CHARD TOWN COUNCIL

The Guildhall, Fore Street, Chard, Somerset TA20 1PP
01460 239567 www.chard.gov.uk
Mayor: Cllr Martin Carnell Town Clerk: Paul Russell

FINANCE & AUDIT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Finance & Audit Committee held on Tuesday 31st May 2022 commencing at 7.00pm in The Guildhall, Fore Street, Chard TA20 1PP.

PRESENT: Cllr J Kenton (Chair), Cllr Baker, Cllr Bulmer, Cllr Hassan, Cllr Hawkes, Cllr A Kenton and Cllr Richter.

OFFICERS PRESENT: Cllr Eggins, Town Clerk and Democratic Services Officer.

Public Participation Time:
The following matter was raised:

- Clarification was sought on the recent increase in the car parking charges in Chard, whether anything could be done to reduce them and whether Chard Town Council could review the charges. South Somerset District Council had set the charges at a car parking strategy meeting around six months ago. Charges would be reviewed by the Unitary Authority.

2022/01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Brown (work) and Cllr Carnell (holiday).

Committee agreed to clarify the official status of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor being ex-officio members on all Committees and the requirement for them to attend Committee meetings as ex-officio members.

2022/02 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following Declaration of Interest was made:

- Cllr Baker: Chair of SSDC MTIG Group and Portfolio Holder.

2022/03 TO RESOLVE TO EXCLUDE MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

This item was withdrawn as there were no Confidential Items to consider.

2022/04 COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Proposed: Cllr Baker Seconded: Cllr J Kenton

For: 2
Abstentions: 5 (not in attendance)

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Finance & Audit Committee meeting held on Tuesday 25th January 2022 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

2022/05 TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

Members were informed that their laptops had been ordered and were due for delivery at the beginning of June.

2022/06 APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO TASK & FINISH GROUPS

Committee considered the appointment of a Grants Sub-Committee and a Budget and Strategic Plan Task & Finish Group.

Proposed: Cllr J Kenton Seconded: Cllr Baker
Unanimous

RESOLVED:

- To appoint a Grants Sub-Committee made up of five members of the Finance & Audit Committee;
- To amend the Scheme of Delegation to include this sub-committee;
- To appoint Cllr Baker, Cllr Hassan, Cllr A Kenton, Cllr J Kenton and Cllr Richter to sit on the sub-committee.

Proposed: Cllr Baker Seconded: Cllr Bulmer
Unanimous

RESOLVED:

- To appoint a Budget and Strategic Plan Task & Finish Group made up of members of the Finance & Audit Committee;
- To appoint Cllr Baker, Cllr Bulmer, Cllr Hawkes, Cllr A Kenton, Cllr J Kenton and Cllr Richter to sit on the Task & Finish Group.

2022/07 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2021-2022 AND ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS 2020-2021

Committee considered the following items en-bloc to be recommended for adoption by Full Council:

Proposed: Cllr Baker Seconded: Cllr A Kenton
Unanimous

RESOLVED to recommend approval of the following items to Full Council:

- Financial Report for 2021/22
- Annual Governance Statement
- Accounting Statement

2022/08 COMMITTEE MATTERS

(a) **Work Plan Update Report –** Committee noted the Work Plan update. It was agreed to develop a Committee specific Work Plan to be placed on each agenda to action.

(b) **MTIG Project Plan Update –** Committee noted the MTIG Project Plan update. Committee noted that a number of grants had yet to be received and would be included on future financial reports once received.

2022/09 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

(a) Committee noted that the next meeting of the Finance & Audit Committee would be held on Tuesday 26th July 2022 in the Guildhall, Fore Street, Chard TA20 1PP commencing at 7pm.

(b) No specific items were put forward for inclusion on the next agenda.

There being no other business the Chair thanked committee members for their attendance and closed the meeting at 20.16.

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CHAIR: **DATE:**