



# Midhurst Town Council

**A meeting of the FINANCE ASSET AND POLICY COMMITTEE took place on  
Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2021, at 7:30pm  
MINUTES**

**Present:** Cllr M. Richardson (Chairman), Cllr D. Fraser, Cllr C. Lintott, Cllr A. Procter and Cllr G. McAra

**Officer:** Sharon Hurr, Clerk and RFO

**Also Present:** Julian Quail, Assistant Town Clerk

**F/116/21 - Chairman's Announcements** – The Chairman welcomed Councillors to the meeting.

**F/117/21 - Apologies for Absence** – Cllr Travers and Cllr Sutton

**F/118/21 - Declarations of Interest** - None

**F/119/21 - To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> October 2021** – These were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting, with exception of the following two points:

F/114/21 – The finger post quotation should have read £1,500 not £150.

F/115/21 – The Great Sussex Way was not a meeting but a shape forming event, which took place during the day, not in the evening.

Proposed Cllr Lintott, seconded Cllr Procter, all agreed.

**F/120/21 - Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Meeting Held on 25<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

None.

**F/121/21 - Public Participation Session – Meeting adjourned**

There were no members of the public present. Meeting Reconvened

**F/122/21 - Financial Reports to End of August 2021** – The Clerk provided reports from Rialtas software showing the financial position against budget by centre, along with expenditure during the month.

**F/123/21 - Bank Reconciliations** – The bank reconciliation for the end of August 2021 was reviewed and signed by Cllr Richardson.

**F/124/21 - Draft Budget**

The draft budget was provided to the committee before the meeting and discussed in detail. It was noted that there were several lines that needed amending. The draft budget indicates a 23% increase in the precept, which equates to an increase of 39p per household per week. Cllr Richardson thanked Cllr Lintott and the Town Clerk for all their hard work.

**Action: Town Clerk to provide a second draft of the budget for further discussion.**

Cllr Procter noted:

- That business case for the RVT Indicator Board at the bus station on North Street was not part of the draft budget. Cllr Lintott responded that the business case is still awaited from Cllr Upjohn.
- The monies in the budget for the installation for the statue of Dante. Cllr Lintott explained this was an indicative figure based on a potential contribution from MTC.
- There was no figure yet for the possible refurbishment of the notice board on North Street, which Cllr Lintott confirmed is due to current investigations by the Assistant Clerk.

Cllr McAra noted:

- That MTC should be considering saving money to upgrade the electric and gas utilities to more energy efficient products.
- That the “Welcome Back Fund”, obtainable from Central Government, is available to local councils for post Covid spending.

*Post Script: Cllr Procter and Cllr Sutton are bidding for funding from the “Welcome Back Fund” for plants at the Northern Gateway.*

Cllr Richardson suggested that MTC should consider buying a new van in the next financial year as prices are currently relatively low.

#### **F/125/21 – Actions**

The actions were provided to the committee before the meeting, who reviewed those that were outstanding. It was noted that the resolution to forward £25,000 to Boom Credit had yet to be actioned, Cllr Lintott confirmed this would be done in the New Year.

#### **F/126/21 - Matters of Report**

Cllr Fraser sought clarification regarding the appropriateness of using Estate Agents signage to advertise the Christmas Street Party. The Clerk explained this was undertaken to ensure residents on the edge of the town were aware of this event. The cost was £62 and had been undertaken on previous occasions.

Cllr Fraser also noted the number of advertisements that were present in town. Cllr Lintott explained that she and Cllr Purves regularly take down advertisements that were extraneous to Midhurst and ‘common sense’ was required when removing any advertising.

The chairman closed the meeting at 8.41pm

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman