



Newark TOWN COUNCIL

FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MINUTES

Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on Wednesday 12th March 2025, at 7.00pm, in the Council Chamber, at the Town Hall.

Membership Present:	Councillor	B Corrigan (Chairman) (A)
	Councillors	I Brown D Campbell T Collier E Cropper S Crosby (Vice-Chairman) S Dickinson L Geary L Goff J Kellas D Ledger D Moore G Rix (Ap) N Ross (Ap) L Roulstone M Skinner M Spoors P Taylor
Apologies for Absence:	Councillors	B Corrigan, G Rix, N Ross
Officers Present:	Town Clerk Deputy Town Clerk Hospitality and Events Manager	Matthew Gleadell Anna Lawson Kirsty Edwards
	There was one member of the press and no public present.	
Venue:	Committee Room, Newark Town Hall	

FGP93/24/25 Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on Wednesday 29th January 2025.

The Minutes (as above) were proposed by Cllr D Moore, seconded by Cllr D Campbell and **APPROVED**.

FGP94/24/25 Declarations of Interest

No Declarations of Interest were received.

FGP95/24/25 Payment Schedules 10/25 and 11/25

Payment Schedules 10/25 and 11/25 in the sum of £275,630.59 (two hundred and seventy five thousand, six hundred and thirty pounds and 59p) and £141,814.98 (one hundred and forty one thousand, eight hundred and fourteen pounds and 98p) were **NOTED**.

FGP96/24/25 Hospitality Capital Expenditure

Discussions took place regarding the three proposals, and it was re-iterated that these actions are to complement the town and its events and not to take business away from other venues.

Recommendations were:

- a) To accept the change of use for the Pickin Room
- b) To purchase the outdoor bar for the Market Place
- c) To represent the proposal for the soft play events to include costings

Cllr D Campbell proposed, Cllr T Collier seconded the above proposals. A vote was held it they were **AGREED**.

FGP96/24/25 Nottinghamshire Association of Local Councils Membership ('NOTALC')

It was proposed that this decision be deferred.

The CEO of NOTALC would be invited to speak to the Council and another report would be referred back to the Committee.

This was proposed by Cllr L Goff and seconded by Cllr D Ledger. A vote was held and it was **AGREED**.

FGP97/24/25 Newark Heart Procurement and Financials

Cllrs Kellas, Crosby, Taylor, Spoors, Moore and Brown made non-pecuniary declarations of interest in this Agenda item.

Cllr P Taylor asked for confirmation that the situation would not happen again in relation to Newark Town Council processes.

Cllr M Spoors requested confirmation that if the council accept the proposal, that no action would be taken against NTC. The Town Clerk stated that legal advice would be sought in relation to this. Following legal advice, if the council is able to proceed then both the Leader and the Chair of FGP will be

contacted to grant permission.

Cllr D Campbell asked for it to be noted that she was not comfortable with granting retrospective approval of expenditure.

The recommendation as in the Agenda Report was proposed by Cllr S Crosby and seconded by Cllr D Moore. A vote was held and it was **AGREED**.

FGP98/24/25 Cemetery Fees and Charges

Cllr L Goff declared a non-pecuniary interest in this Agenda Item.

Cllr S Crosby proposed that the decision on this item be deferred to the next meeting, subject to comparative data from other sites.

Cllr D Moore seconded the proposal. A vote was held it this was **AGREED**.

FGP99/24/25 Grant Policy and Application Form

The following amendments were proposed to the Grant Policy and Application Form.

To amend the form to request copies of bank statements and trading accounts

Proposed amendment – maximum application to be £500 over two years.

Proposed by Cllr L Geary, seconded by Cllr P Taylor. There were no votes for this amendment.

Proposed amendment – remove biannual requirement and make £250 maximum per year.

Proposed by Cllr J Kellas, seconded by Cllr D Moore. A vote was held and this was **AGREED**.

Cllr J Kellas then proposed that the proposal including the amendment, this was seconded by Cllr D Moore. A vote was held and this was **AGREED**.

FGP100/24/25 Just Sing Grant Application

Cllr D Ledger proposed that the application be accepted in principle, subject to dates being available. This was seconded by Cllr S Crosby. A vote was held and this was **AGREED**.

At this point, Standing Orders were suspended in order to continue the meeting for another 30 minutes. A vote was held and this was **AGREED**.

FGP101/24/25 25/26 Meeting Dates

Cllr P Taylor proposed, Cllr L Goff seconded that this be deferred to the next meeting.

A vote was held and this was **AGREED**.

Cllr T Collier left the meeting at 9.11pm.

FGP102/24/25 Insurance Renewal

It was proposed by Cllr L Geary, seconded by Cllr D Moore, that the insurance renewal be accepted. A vote was held and this was **AGREED**.

FGP103/24/25 Exclusion of the Press and Public

Cllr S Crosby proposed that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 (as extended by Section 100 of the Local Government Act 1972) the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting on the grounds that the Committee's remaining business involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006, and the public interest in disclosing the information.

This was seconded by Cllr D Ledger; a vote was held and it was **AGREED**.

FGP104/24/25 Hospitality Governance

After discussion it was **AGREED** that these decisions be recorded and then reported to council. Details to be redacted.

Cllr M Skinner proposed, Cllr L Geary seconded an amendment to the proposal:

- a) To add - Profit and loss accounts for the Hospitality and Events department to be presented to the council.
- b) To remove – No individual councillor to approve the decision.

A vote was held and this was **AGREED**.

Cllr S Dickinson and Cllr E Cropper left at 9.30pm.

It was proposed by Cllr P Taylor, seconded by Cllr M Spoors that Standing Orders be suspended again in order to continue the meeting for another 30 minutes. A vote was held and this was **AGREED**.

FGP105/24/25 Tolney Lane Woodland – Request for Lease

Discussions took place with concerns being raised in relation to building, cutting down trees, pesticides, and fencing.

It was proposed by Cllr L Geary and seconded by Cllr L Goff, that this request be **AGREED**.

A vote was held and with 4 in favour, 5 against and 3 abstentions the request was **NOT AGREED**.

Amendment in **RED**

Meeting Closed:	21.56pm	Next Meeting:	Wednesday 16 th April 2025
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