



**Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee of
Westgate-On-Sea Town Council**
**Held on Tuesday 25th July 2023 6.30pm at 78 St Mildreds Road, Westgate on
Sea CT8 8RF**

Present	Cllr D'Abbro, Cllr Donaldson, Cllr King, Cllr Veck and Cllr Wallin	
Also, in attendance	Mrs Chloe Wheatley (Deputy Town Clerk) and one resident	
	Elect a Chair It was moved by Cllr Wallin and seconded by Cllr Donaldson and RESOLVED: that Cllr Veck be Chair of the Finance and General Purposes Committee. Cllr King abstained.	
	Elect a Vice-Chair It was moved by Cllr D'Abbro and seconded by Cllr Donaldson and RESOLVED: that Cllr Wallin be the Vice-Chair of the Finance and General Purposes Committee.	
	To receive apologies for absence Cllr Fenning	
	Declarations of Interest Cllr King declared a potential interest as he is a current tenant of the Lymington Road Allotment Gardens.	
	Minutes It was moved by Cllr Wallin and seconded by Cllr Donaldson and RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of 18 th April 2023 be approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting.	
	Public Participation Session There were no requests to speak.	

	<p>Allotment Fees 2023-2025</p> <p>Members reviewed the allotment water fees for 2023-2024 and rental fees for 2024-2025.</p> <p>It was proposed by Cllr Donaldson and seconded by Cllr Wallin and RESOLVED: that the rental fees be increased to £55.00 for a full plot and £27.50 for a half plot for allotment year 2024/2025.</p> <p>The allotment water charges would remain at £20.45 for a full plot and £10.22 as per the resolution made by Full Council on 04.07.2023.</p> <p>ACTION: Deputy Town Clerk to invite Cllr D’Abbro to the next Allotment Working Group and to complete a report comparing WOSTC allotment rental fees to other allotment sites in Thanet.</p>	
	<p>Budget Update</p> <p>It was RESOLVED: that £690 will be journaled from the EMR 328 (Westgate Day Stalls 2019) and £310 from the 9052 (Climate Change) to the 8017 (Community Events) to increase the Community Picnic 2023 budget by £1000.</p> <p>ACTION: Deputy Town Clerk to provide a breakdown of expenditure for the Community Picnic and to calculate any monies remaining.</p> <p>Deputy Town Clerk to add an item to the next F&GP Committee Agenda for members to then consider the resolution made at the Events, Tourism and Developments Committee on 18th July to provide summer skate skills sessions at a cost of £300 and the impact on the annual budget.</p>	
	<p>Finance Reports</p> <p>Members received the June reconciliation reports for the Current, Deposit and Petty Cash Accounts.</p>	
	<p>Barclays Bank</p> <p>The agreement with Barclays Bank to rent the Town Council office is due for renewal in September 2023. To meet the new guidelines Barclays Bank must adhere to, when selecting venues for their community banking hubs, the internal entrance door to the Council Offices needs be increased to a width of 900mm wide.</p> <p>It as proposed by Cllr Donaldson and seconded by Cllr Wallin and RESOLVED that: the internal UPVC Double Glazed door unit be removed</p>	

	<p>prior to September 2023 and to place an item on the next Full Council Agenda to review quotes for replacing the internal door. ACTION: Deputy Town Clerk to negotiate with Barclays Bank for an increase in rent to help meet the costs of the works required.</p>	
	<p>Football Foundation Grant</p> <p>Members were updated on the £10,666 grant received the FA and Government’s Football Foundation to help improve the quality of the football pitch at the Lymington Road Recreation Ground.</p> <p>The Grant is available to us over a four year period (a maximum of £2666 per annum). The funding cannot be used for white lining or pitch grass cutting. We must provide evidence of invoices/work completed before funds can be drawn down.</p>	
	<p>Proposed Housing Development in Westgate-on-Sea and Garlinge</p> <p>Cllr King suggested to members that the Town Council could financially support the WAGAAH Action Group by providing them with funds to obtain legal advice in relation to potentially applying for a Judicial Review of the decision to build 2000 houses on the farmland in Westgate.</p> <p>Members discussed the potential costs and grounds which needed to be met to secure a Judicial Review and the impact supporting the WAGAAH Action Group would have on the relationship the Town Council has with Thanet District Council and the upcoming Neighbourhood Plan Referendum. Cllr D’Abbro provided information on the present situation at Thanet District Council in relation to the potential housing in her role as TDC Councillor and informed members a report was due to be released in early October which may provide answers to questions members had.</p> <p>ACTION: Deputy Town Clerk to add an agenda item to the Full Council meeting on 5th September 2023 and the next F&GP Committee on 24th October 2023.</p> <p>Cllr Veck and Cllr Donaldson to speak at the next Thanet Area Committee to gauge interest from other local parish and town councils in providing financial support to the WAGAAH Action Group to obtain legal advice.</p> <p>Cllr D’Abbro to share the report commissioned by Thanet District Council ahead of the next F&GP Committee.</p> <p>Deputy Town Clerk to contact the WAGAAH Action Group to ask if they can source and provide quotes for the legal advice they require.</p> <p>Deputy Town Clerk to source and provide quotes for legal advice for the Town Council on the impact financially supporting the Action Group would</p>	

	have on the Town Council.	
	Next Meeting 24 th October 2023 at 6pm.	
	Meeting Closed 8.10pm	

Signed.....

Dated.....

DRAFT