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MINUTES OF THE POLICY & FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING OF EASTLEIGH TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 4 OCTOBER 2023 AT 7.00 PM AT THE CABLEWORKS BUILDING, TINNING WAY, EASTLEIGH

Those Present: Cllr J Constable, Vice Chair, Cllr M Ashton, Cllr A Clifton, Cllr E Marks, Cllr T Park and Cllr G Richardson.

In Attendance: Mrs T Predeth, Town Clerk

21/23 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr Dedhia and Cllr Barrett.

22/23 I**NTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS**

There were no declarations received.

23/23 **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the last meeting held on the 2 August 2023 are a true record of the meeting and were duly signed by the Chair.

24 /23 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were no members of the public present or questions raised in advance of the meeting.

Members agreed to change the order of the agenda.

25/23 **DISCOVERY MAGAZINE**

Cllr Richardson expressed concern that the distribution of the Discovery magazine to residents of Eastleigh Town does not reach the number of properties as first believed.

It was agreed that the Town Clerk will terminate the contract as soon as possible to save further expense.

The Council will look for alternative methods of publication.

026/23 **ACCOUNTS**

Members received financial reports prior to the meeting.

Members noted the schedule of accounts to date and agreed the bank reconciliation. The Town clerk informed members that the second tranche of the Precept had been received and the balance in the Unity Trust current account at present is £379,332.21.

Members received and noted the budget to date and considered an amended Budget proposal that was provided by Cllr Clifton.

RESOLVED: To approve the revised budget. Members thanked Cllr Clifton.

RESOLVED: That the cost of the allotments SLA not accrued at the 2022/23 year-end budget will be taken from General Reserves. This will balance the budget at the end of the 2023/24 financial year.

Members considered where to place the £850 cost of the Speed Indictors within the current budget.

RESOLVED: that this will come from the Public Arts budget line which will be renamed Public Works.

It was agreed that Cllr Constable will email all councillors requesting that they consider their budget requirements through committees in anticipation for setting the Precept at the January Council meeting.

027/23 **SAVINGS ACCOUNTS**

RESOLVED: To transfer £150,230 into CCLA and £42,023 into Unity Trust Instant Access account.

020/23 **GRANT FUNDING**

Members received an update from the recipients of Grant funding already given. It was suggested that these comments are placed onto the website. The Town Clerk will confirm the recipients consent prior to publication.

It was suggested to raise the profile of the grant funding and use the EBC newsletter and social media for this.

The Clerk reported that PRIDE had a shortfall in their overall funding and that the additional £1,000 as previously agreed was provided to them. The Town Clerk was asked to contact PRIDE and ascertain why there was a shortfall to help the Council to budget for future requests.

It was agreed that the grants criteria will remain the same for another year, maintaining consistency in the application process.

028/23 **DECISIONS**

Members discussed the previous presentation on the use of 'Decisions' from Cloudy IT and considered the cost of this.

Members agreed to proceed in principle and considered that training will be best provided to the incoming Clerk and Assistant Clerk. This matter will be further discussed at the next meeting.

The Town Clerk was asked to ascertain the retrieval of back up data and obtain some testimonials.

29/23 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting is 6 December 2023.

The meeting closed at 20.19 hrs

Chairman ……

Date……