HESSLE TOWN COUNCIL

<u>Finance, Personnel and Asset Management Committee</u>

Wednesday, 12th June 2024 at 6.30pm Small Front Room Town Hall, South Lane, Hessle

MINUTES

Present: Councillors Craggs, Davison, Harrison, Pickering, Sutton and Toogood

Mr Bob Carroll – (Non-Voting Advisory member)

Clerk: Mrs Kim Cooper

Apologies: Cllr I. Hardy and Mr Paul Hogan (Non-voting Advisory member)

The Chairman of the Town Council, Councillor Steve Craggs took the first item on the Agenda.

134673 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Nominations were invited for the election of Chairman to the Finance, Personnel & Asset Management Committee for the current municipal year.

(Sutton/Pickering)

RESOLVED to nominate Cllr Phil Davison as Chairman to the Finance, Personnel & Asset Management Committee for the current municipal year.

There were no other nominations.

134674 ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Councillor Davison thanked members present for the vote of confidence and duly took the Chair.

134675 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Nominations were invited for the appointment of Vice-Chairman to the Finance, Personnel & Asset Management Committee for the current municipal year. (Harrison/Craggs)

RESOLVED to nominate Cllr Simon Pickering as Vice-Chairman to the Finance, Personnel & Asset Management Committee for the current municipal year.

There were no other nominations.

134676 DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

The Chairman now read out the following – Members must declare their pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest in items at this meeting – *rather than personal and prejudicial interests* – and ensure that they act appropriately.

Councillor Sutton declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute no. 134680(b) as she is the Town Council representative for the Community Centre Organisation and a Trustee for The Hourne Community Centre Development Trust.

Mr Bob Carroll declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute no. 134680(b) as he is Trustee for The Hourne Community Centre Development Trust.

Mr Paul Toogood declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute no. 134680(b) as he is Trustee for The Hourne Community Centre Development Trust.

Mr Simon Pickering declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute no. 134680(b) as he is Trustee for The Hourne Community Centre Development Trust.

134677

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

(Sutton/Toogood)

RESOLVED to confirm as a correct record the minutes of the Finance, Personnel and Asset Management meeting held on 8th May 2024 and authorise the Chairman to sign.

134678

CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS:

None received.

134679

FINANCE MATTERS:

a) Income/Expenditure Reports to 31st May 2024:

(Craggs/Sutton)

RESOLVED to receive the financial reports as given.

Councillor Pickering thanked the Clerk for producing the financial spreadsheets, which he considered to be the best he has seen as a Councillor for the layout and information.

b) Schedule No. 297 (Receipts & Payments)

(Craggs/Sutton)

RESOLVED to receive schedule 297 to 31st May 2024 as given and authorise the Chairman to sign.

c) Bank Transfers since the previous meeting:

None actioned.

d) Income from Town Hall lettings – Comparative figures:

(Chair/Sutton)

RESOLVED to receive the details as given at this meeting.

e) Outstanding Invoices – Town Hall Lettings:

The Town Clerk confirmed that there were no outstanding invoices.

f) Community Aid:

Community Aid 2024/2025:	
Starter Grant	£250.00
Equipment Grant	£250.00
Maintenance Grant	£200.00
Community Scheme Grant	£400.00 (one-off per annum)

New applications: 1 new application was tabled for consideration:

Hessle First (Hessle Feast)

(Chair/Pickering)

RESOLVED to approve the application and supporting documents and that Hessle Town Council in accordance with its powers under S19 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 and S144 of the Local Government Act 1972 should incur the following expenditure which, in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the area, or its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure and award a Community Aid Grant of £3000.00.

g) Town & Parish Council email accounts

Committee to consider the provision of official .gov email addresses for all staff members and for these to be linked to the Town Council .gov domain.

The Clerk provided a brief report and further information and confirmed that as part of the Accountability & Governance Practitioners Guide s1.26, every authority should have at least one email account that belongs to the council and is a generic .gov account. This now forms part of the AGAR, the Annual Government & Accountability Return 2023/2024 and Assertions and noncompliance will result in Councils failing the external audit by PKF Littlejohn LLP. With new GDPR regulations it is also easier for Councils to fulfil certain obligations.

The Clerk provided details of two quotes received to date from companies (from the Government recommended company listings) who are able to host the domain name and manage .gov emails. KCOM our current supplier whilst hosting the domain name and the Town Council holding one generic .karoo.co.uk email address, do not allow .gov emails on their system. (Chair/Harrison)

RESOLVED that this item is deferred for further investigation. Councillor Pickering confirmed that he will speak with East Riding Council to see if they would allow Hessle Town Council to piggy-back .gov emails on their system and the Clerk was asked to look at more generic 'high street' email providers to see what they can offer but will check what their data control safety policies are.

134680 TOWN HALL MATTERS/ASSETS/PROJECTS/FUTURE PROJECTS:

a) A Town Hall for the 21st Century

The Clerk provided a brief update on the Town Hall renovation works and confirmed that the work is still progressing with the plumbers, electricians and painters. The Clerk will provide Cllr Pickering with a copy of the April Finance, Personnel & Asset Management Committee meeting Minutes together with a copy of the quotes received for the Town Hall Roof.

b) Hessle Community Centre

Mr Carroll had provided an update to members earlier in the meeting regarding the Community Centre income and expenditure and confirmed that the Food Bank rent is now being paid directly to the Town Council. He confirmed that it had been previously agreed that with effect from 1st April, the Town Council would take over the payment of all bills relating to the Community Centre but will then receive the income which will be paid via the Community Centre Organisation. The Community Centre Manager is preparing a list of all the current users and the costs of the hourly rents for each of the rooms. Mr Carroll also confirmed that following the further grant funding received by the Food Bank, a quote had now been accepted and instructions given for the refurbishment of the old oil store and this should be completed by the end of summer. Following the meeting with the Solicitor, Cllr Davison and the Clerk, Mr Carroll had contacted the Solicitor regarding the Lease and this should hopefully be revised and sent over for approval within the next two weeks.

c) Tower Hill Memorial Park

The Park is currently in good order and the Clerk had no further updates to report.

d) Public Access Wi-Fi – Hessle

Councillor Davison and the Clerk to provided information following a meeting held with ERYC Project Officers on 23rd May regarding ERYC rolling out free public internet access for residents and visitors in Hessle.

(Sutton/Harrison)

RESOLVED that Hessle Town Council are happy for East Riding Council to continue with the roll out of the free public internet access in Hessle Square.

134681

SKATEPARK/M.U.G.A./BUS SHELTERS /FLAGSTAFF/ NOTICE BOARD MATTERS:

a) Skate Park and M.U.G.A.

All in good order.

b) Notice Boards:

All in good order.

c) Bus Shelters:

All in good order.

d) Flagstaff in The Square/Flags:

All in good order.

(Chair/Sutton)

RESOLVED that items a) -d) are noted.

134682 CCTV

The Clerk confirmed that she has been speaking with the CCTV Company (Visual Security) who are looking into the logistics of feeding the Hessle CCTV cameras/system into the new ERYC CCTV Control Room at Beverley and will provide updates in due course.

134683 PERSONNEL MATTERS:

In view of the possible special or confidential business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest, that the public and press be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw.

a) Community Centre – Cleaner/Caretaker

Committee to discuss and consider the upcoming need for a new cleaner/caretaker for the Community Centre.

(Pickering/Chair)

RESOLVED that as the Town Council now own the Community Centre there is a need for the Town Council to provide a cleaner/caretaker. The Clerk will liaise with the Community Centre Manager in order to establish exactly what the job entails together with the number of days/hours required and bring these details back to this committee in order for the Council to make any further decisions.