**CARMARTHEN TOWN COUNCIL**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**HELD ON 15 NOVEMBER 2018**

The Chairman, Cllr Ken Lloyd, presided over the meeting of the Finance Committee held in the Council Chamber, St Peter's Civic Hall, on Thursday, 15th November 2018.

**PRESENT:** Cllrs: Dr Matthew Thomas, Ken Lloyd, Wyn Thomas, Gareth John, Julia Ault and Revd Tom Defis.

**251. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Dr Ioan Matthews and Emlyn Schiavone.

**252. Declarations of Interest**

None

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

There were no matters arising.

**254. To authorise the signing of the Order for Payment of Accounts**

Invoices were available before and during the meeting for Members’ inspection.

It was **RESOLVED** that the accounts included in the schedule submitted and amounting to £42,493.42 for the month of November 2018 be hereby approved and that the schedule be signed by three Members of Council and the Clerk as authority for payment of the respective sums.

At this point the Chair raised a tabled item on the increase in the hourly rate of Myrddin Security from £10 per hour to £12 per hour, this is due to their attempt to be accredited by the Living Wage Foundation. Myrddin Security are undertaking some of the work relating to opening and closing the Hall while the Hall Keeper is on sick leave. It was agreed that a **RECOMMENDATION** be made to Council that the contract should go to tender and upon receiving the information a decision should be made on whether it is more cost effective for Carmarthen Town Council to employ an individual to undertake the work or award the contract.

**255. Financial Report**

The Town Clerk updated Council's bank balances as at 15th November 2018 as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **£** |
| HSBC Current Account | 202,363.17 |
| HSBC Deposit Account | 100,066.78 |
| **Total Cash in Bank** | **302,429.95** |

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

**256. Schedule of Monthly Income and Balances of Accounts**

The schedule was **NOTED.**

**257. Schedule of Debtors**

The schedule was **NOTED.**

**258. Fidelity Guarantee Review**

It was agreed by all that a **RECOMMENDATION** be made to Council that the present level of indemnity cover be maintained.

**259. Budget Planning**

Following a lengthy discussion, it was agreed by all that a **RECOMMENDATION** be made to Council that the Town Clerk should provide a standstill budget and then factor in what needs to be done. A raise in line with inflation should be made as a minimum which would see an increase of at least 3%, and then Council may decide on any additional rise after considering the recommendations proposed by the Clerk.

**260. Notice for Council Tax Payers**

It was agreed that a **RECOMMENDATION** be made to Council to support the recommendation made by the General Purposes Committee.

**The meeting closed at 8.05 pm.**