

**BARTON-UPON-HUMBER TOWN COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING  
held at Assembly Rooms Queen Street, Barton  
MONDAY 25<sup>th</sup> November at 6.15pm**

Councillor A Chapman (Chairman)

Councillors L Bennet, P Vickers, N Jacques, N Pinchbeck, C Patterson & B Troop

Also in attendance T Davis (Town Clerk) F Chapman (Admin)

210. **Apologies for Absence**

None.

211. **Declarations of Interest**

None.

212. **Minutes of Meeting held on 11th November 2024 approved and confirmed as a correct record at a meeting of the Town Council held on 4th December 2024**

It was noted that these minutes will be signed as a correct record, for action as necessary, at an ordinary meeting of the Town Council held on 4th December 2024.

One member requested an update on utility bills from Champ to avoid large annual bills. Clerk is still working on this.

213. **To consider Financial Items**

a) **Income and Expenditure November 2024**

Committee noted the Income and Expenditure Report that is an update from the report circulated at November Full Council. This report will be circulated in the folder for 4<sup>th</sup> December 2024 Full Council.

b) **Budget 2024-2025 (7 months)**

Up to date Budget Report 2024-2025 was circulated at the November Full Council and will be circulated at the December 2024 Full Council meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> December 2024.

Committee noted the reports are up to date.

214. **Budgets 2025-2026**

Community Committee budgets not to receive an increase with the rise of inflation.

It was suggested to reduce the £34K budgeted amount for the Assembly Rooms capital projects.

One Member suggested that a Consultation on the Assembly Rooms and the future spending on capital projects for future use should take place.

It was also stated that maintaining the Assembly Rooms retains the heritage of the building within the

Town Centre.

Members discussed reducing the General Reserves to 25% of annual running costs. It was agreed that any underspend from this years budgets should go into General Reserves. Members felt that the 25% should be based on statutory duties that the council is responsible for which includes the running of the Assembly Rooms.

Members queried the reserves for elections. This years' budget amount of £4000 to be placed in an Election EMR and £1000 to be budgeted in future for elections. Clerk confirmed that there is not cost to the council for the future Greater Lincolnshire Mayoral election or the Neighbourhood Plan Referendum.

Members suggested an in principal amount of £70 a year for a Band D property which is an increase of £10.

One member asked for the cost of a Band A property. This would be 6/9ths of the Band D Property cost.

**Proposed Cllr L Bennet, Seconded Cllr N Jacques**

It was agreed in principal for the Town Clerk to undertake this further work on modelling the budget to show a 25% General Reserves for statutory running costs should be completed to be reviewed at the Full Council meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2025. To then place any remaining amounts in EMR Projects to include the Assembly Rooms projects.

**Unanimous**

The Chairman, Councillor A Chapman closed the meeting at 18:50

..... Chairman 25<sup>th</sup> November 2024