

Thorpe St Andrew Town Council
Minutes of the Finance & Staffing Committee meeting
held on 16 October 2023 at 7:30pm

1 PRESENT:

Mr S Snelling
Mr S Court
Mr J Emsell
Mr J Ward

Mr F Bowe
Ms L Barrett
Mrs L Skinner

APOLOGIES: Mr P Berry and Mr T Garner

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs M Barron (CEO), Mrs R McCarthy (OM/RFO), Mrs L Weston (Administration and Committee Officer)

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA - None

3 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 25 SEPTEMBER 2023

The minutes of the meeting held on 25 September 2023 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

4 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (LIMITED TO 3 MINS PER SPEAKER)

None

5 Q2 BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

The RFO presented the financial report for the first 6 months of the 2023/24 tax year. Significant water costs are expected in Q3 for the Hillside allotment site, due to a water leak, the RFO is liaising with Anglian Water on this matter. Allotment deposits increased from £25 to £100. The Precept Performance at Q2 is at a positive 45%. The Committee **NOTED** this report.

6 BUDGET 2024/25

The RFO presented a draft Budget for 2024/25, with an estimated tax base of 5189. Going through the report line by line, the RFO provided further reasoning for all variances against previous years and the resulting cost increase per household. In conclusion the Committee requested that the Office find parallel allotment charges for comparison; rename the Fitzmaurice Tennis Court and investigate the cost implication to buy the truck out of lease.

It was proposed by Cllr Snelling and seconded by Cllr Barrett and by a show of hands with one against **RESOLVED** to increase the Projects budget line by £27,500 and therefore the percentage cost per household to 9.7% and take to Full Council.

7 RESIDENTIAL MOORINGS AT RIVER GREEN AND PUB CAR PARK

Cllr Ward requested an update on the reason for the delay in charging for moorings at River Green. The CEO confirmed the new lease comes into effect from 1 April 2024 and a meeting with Dr Foreman is planned for 17 October 2023 to discuss this further. Prior to the commencement of the lease, a separate company managing the moorings, will need to be in place.

An update was also requested by Cllr Ward regarding the piece of land on Yarmouth Road. The Town Council were interested in acquiring this land, as suitable provision of a car park for the Town. The CEO will raise this with Dr Foreman at the meeting mentioned previously.

Further Agenda Items (Not for Discussion)

None

The meeting closed at 9.15pm

Signed:

Dated:
