

CARMARTHEN TOWN COUNCIL
FINANCE COMMITTEE
7.30pm 10 FEBRUARY 2022

The meeting was held via video link 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.

Cllr. Gareth John presided over the meeting.

PRESENT: Cllrs: Gareth John, Ken Lloyd, Miriam Moules, Emlyn Schiavone, Jeff Thomas, Matthew Thomas and Wyn Thomas

Mr Alun Harries – Clerk to the Town Council
Mrs Emma Smith - Deputy Town Clerk and Finance Manager

332. Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor Ioan Matthews.

333. Declarations of Interest

None.

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

No matters arising.

335. To authorise the signing of the Order for Payment of Accounts Schedule February 2022.

Members scrutinised the payments and were satisfied with the schedule. Councillor Ken Lloyd proposed that the schedule of payments totalling **£50,571.44** should be approved and signed by two members of Council and the Clerk. Cllr. Miriam Moules seconded the proposal. All members agreed and it was **RESOLVED** that all payments should be approved.

336. Financial Report

A financial report was provided for the period April 2021 to 31st of January 2022.

Council's Bank balances on the 31st of January 2022 were as follows:

	£
HSBC Current Account	125,302.61
HSBC Reserve Account	488,605.59
Total Cash in Bank	613,908.20

Balances in Other Accounts on 31st January 2022:

Mayor's Allowance	-	£3,965.64
Mayor's Fun Run	-	£ 5,846.06
Carmarthen Park Tea Shop	-	£7,633.76

- Gross expenditure for the period 1st April to the 31st of January 2022 totalled £588,735.32.
- Income for the same period, including the Park Tea Shop, totalled £112,213.52. The overall net expenditure is therefore £476,521.18
- The Net Budget/Precept requirement for 2021/22 is £779,129.57, which has all been received. Members will note from the above that Council is within budget as at 31st of January 2022.
- Transfers – A transfer of £200,000 was made from the current account to the reserves on receipt of the precept instalment as the reserves account has slightly more interest. £20,000 has been transferred from the Tea Shop to the Reserves Account at the end of 2021.
- Bank charges. HSBC have introduced charges for the current account and the first payment for £16.50 was made in January. A review of bank account options will be undertaken later this year to assess value for money and compliance with Council's financial regulations.

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

337. Schedule of Monthly Income

The schedule was **APPROVED** by committee.

338. Risk Management Policy and Risk Assessment 2022/23

Members considered the draft Risk Management Policy and Risk Assessment 2022/23. Cllr. Ken Lloyd proposed that committee should recommend the revised document for approval by Council. Cllr. Emlyn Schiavone seconded the proposal, all were in favour and the risk assessment was **RECOMMENDED** to Council.

339. Carmarthenshire County Council Chair's Appeal 2021/22

Correspondence had been received from the Chair of Carmarthenshire County Council seeking support for his appeal and sponsored walk, in aid of Wales Air Ambulance. Cllr. Emlyn Schiavone proposed that £100 should be contributed to the appeal, Cllr. Wyn Thomas seconded the proposal, all were favour and the contribution was **APPROVED**.

A discussion around decision making on such appeal was held and it was agreed that each case would be considered on its merits.

340. Purchase of new inclusive play equipment for Parc Hinds and Penllwyn Park

The Clerk explained that the Operations Officer had experienced difficulty in obtaining 3 quotes for the new play equipment. While the expenditure had been approved, and three quotes sought, it hadn't been possible to get a return from all companies approached. Cllr. Emlyn Schiavone proposed that the matter be progressed with fewer than three quotes provided that evidence of other quotations being sought was retained. Cllr. Ken Lloyd seconded this proposal; all members were in favour and the proposal was **RECOMMENDED** to Council.

341. Repairs to clock at St Peter's Church

The Clerk shared details with members about historical arrangements for the maintenance to the clock and the role of the Town Council. Members gave the matter some consideration and Cllr. Ken Lloyd proposed that the Council should cover the costs of £1697.00 for necessary repair work to the clock. Cllr. Jeff Thomas seconded the proposal; all were in favour and the proposal was **APPROVED**.

The meeting closed at 7:58pm.