

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF TYWYN TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY 4th JANUARY 2022 AT 7.00PM ONLINE VIA ZOOM

PRESENT: Councillor: John Pughe (Chair)

Councillors: Aled Lewis, Anne Lloyd-Jones, Eileen Jones, Cathy Evans.

OFFICERS PRESENT: Chris Wood, Town Clerk

IN ATTENDANCE: Matthew Cooling

1 **APOLOGIES**

Nancy Clarke, Gareth Mason.

2 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND PERSONAL CONNECTION**

Councillor Eileen Jones – Item 6 – Volunteer at Tywyn Community Fridge.

Following the publication of a letter in the Cambrian News on 30.12.21, Councillor John Pughe read a statement for the benefit of members of the public, saying that there have been no unauthorised payments made by Tywyn Town Council and that the Council will not be raising the Precept for the financial year 2022-2023. It was also noted that this will be the second year running that the Precept has not been increased.

3 **TO DISCUSS PHONE AND BROADBAND PROVISION TO THE COUNCIL**

Following investigations by the Clerk, it was discovered that the Council had agreed a new two year contract with the current suppliers in July 2021. It was therefore recommended to include £1,000 in the 2022-2023 Budget. **Proposed** by Councillor Aled Lewis, seconded by Councillor Eileen Jones and **recommended** that £1,000 be budgeted.

4 **TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE CLERK REGARDING MATTERS RAISED FOR INVESTIGATION DURING THE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 20.12.2021**

SLCC membership is not due until March.

New Lights, CCTV and Footpath maintenance are to be discussed at the Environment Committee meeting on 5.1.22.

£8,000 was received from Morfar Solar in August 2021.

The payment of £75.12 under Emergencies was for a new flag.

The External Audit has not been completed due to issues with Audit Wales and their contractors.

Audit Wales have now resumed undertaking all audit work but there is a backlog and we can expect bills to come through in the next twelve to twenty four months. A proposal by Councillor Aled Lewis to increase the External Audit budget did not receive a seconder and the budget will be kept at £1,000.

5 TO RECIEVE AN UPDATE REGARDING THE PAYMENT FOR THE PROVISION OF TOILET SERVICES BY GWYNEDD COUNCIL

The Clerk reported that there has no further response from Gwynedd Council regarding the Invoice for Public Toilet provision.

6 TO DISCUSS THE FINANCES OF THE STATION BUILDING

The Clerk gave an update to the current situation saying that no progress had been made with the MakerSpace due to uncertainties over grant funding. In order for both projects to become established, the Clerk proposed using Section 137 to make payments.

There followed a discussion between Councillors who acknowledged that the Council had agreed to support the projects but felt that more financial information was required. It was requested that the Clerk produce previous minutes to clarify what the Council has agreed and to continue to investigate grant funding and the situation with Gwynedd Council regarding any grant that has been agreed for the MakerSpace. It was **Proposed** by Councillor Anne Lloyd-Jones, seconded by Councillor Cathy Evans and **recommended** that Section 137 payments be used to support both projects in the short term, subject to monthly financial reports being made to the Council.

The meeting was declared closed at 7.49pm