget of £5,000.00 had been included
- d) Bank Interest received had been increased to £2,500.00
- e) Community Cleaner Grant had been increased to £2,778.00

The clerk informed members that this would show an increased precept over the previous year of 9.55%.

It was proposed to adopt the budget at a level at the level of a 9.55% increase.

The clerk continued that there were still changes to be made but that the overall budget would remain within the proposed increase.

Proposed by Cllr Z Lane, seconded by Cllr R McKinney, and unanimously

**RESOLVED:** To agree the Town Budget at a level 9.55% above the previous year.

**2877F To receive an update on the S106 funds relating to the Eastgate Development**

The clerk informed members that the S106 officer at SKDC had confirmed that the developer contribution of £10,000 held by SKDC could be used for additional play equipment for the Dyke playing Field.

Cllr Panrucker informed members that this matter had been consulted on with the local residents and all were in favour of these improvements to the field.

The clerk confirmed that the relevant application would be made to SKDC.

Proposed by Cllr H Crawford, seconded by Cllr Z Lane, and

**RESOLVED:** To receive the above update and approve the application to SKDC for the purchase of the relevant equipment for the Dyke Playing Field

**The clerk recorded one abstention**

**2878F To receive the external auditors final report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024.**

The Clerk presented the report to members explaining that he had been noted that no Internal Audit had been completed for the year 2023/2024 and that the external audit had stipulated that this should be completed by the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025.

Proposed by Cllr H Crawford, seconded by Cllr L Panrucker, and unanimously  
**RESOLVED:** To receive the external auditors final report for the year 2023/2024.

**2879F To receive information relating to the Town Council's application to the UKSPF**

All members were aware that the Town Council had made an application to the UKSPF for assistance in funding refurbishment of the Towns Christmas Lights. Initially this had been rejected but after resubmission the bid had been successful and an award of Circa £24,000 had been made.

Cllr Crawford informed members that these funds had to be spent by the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025.

Proposed by Cllr Z Lane, seconded by Cllr N Eveleigh, and unanimously  
**RESOLVED:** To receive the above update.

**2880F To receive feedback following the Towns Christmas Lights Switch on and relevant financial information.**

Due to the weather situation on the Saturday of the switch on the event had to be cancelled.

All members were in agreement that this had been the right course of action.

The clerk explained that all relevant refunds were being made with stallholders and necessary agreements being put in place with contractors.

The clerk mentioned to members that the contract for the firework display may take place on New Years eve, but this was still be discussed with the contractor.

Proposed by Cllr H Crawford, seconded by Cllr P Fellows, and unanimously  
**RESOLVED:** To receive the above update.

**2881F To approve the purchase of office equipment on a lease rental basis**

The clerk informed members that the new budget allowed for the replacement of much of the Town Council IT equipment. The clerk continued that the printers located in the Council offices were in desperate need of replacement now as they were malfunctioning.

The clerk proposed the replacement of these machines in the last quarter of this financial year on a lease rental basis. The quarterly lease rental cost would be £277.

Proposed by Cllr S Giullari, seconded by Cllr N Eveleigh, and unanimously  
**RESOLVED:** To approve the lease purchase of the proposed office equipment.

**2882F To receive information relating to the appeal by Aldi Food stores**

The clerk informed members that it had been confirmed by SKDC that an appeal had been received by the Planning Inspectorate relating to the proposed application to build a retail store in Bourne.

This appeal was going through the Inspectorate's verification process before being publicly advertised.

Proposed by Cllr N Eveleigh, seconded by Cllr A Kelly, and unanimously

**RESOLVED:** To receive the above update.

**2883F To discuss any information which the Chair may legally bring to the Council's attention.**

Cllr Lane enquired whether 'Warm Hubs' were being run this year and were they self-sufficient. It was confirmed that various 'Warm Hubs' were in place at the following locations:

- 1) Salvation Army
- 2) Baptist Church
- 3) Dyke Village Hall

It was also mentioned that the Butterfield Centre were providing residents with 'Warm Packs'.

*Due to their being no further items to discuss the chair brought the meeting to a close at 20.05hrs.*