

CARMARTHEN TOWN COUNCIL
FINANCE COMMITTEE
HELD ON 14th SEPTEMBER 2023 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. Jeff Thomas presided over the meeting.

PRESENT: Councillors Heledd ap Gwynedd (Video), Gareth John, Andy King (Video), Jeffrey Thomas, Emlyn Schiavone (Video), Wyn Thomas, and Luned Voyle.

Emma Smith – Town Clerk
 Wendy Dickson – Deputy Town Clerk
 Catrin Llwyd – Translator (Video)

138. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr. Tom Defis.

139. Declarations of Interest

None

140. To authorise the signing of the Order for Payment of Accounts Schedule for September 2023.

Members scrutinised the payments and were satisfied with the schedule. Cllr. Andy King proposed the schedule of payments totalling **£98,477.63** should be approved and signed by two members of Council and the Clerk. Cllr. Wyn Thomas seconded the proposal. All members agreed and it was **RESOLVED** that all payments should be approved.

141. Town Clerk's Report

(a) Financial Report

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

HSBC Current Account	£83,651.12
HSBC Reserve Account	£600,202.03
Total Cash in Bank	£683,853.15

Balances in Other Accounts on 31st August 2023:

Mayor's Allowance - £4,207.65

Mayor's Fun Run - £8,945.12

- Gross expenditure for the period 1st April 2023 to the 31st of August 2023 totalled £342,455.02.
- Income for the same period totalled £68,155.43. The overall net expenditure is therefore £274,299.59.
- The Net Budget/Precept requirement for 2023/24 is £793,011, of which £528,674.00 has been received. Members will note from the above that Council completed the year within budget on 31st August 2023.

The financial report was **NOTED**.

142. Town Council Asset Register

Members considered and **APPROVED** the asset register dated 31st March 2023.

143. Applications for Small Grants and financial assistance

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

- i) Cerebral Palsy – Committee **AGREED** that no contribution would be made this year due to donation being made last year.
- ii) SSAFA – The Armed Forces charity - Committee **AGREED** that a contribution of £ 250 should be made.
- iii) Autumn Road Rally 2023 – Cllr. Wyn Thomas proposed that a contribution of £100 should be made and this was seconded by Cllr. Emlyn Schiavone and all members **AGREED**.

144. Appointment of Internal Auditor.

Cllr. Gareth John proposed that the current internal auditor, Bevan and Buckland LLP be approved for the 2023/24 internal audit as per the details in the tender exercise carried out in 2021. Cllr. Wyn Thomas seconded the proposal; all were in favour and the proposal was **RECOMMENDED** to Council.

145. Training Budget

Members discussed an increase in the training budget by £1000 to support additional training for the year, and it was proposed by Cllr. Emlyn Schiavone and seconded by Cllr. Luned Voyle that the matter be **RECOMMENDED** to Council with all members in agreement.

146. Replacement of Floodlights at Carmarthen Park.

The Clerk advised members of an initial quote for £51,000 obtained for the replacement of the floodlights at the Park and requested permission from members

to begin a formal tender exercise and seek at least two other quotes. Cllr Gareth John proposed that the matter should be **RECOMMENDED** to Council and this was seconded by Cllr Andy King with all members in agreement.

The meeting closed at 7:53 pm.