

CARMARTHEN TOWN COUNCIL
FINANCE COMMITTEE
7.30pm 14 OCTOBER 2021

The meeting was held in St Peter's Civic Hall and in accordance with the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021, enabling meetings of local authorities held from 1 May 2021 to be held by means of remote attendance.

The meeting was chaired by Cllr. Tom Defis

PRESENT: Cllrs: Tom Defis, Gareth John (via video), Ken Lloyd, Miriam Moules (via video), and Emlyn Schiavone

Mrs Emma Smith - Deputy Town Clerk and Finance Manager

179. Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors Ioan Matthews, Jeff Thomas, Matthew Thomas and Wyn Thomas.

180. Declarations of Interest

- (i) Councillors Ken Lloyd and Emlyn Schiavone for item 186 below as trustees of Oriel Myrddin in their capacity as County Councillors.
- (ii) Councillor Miriam Moules for item 186 below as Town Council nominated governor of Myrddin Primary.

181. Matters arising from minutes of the previous Finance Committee Meeting

No matters arising.

182. To authorise the signing of the Order for Payment of Accounts Schedule for October 2021.

Members scrutinised the payments and were satisfied with the schedule. Councillor Ken Lloyd proposed that the schedule of payments totalling **£110,366.52** should be approved and signed by two members of Council and the Clerk. Cllr. Emlyn Schiavone seconded the proposal. All members agreed and it was **RESOLVED** that all payments should be approved.

183. Financial Report

A financial report was provided for the period April 2021 to 30th September 2021.

Council's Bank balances as at the 30th of September 2021 were as follows:

	£
HSBC Current Account	81,959.96
HSBC Reserve Account	468,953.35
Total Cash in Bank	550,913.31

Balances in Other Accounts on 30th September 2021:

Mayor's Allowance	-	£4,415.64
Mayor's Fun Run	-	£ 5,846.06
Carmarthen Park Tea Shop	-	£20,743.66

- Gross expenditure for the period 1st April to the 30th of September totalled £351,182.57.
- Income for the same period, including the Park Tea Shop, totalled £65,365.11. The overall net expenditure is therefore £285,817.46.
- The Net Budget/Precept requirement for 2021/22 is £779,264.55, of which £519,419.71 has been received. Members will note from the above that Council is within budget as at 30th of September 2021.

The Town Clerk's report was **NOTED**.

184. Schedule of Monthly Income

The schedule was **NOTED** by committee.

185. Six-month budget update

The budget update was **NOTED**.

186. Applications for Financial Support/Grants

Five applications were presented to committee and the following were **RESOLVED** for contributions:

- Breast Cancer Now*. No contribution at this time but a reply should be sent to enquire about local operations of the charity and potentially reconsider in light of local information.
- Carmarthenshire YFC*. Contribution already made this financial year.
- Myrddin Primary School*. No contribution at this time but signposting to existing sources of support for the planned project, will be offered.
- Oriel Myrddin*. Councillor Miriam Moules proposed that the budgeted contribution of £3700 should be contributed, Cllr. Gareth John seconded the proposal, and the contribution was **AGREED**.
- Tenovus Cancer Care*. Councillor Miriam Moules proposed a contribution of £100 and was seconded by Cllr. Ken Lloyd. All members present **AGREED**.

187. Internal auditor

Members considered 3 applications for the provision of Internal Audit Services. Cost, experience, and location were amongst the factors considered. Councillor Gareth John proposed that Bevan & Buckland LLP should be appointed, Cllr. Emlyn Schiavone seconded the proposal, and all members agreed. **RECOMMENDED** that Bevan & Buckland be appointed as the Internal Auditor for the 2021/22 financial year.

188. Hanging baskets

The matter was discussed at length and the wider consideration given to the appearance of the public realm and working with partners from the public and private sectors. Cllr. Gareth John proposed that Town Council money should focus on the common areas in the public realm next year to get the town looking at its best by the spring. All members were in favour and the position was **RECOMMENDED** in principle to Council.

189. Review of Tea Shop Income and Expenditure

The report was **NOTED** by committee and considered a good exercise that could be replicated in other budgetary areas to assist budget setting.

190. Quarterly Bank Reconciliation as at 30th September 2021

Members **NOTED** the bank reconciliation.

The meeting closed at 8.27pm.