



Council Committee Minutes
Minutes of the meeting of Langport Town Council's
Finance & Personnel Committee
held on Wednesday 10th April 2024 at 7.00pm

Present:	
Cllr Crumb	Cllr Donald
Cllr Dromgoole	Cllr Glas

FP2023/40 To receive Apologies for Absence and to approve the reasons given.
(LGA 1972 s85 (1)) Apologies were received from Cllr Wilson

FP2023/41 Declarations of Interests -

Members to declare any interests, including Disclosable Pecuniary Interests they may have in agenda items that accord with the requirements of the Town Council's Code of Conduct and to consider any prior requests from members for Dispensations that accord with Localism Act 2011 s33(b-e). *(NB this does not preclude any later declarations)* There were no declarations of interest

FP2023/42 To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 10th January 2024 (LGA 1972 sch 12, para 41 (1)) . The minutes of the previous meeting were considered accurate and were duly signed by the Chair as being a correct record of the meeting.

FP2023/43 To receive requests for Grant Awards

Regular Funding of amounts *greater* that £1,000

a. Langport and Huish Youth Group – amount requested £3,500

Lisa Newby presented a summary of the activities of the Youth Group. She explained that the Wednesday evening youth group continues with good numbers attending. A programme encouraging healthy eating has been well received, with food packages being prepared showing what can be delivered healthily. A presentation on crime reduction and county lines provided opportunities for police involvement. Residential trips have been organised, together with a programme known as Happy, Healthy, Holidays. Two volunteers have achieved Level 2 Certificates in youth work. The flag project continues to gain support and a positive input from young people.

The committee recommends that the full grant of £3,500 be awarded.

b. Langport and Huish Episcopi Memorial Field – amount requested £5,500

Members presented the work of the Memorial Field. They emphasised the issues affecting their organisation, which includes the higher cost of utilities. Refurbishing the changing rooms and

toilets are moving forward. Installation of a skate park is being considered. There were variations within their application as to the level of funding requested and the amount of contribution from Huish Episcopi Parish Council.

After due consideration the committee recommends a grant of £3,500 be awarded.

Community Grant applications - One-off grants

1. Langport Runners – Amount requested £150. This grant was discussed at a previous meeting and approved. Use of the town hall facilities was offered as well as the full grant requested.
The committee recommends a grant of £150
2. Langport Transport Group – Amount requested £1,000
Funding is required to prepare a strategic business case for the opening of a railway station in Somerton. This will involve a two-fold study to develop a train plan and identify the benefits to the wider economy.
The committee recommends £500 be awarded immediately, with a further £500 being awarded on completion of the work.
3. Langport and Huish Senior Citizens Club – Amount requested £750
Greg Cooper provided an overview of the activities of the club. They have 64 members and arrange monthly meetings, some which take the form of coach trips to places of interest. The applicant demonstrated clearly how the financial support for this Club provides a social opportunity for many, who otherwise may be restricted on what they can do.
The committee recommends that a grant of £750 be awarded.
4. Request for a donation from MIND in Somerset. The covering letter received with the grant application informed that MIND are seeking support for the Youth Matters Service, which provides much needed mental health support for young people.
5. *The committee recommends that £250 be granted to MIND in support of this service.*

FP2023/44 Addressing issues with the electronic noticeboard

An issue has arisen with the transfer of data to the digital display in the precinct car park. Quotes have been received. At present, information is uploaded using a memory stick which requires a visit to the board. The suggested system would enable the digital display board to be updated remotely. The committee **AGREED** to fund the remote access to the board at a cost of £630, if that is considered the most appropriate way to proceed.

FP2023/45 To receive financial statements including expenditure against budget for the year 2023/24.

The expenditure against budget has been prepared and was shared with the council. There were no questions raised.

FP2023/46 To receive reconciled bank reports for all accounts

Reconciled amounts for each of the three accounts were presented to the committee. At the 31st March the LTC current account had £6,861.57, LTT current account had £6,303.79 and the LTC capital reserve account had £88,981.61

FP2023/47 Staffing – To consider continued employment of a Locum Clerk, as required

The continued services of the Locum Town Clerk were discussed until the Town Clerk is able to return to her duties. This was assured by Gerard Tucker who will continue in the position as required.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm

Signed

