



Newark TOWN COUNCIL

FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MINUTES

Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on Wednesday 13th November 2024, at 7.00pm, in the Council Chamber, at the Town Hall.

Membership Present:	Councillor	B Corrigan (Chairman)
	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 N Ross L Roulstone M Skinner M Spoors P Taylor
Apologies for Absence:	Councillors	No Apologies
Officers Present:	Town Clerk	Matthew Gleadell
	There was one member of the press and no members of the public present.	
Venue:	Committee Room, Newark Town Hall	

FGP68/24/25 Minutes of the meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on Wednesday 9th October 2024

The Minutes of the last meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on Wednesday 9th October 2024 were proposed by Cllr B Corrigan and seconded by Cllr D Moore.

A vote was held and they were **APPROVED**.

It was **NOTED** that on page 6 of the Minutes **(FGP57/24/25)B**:

'It was also AGREED that a breakdown of payments made by credit card would be included for future reference'.

This requires action.

FGP69/24/25 Declarations of Interest

All N&SDC Councillors declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda Item 8 – Defibrillator Requests.

FGP70/24/25 Payment Schedule 6/25 and 7/25

Cllr B Corrigan proposed, Cllr D Moore seconded the Monthly Payment Schedules 6/25 and 7/25.

Members then **NOTED and APPROVED** Payment Schedule 6/25 in the sum of £194,395.42 (one hundred and ninety four thousand, three hundred and ninety five pounds and 42p).

Payment Schedule 7/25 in the sum of £156,032.23 (one hundred and fifty six thousand and thirty two pounds and 23p) was also **NOTED and APPROVED**.

Cllr P Taylor queried the different power suppliers that the council has and wondered why the same supplier was not used for all supplies. The Chairman responded that brokers work on behalf of the Council finding the best deals for the supplies. The Clerk advised he would share appropriate information on this with Members.

Cllr M Spoors enquired if staff for whom the Council pay union subs received any kind of tax rebate in relation to those subs. The Clerk said he would enquire on this point.

FGP71/24/25 Notice of Motion

The Notice of Motion as printed in the Agenda Report was proposed by Cllr D Ledger and seconded by Cllr B Corrigan.

The Chairman also noted that members from the Boxing Club were in attendance and asked if Standing Orders should be suspended to allow two members of the Club to speak, for no more than 5 minutes.

Cllr P Taylor proposed not to do this, and this was seconded by Cllr J Kellas. They were concerned that this would set a precedent to any future motions.

A vote was held, and it was equally split.

The Chairman had the casting vote so Standing Orders were suspended to allow the Boxing Club members to speak.

Cllr P Taylor then proposed a small amendment which would make clear that

the council supports the motion, provided appropriate safeguarding measures were in place within the club.

A vote was held and it was **AGREED** that the amendment would carry.

The amended motion was proposed by Cllr P Taylor and seconded by Cllr N Ross. A vote was held and it was **AGREED**.

Cllr D Ledger left the meeting at this point.

FGP72/24/25 Grant Application

Following a debate regarding the application from Newark Tennis Club it was proposed by Cllr P Taylor, seconded by Cllr J Kellas that this application would **NOT** be supported due to concerns that the funding would only benefit a fairly small amount of local people accessing the tennis club.

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

It was further **AGREED** that the Tennis Club would not be invited to apply formally under the new Council's Grant Application process once finalised.

FGP73/24/25 Play Areas Upgrades and Investment

Cllr M Skinner declared a personal interest as a resident of the Syerston Way estate.

Cllr D Campbell proposed, Cllr L Geary seconded, that the recommendations in the report be supported.

Cllr J Kellas proposed, Cllr T Collier seconded, a small amendment to recommendation 1.3 as follows:

'That the Clerk and Deputy Clerk, in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Finance & General Purposes Committee, be given devolved authority to allocate the Council's released funds as match funding if deemed necessary in pursuance of external funding to support the development ambitions for the Councils play areas.'

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

FGP74/24/25 Middlebeck – Transfer of Open Space and Public Assets

Following initial discussion, it was **AGREED** that this Agenda Item be moved to the end of the meeting. This was following a number of questions being raised that the Clerk felt could not be answered without being in 'closed session'.

FGP75/24/25 Defibrillator ('Defibs') Requests

It was **AGREED** that Newark Town Council **SUPPORTED** the requests as set out in the Agenda Report.

FGP76/24/25 Civic Trust Plaques

The recommendation contained in the Agenda Report was **ACCEPTED**.

FGP77/24/25 Cemetery Was Memorial – Public Request for Additional Name Inscriptions

Cllr J Kellas proposed, Cllr N Ross seconded, an amendment to the recommendation contained in the Agenda Report.

The recommendation was *'if appropriate funding could not be secured by way of an external grant, that the Council seek to budget for the works in the next financial year.*

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

FGP78/24/25 Recording and Live Streaming of Newark Town Council Meetings

Following brief discussion, a decision on this Agenda Item was deferred for a period of one year, to await how legislation develops for hybrid meetings.

FGP79/24/25 Budget 25/26 – Initial Considerations

There was a brief debate and discussion around the budget paperwork and various elements of the document presented in the Agenda Report, and **NOTED** by Members.

FGP80/24/25 Exclusion of the Press and Public

It was proposed that 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 next Agenda Item debate 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.

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

FGP81/24/25 Appendix 2 to Agenda Item 13 – Newark Royal Market

FGP82/24/25 Middlebeck Transfer of Open Space and Public Assets

This item was moved to closed session following earlier debate within the meeting.

Meeting Closed:		Next Meeting:	Wednesday 20 th November (Extraordinary Meeting)
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