

Lowestoft Town Council
Budget and Loan Council Meeting
First Floor, Hamilton House, Battery Green Road, Lowestoft, Suffolk, NR32 1DE
12:30 on 11 December 2023

MINUTES

Present: Cllrs Sonia Barker, Wendy Brooks, Andy Pearce, Bernadette Rappensberger and Elise Youngman (Deputy Chair)

In Attendance: James Cox (Finance and Information Officer)

112. Welcome

The fire evacuation procedure and public right to report was explained and the meeting was welcomed.

113. To receive and consider approval of apologies for absence from any Councillors not in attendance.

Apologies were received from Cllrs Green and Parker with reasons provided. Cllr Pearce proposed approval; seconded by Cllr Barker; all in favour.

114. Declarations and dispensations

114.1. To receive declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary, Other Registerable and Non-Registerable interests from councillors on items on the agenda - Cllr E Youngman declared she worked for the company who cleaned Lowestoft Town Council (LTC) owned toilets.

114.2. To consider written requests for dispensations for interests and note dispensations granted - No written requests for dispensations had been received.

115. Public forum

An opportunity for the public to make comments on any matters on this agenda, and to consider any advance comments from the public - No members of the public were in attendance and no advanced comments had been received.

116. To consider the draft minutes of the meeting on 30 October 2023, 6 November 2023, 13 November 2023, 20 November 2023 and 4 December 2023.

Cllr Brooks proposed to recirculate the minutes through the members area on the website, to be reviewed at the next meeting; seconded by Cllr Pearce; all in favour.

117. To review the 2023 – 2024 Lowestoft Town Council Budget and reserves (some aspects may be confidential).

118. To review the 2024 – 2025 Lowestoft Town Council Budget and reserves (some aspects may be confidential).

These items would be discussed in confidential session.

119. To consider the updated draft of the Reserves Policy

The table of reserves and what information was required in the appendices needed to be checked and it was agreed for the Finance and Information Officer to discuss the draft with Cllr Pearce and defer this item to the next meeting.

120. Date of next meeting

18 December 2023 at 12:30.

121. Items for the next agenda and close

An item was requested to receive feedback on the grounds maintenance queries.

Lowestoft Town Council
Budget and Loan Council Meeting
First Floor, Hamilton House, Battery Green Road, Lowestoft, Suffolk, NR32 1DE
12:30 on 11 December 2023

122. To resolve that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public be excluded from the meeting on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, namely any legal and employment issues relating to the matters on this agenda.

Cllr Pearce proposed the meeting be moved into confidential session; seconded by Cllr Rappensberger; four votes in favour and one abstention.

The Chair closed the meeting to the public and moved into confidential session at 12:45

Community Engagement: It was agreed to recommend the Lowestoft & Plaisir Twinning and Wherry Lines budget lines be moved into the Sponsorship budget line.

Festive Lights: Officers were asked to check the costs for Christmas lights.

Civic & Ceremonial: Officers were asked to check if the ceremonial robes and chains were covered by insurance.

Cllr Rappensberger left the chamber at 13:51

CIL & External Funding: There had been mention previously of a £50,000 contribution to Normanston Park from East Suffolk Council and it was agreed to check if this was still being considered at the next Quarterly Liaison meeting.

Cllr Brooks proposed to explore external grant funding options; seconded by Cllr Pearce; all in favour.

The Chair closed the meeting at 14:25

Signed:

12 August 2024