

SUDBURY TOWN COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD IN SUDBURY TOWN HALL
ON TUESDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER 2024 AT 6.30PM**

Committee members present: Mr N Bennet– Chair
Mrs M Barrett (until 9:20pm)
Mr S Hall (until 9:20pm)
Ms E Murphy
Miss A Owen
Mr N Younger

Officers in attendance: Mr C Griffin – Town Clerk
Mrs D Deeks – Administration Manager/s151 Officer

1. **SUBSTITUTES AND APOLOGIES**

No apologies had been received and there were no substitutes.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor N Younger declared a non-pecuniary interest in the Sudbury Art Club.

Councillor S Hall declared a pecuniary interest in the Sudbury Defibs and a non-pecuniary interest in Vikki Vs Theatre Production and The Bridge Project. Mr Hall withdrew from the meeting after the discussion on which organisations would receive a grant and was not present for the vote on the amount of funding.

Councillor E Murphy declared a non-pecuniary interest in Hope for Tomorrow.

Councillor A Owen declared a non-pecuniary interest in Go Start.

Councillor M Barrett declared a pecuniary interest in the Quay Theatre. Mrs Barrett withdrew from the meeting after the discussion on which organisations would receive a grant and was not present for the vote on the amount of funding.

3. **DECLARATIONS OF GIFTS & HOSPITALITY**

No declarations of gifts or hospitality were made.

4. **REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION**

No requests for dispensation had been received.

5. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting of the Finance Committee held on 3rd September 2024 be confirmed as an accurate record.

6. **ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

The Town Clerk stated that all actions had been completed.

RESOLVED

To note the Town Clerk's update.

7. TO CONSIDER GRANT AID APPLICATIONS

Members decided to listen to a short presentation from each of the grant applicants and to make an initial decision on whether any grant should be made to the organisation, but to leave the value of the grants to be decided together at the end of the meeting.

Members resolved to extend the time of the meeting by an initial hour and then by another two 30 minutes periods.

Once members had discussed the values of the grants, the total sum recommended of £45,653 was £653 greater than the available budget of £45,000 for the year. For this reason, members agreed not to approve any individual grants at this meeting, but to recommend the whole package for approval by the next meeting of the full council as below.

RESOLVED

To recommend that the full council authorise an overspend from the general reserve of £653 and approve all the grants recommended below.

7.1 Sudbury Art Club requested a grant of £225.00

That, using the general power of competence under the Localism Act 2011, ss.1-8, members recommended to provide a grant of £115.00 to Sudbury Art Club

7.2 Hourglass requested a grant of £5,000

That, using the general power of competence under the Localism Act 2011, ss.1-8, members recommended to provide a grant of £2,000 to Hourglass

7.3 Headways Suffolk requested a grant of £5,000

That, using the general power of competence under the Localism Act 2011, ss.1-8, members recommended to provide a grant of £2,000 to Headways Suffolk

7.4 Sudbury Canoe Club requested a grant of £2,600

That, using the general power of competence under the Localism Act 2011, ss.1-8, members recommended to provide a grant of £1,500 to Sudbury Canoe Club.

7.5 St Gregory's Church requested a grant of £2,562

That, using the general power of competence under the Localism Act 2011, ss.1-8, members recommended to provide a grant of £854.00 to St Gregory's Church.

7.6 Sudbury and South Suffolk Citizens Advice requested a grant of £9,000

That, using the general power of competence under the Localism Act 2011, ss.1-8, members recommended to provide a grant of £7,000 to Sudbury and South Suffolk Citizens Advice.

7.7 St Johns Methodist Church requested a grant of £2,000

That, using the general power of competence under the Localism Act 2011, ss.1-8, members recommended to provide a grant of £1,500 to St Johns Methodist Church.

7.8 Go Start requested a grant of £2,000

That, using the general power of competence under the Localism Act 2011, ss.1-8, members recommended to provide a grant of £1,500 to Go Start.

7.9 Sudbury Town Twinning requested a grant of £1,000
That, using the general power of competence under the Localism Act 2011, ss.1-8, members recommended to provide a grant of £500.00 To Sudbury Town Twinning.

7.10 Family and Community Network requested a grant of £1,600
That, using the general power of competence under the Localism Act 2011, ss.1-8, members recommended to provide a grant of £1,350.00 to the Family and Community Network.

7.11 Bridge Project requested a grant of £4,250
Members resolved that they did not wish to support the Bridge Project this year.

7.12 Kernos requested a grant of £5,000
That, using the general power of competence under the Localism Act 2011, ss.1-8, members recommended to provide a grant of £4,000 to Kernos.

7.13 Abi's Footprint Baby Bank requested a grant of £5,000
That, using the general power of competence under the Localism Act 2011, ss.1-8, members recommended to provide a grant of £2,500 to Abi's Footprint Baby Bank.

7.14 Gainsborough's House requested a grant of £6,500
That, using the general power of competence under the Localism Act 2011, ss.1-8, members recommended to provide a grant of £4,000 to Gainsborough's House.

7.15 Hope for Tomorrow requested a grant of £1,484
That, using the general power of competence under the Localism Act 2011, ss.1-8, members recommended to provide a grant of £1,484 to Hope for Tomorrow.

7.16 The Quay Theatre requested a grant of £10,000
That, using the general power of competence under the Localism Act 2011, ss.1-8, members recommended to provide a grant of £4,000 the Quay Theatre.

7.17 Sudbury in Bloom requested a grant of £2,000
That, using the general power of competence under the Localism Act 2011, ss.1-8, members recommended to provide a grant of £1,750 to Sudbury in Bloom.

7.18 Sudbury Joggers requested a grant of £1,000
That, using the general power of competence under the Localism Act 2011, ss.1-8, members recommended to provide a grant with a value of up to £750.00 in staff time to Sudbury Joggers for the Community Wardens to provide a road closure.

7.19 Sudbury 3rd Scouts Group requested a grant of £10,000
That, using the general power of competence under the Localism Act 2011, ss.1-8, members recommended to provide a grant of £4,000 to 3rd Sudbury Scouts Group.

7.20 Vikki Vs Theatre Production requested a grant of £8,000
That, using the general power of competence under the Localism Act 2011, ss.1-8, members recommended to provide a grant of £1,000 to Vikki Vs Theatre Production. The grant will be held by the council and paid directly to the suppliers on receipt of valid invoices.

7.21 Sudbury Defibs requested a grant of £7,500

That, using the general power of competence under the Localism Act 2011, ss.1-8, members recommended to provide a grant of £3,500 to support the maintenance of Sudbury defibrillators. The grant will be held by the council and used to buy the necessary replacement batteries and pads, which will be fitted by the Community Wardens when required.

7.22 Sudbury District Scouts requested a grant of £683.54

That, using the general power of competence under the Localism Act 2011, ss.1-8, members recommended to provide a grant with a value of up to £350.00 in staff time to Sudbury District Scouts to cover part of the costs for the Community Wardens to provide a road closure.

11. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE TOWN CLERK AND THE RFO ON FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Clerk stated that the second instalment of the precept had been received from Babergh District Council and therefore he intended to move £200,000 into the NatWest 95-day account and £100,000 into the Lloyds 32 days account to increase the interest earned.

RESOLVED

To note the Town Clerk's update and approve the movement of Council funds.

The business of the meeting concluded at 10.12pm.


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Chairman