

**KIDDERMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL
FINANCE AND OVERVIEW COMMITTEE**

**Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 13th June 2024 in the
Kidderminster Room, Wyre Forest House**

Present: Councillors: B. Connor (Substitute for Cllr. M. Smith, Chair), D. Hine (Substitute for Cllr. H. Dyke, Deputy Chair), S. Hollands, F. Oborski and D. Round.

In Attendance: Mr. A. Stockhall, (Public Realm and Operations Manager)
Mr H. Peacocke, Chief Executive

1. ELECTION OF CHAIR FOR THIS MEETING.

As both the Chair and Vice-chair had apologised for their inability to attend, the members present elected Cllr. Hollands to chair the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors M. Smith and H. Dyke.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Nil

5. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 10th April 2024 be approved as a true record and that they be signed by the Chair.

6. KIDDERMINSTER DISTRICT HEAT NETWORK FEASIBILITY

The Chair welcomed to the meeting Mr. Milan Champion, Corporate Policy Officer, Wyre Forest District Council. Mr. Champion gave a presentation on the proposed District Heat Network and answered questions from the members. Mr. Champion confirmed that the Council's support for the proposed network at this stage would not commit Kidderminster Town Council to any future expenditure.

RESOLVED: That Kidderminster Town Council supports Wyre Forest District Council's bid to the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) for a heat network feasibility study.

7. Terms of Reference

Resolved: The Committee noted the terms of reference as approved by full Council on the 23rd of May 2024.

8. Accounts Paid

The Committee received the cash book reports detailing income and expenditure from 1st April 2024 to 31st May 2024. It was noted that the exceptionally high levels of payments and receipts for the 2 months was due to income and expenditure arising from the Town Hall Transformation Project.

RESOLVED: To approve payments totalling £3,037,784.34 over the period from 1st April 2024 to 31st May 2024.

9. Accounting Statements 2023-2024

The Committee received the Council’s annual accounts statement for the financial year ended 31st March 2024. The Committee recommended that the following matters be brought to the attention of Full Council:

- The Committee had not received the Internal Auditor’s report, which is a key part of the Annual Governance Statement and return (The District Council discontinued the service for the Town Council and a new internal auditor was appointed in April 2024. Officers were working with the new internal auditor and the report was requested in time for the Full Council meeting on 26th June.)
- The increase in payments and receipts for the financial year, which arose from the Town Hall Transformation Project.
- The increase in balances over the year, from £671,000 on 1st April 2023 to £1,216,000 at 31st March 2024, which reflected the £500,000 loan instalment received for the Town Hall Transformation Project.

10. Forward Work Programme

The Committee noted the Forward Work Programme.

Meeting closed 18.45