

CARMARTHEN TOWN COUNCIL
FINANCE COMMITTEE
HELD ON 9th FEBRUARY AT 7.30PM

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 attended by means of remote attendance.

Cllr. Gareth John presided over the meeting.

PRESENT: Councillors Andy King (video), Emlyn Schiavone, Gareth John, Heledd ap Gwynfor, Luned Voyle, Miriam Moules (video), Wyn Thomas.

Emma Smith – Town Clerk
 Wendy Dickson – Deputy Town Clerk

372. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Tom Defis, Jeff Thomas and Ioan Matthews.

373. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Andy King for item 374 below relating to a payment to St John's Ambulance.

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

None

375. To authorise the signing of the Order for Payment of Accounts Schedules February 2023.

Members scrutinised the payments and were satisfied with the schedule. Councillor Luned Voyle proposed the schedule of payments totalling **£84,178.81** should be approved and signed by two members of Council and the Clerk. Cllr Heledd ap Gwynfor seconded the proposal. All members agreed and it was **RESOLVED** that all payments should be approved.

376. Town Clerk's Report

(a) Financial Report

Council's Bank balances on the 31st of January 2023 were as follows:

HSBC Current Account	80,965.17
HSBC Reserve Account	646,150.12*
Total Cash in Bank	727,115.29

Balances in Other Accounts on 31 January 2023:

Mayor's Allowance - £2,277.50

Mayor's Fun Run - £5,072.13

- Gross expenditure for the period 1st April 2022 to the 31st of January 2023 totalled £615,990.
- Income for the same period, including the Park Tea Shop, totalled £129,986. The overall net expenditure is therefore £486,004.
- The Net Budget/Precept requirement for 2022/23 is £788,855, has all been received. Members will note from the above that Council was within budget on 31st January 2023.
- The final instalment of the precept was received on the 29th of December 2022.
- £250,000 was transferred from the current account to the reserves in January following receipt of the precept.
- The Tea Shop bank account was closed on the 31st of December 2022 and has been merged with the main council current account. The balance of the account was transferred to the reserves.

The financial report was **NOTED**.

377. Purchase of new speaker/microphone for meetings.

Members considered the purchase of a new Bluetooth speaker and microphone for use in Council meetings. Two options were suggested and Cllr Emlyn Schiavone proposed that an OWL Pro speaker would be appropriate for the meetings which was seconded by Cllr Andy King.

All members were in favour and the purchase was **RECOMMENDED** to Council.

378. Update on warm bank expenditure.

Members **NOTED** the update on the warm bank.

379. Risk assessment and Risk management policy 2023/2024.

Members considered the Risk Assessment document and agreed to proceed with the **RECOMMENDATIONS** made by the General Purposes Committee.

The meeting closed at 7.58 pm.