

**CARMARTHEN TOWN COUNCIL**  
**FINANCE COMMITTEE**  
**7.30pm 10 MARCH 2022**

The meeting was held in the Council Chamber, 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.

Cllr. Tom Defis presided over the meeting.

**PRESENT:** Cllrs: Tom Defis Gareth John (video link), Ken Lloyd (video link), Ioan Matthews, Miriam Moules (video link), and Wyn Thomas

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

**365. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillors Emlyn Schiavone and Matthew Thomas.

**366. Declarations of Interest**

None.

**367. Matters arising from minutes of the previous Finance Committee Meeting**

No matters arising.

**368. To authorise the signing of the Order for Payment of Accounts Schedule March 2022.**

Members scrutinised the payments and were satisfied with the schedule. Councillor Ioan Matthews proposed that the schedule of payments totalling **£61,852.14** should be approved and signed by two members of Council and the Clerk. Cllr. Ken Lloyd seconded the proposal. All members agreed and it was **RESOLVED** that all payments should be approved.

**369. Financial Report**

A financial report was provided for the period April 2021 to 28<sup>th</sup> of February 2022.

Council's Bank balances on the 28<sup>th</sup> of February 2022 were as follows:

	<b>£</b>
HSBC Current Account	92,071.83

HSBC Reserve Account	488,609.74
<b>Total Cash in Bank</b>	<b>580,681.57</b>

**Balances in Other Accounts on 28<sup>th</sup> of February 2022:**

Mayor's Allowance	-	£3,882.04
Mayor's Fun Run	-	£5,846.06
Carmarthen Park Tea Shop	-	£8,952.32

- Gross expenditure for the period 1st April to the 28<sup>th</sup> of February 2022 totalled £597,498.45
- Income for the same period, including the Park Tea Shop, totalled £124,541.53  
The overall net expenditure is therefore £472,956.92
- 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 28<sup>th</sup> of February 2022.

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

**370. Schedule of Monthly Income**

The schedule was **APPROVED** by committee.

**371. Budget Monitoring Report**

The report was considered and **APPROVED** by committee.

**372. Schedule of debtors**

Members **NOTED** the schedule and proposed plan of action to write off the debt from S3 Advertising Agency as additional unbudgeted income, that hadn't incurred any additional expenditure from Council.

**373. Review of Town Council Grants Policy**

Members considered and **APPROVED** the policy without change.

**374. Applications for Small Grants and Financial Assistance**

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

- Foothold Cymru*. No contribution at this time but a reply should be sent to enquire about local operations of the charity and potentially reconsider when more information is received.
- Wales Air Ambulance*. This charity is one of four beneficiaries of funds that will be raised by the Mayor's Race 2022.

- iii. *Integrated Autism Services*, (request for advice). No contribution at this time but signposting to existing sources of support for the group and review when the group is established.
- iv. *Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod*. Committee **AGREED** that £200 should be contributed to the Eisteddfod as agreed in Council's budget.
- v. *Marie Curie*. Councillor Miriam Moules proposed a contribution of £300 and was seconded by Cllr. Ioan Matthews. All members present **AGREED**.
- vi. *Shelter Cymru*. Cllr. Ioan Matthews proposed that no contribution should be made at this time, but a reply should be sent to enquire about local operations of the charity and potentially reconsider when more information is received. Cllr. Wyn Thomas seconded this proposal, all were in favour and the position was **AGREED**.
- vii. *Carmarthen Bowling Club*. Cllr. Miriam Moules proposed that the Town Council should sponsor the tournament winner's prize and contribute £200 to Carmarthen Bowling Club. Cllr. Gareth John seconded this proposal, all were in favour and the contribution was **AGREED**.
- viii. *Tŷ Hafan*. Cllr. Ken Lloyd proposed that a contribution of £200 be made to the charity. Cllr. Ioan Matthews seconded the proposal, and the contribution was **AGREED** by all members.

### **375. Applications for Red Court Solar Park grants**

- i) *Carmarthenshire Water Safety Partnership*. An application was received to fund planters and plants at the Quayside washed away by floods. Cllr. Gareth John proposed that the requested contribution of £450 be supported, Cllr. Wyn Thomas seconded this proposal and members **AGREED**. Information would be requested regarding how the risk of the damage happening again would be mitigated.

### **376. Review of Council's Investment Strategy and Banking Arrangements**

The Clerk advised members that current interest rates are negligible and that tying up Council's funds in other accounts could provide operational difficulties as reserve funds were kept low. Cllr. Ioan Matthews proposed that no changes be made to banking arrangements at present and was seconded by Cllr. Wyn Thomas. All members agreed and the position was **RESOLVED**.

**The meeting closed at 8.12pm.**