



# MINUTES

---

**Committee:** Finance and Policy Committee  
**Date:** Tuesday 20 August 2024  
**Time:** 6.00pm  
**Venue:** Parish Council Office

## Present

Cllr Jan Evans (Chairman)  
Cllr Catherine Fileman-Wright  
Cllr David Bridger  
Cllr Vivienne Hodges  
Cllr Mike Warner

## Also Present

Samantha Parkin (Clerk)

## 26/2024 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received.

## 27/2024 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS / REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

No declarations of interest or requests for dispensations were received.

## 28/2024 MINUTES

It was proposed by Cllr Fileman-Wright, seconded by Cllr Hodges, and **resolved** to **accept** and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2024 as a correct record.

## 29/2024 STANDING ITEM – CLIMATE AND ECOLOGY EMERGENCY:

The committee noted the Council Declaration to embed the climate and ecology emergency declaration across all Council services, activities, plans and other relevant work, considering the environmental impact of decisions, ensuring a fully integrated approach to mitigating the impact of climate change.

## 30/2024 Q1 BUDGET REPORT

The Clerk had circulated the Q1 budget report prior to the meeting and the report was noted.

## 31/2024 BANKING

The Clerk had circulated the correspondence received from Lloyds Bank advising the council that the monthly fee is increasing. The Clerk had also circulated information about Unity Trust Bank which had been recommended by clerks.

It was proposed by Cllr Fileman-Wright, seconded by Cllr Bridger, and **resolved to** recommend to full council to **stay with Lloyds Bank** and stop accepting cheques because of the fees charged by Lloyds.

## 32/2024 DRAFT BIODIVERSITY POLICY

The draft Biodiversity policy had been circulated with the agenda. Cllr Fileman-Wright noted that it is a good policy that complies with the 2021 Environment Act requirements and the council already

undertake many activities in line with the policy. She noted that the policy recommends the council completes an action plan which will be done in due course.

It was proposed by Cllr Fileman-Wright, seconded by Cllr Hodges, and **resolved** to recommend to the full council to **adopt** the Biodiversity policy.

### **33/2024 GRANT APPLICATIONS**

A summary of the Grant Applications had been circulated prior to the meeting.

**Moretonhampstead Swimming Pool** – First round grant noted, and the committee acknowledged the disappointing season. The committee wishes to support the purchase of banners.

**Flag Project (MDT)** – The flags are very attractive, but it is a lot of money for only a few days. The committee noted that most of the money requested is for running costs; £490 has been requested for materials.

**NEDCare CIO** – The committee noted that NEDCare is searching for new premises and that the equipment NEDCare wishes to replace is less than 5 years old. In these uncertain times the committee is hesitant to provide funding for new equipment when the current equipment is still functioning. NEDCare should come back next year assuming they find new premises.

**Moretonhampstead Parish Hall** – The committee supports the Parish Hall.

**Knead to Connect** – The committee supports the project but noted that the grant is for revenue expenditure. Knead to Connect should come back next year with clearer plans.

**Okehampton & District Community Transport Group** – The committee was unsure of the benefit to Moretonhampstead.

**Moretonhampstead Association for Youth** – The Clerk noted that no supporting documentation had been received but it wanted to support them. Cllr Warner suggested ring fencing an amount subject to the documentation being received by 2<sup>nd</sup> September.

It was proposed by Cllr Hodges, seconded by Cllr Bridger, and **resolved to recommend the award** of the following grants:

Moretonhampstead Community Swimming Pool - £182.00

Flag Project (MDT) - £250.00

Parish Hall - £400.00

Youth Club - £400 if supporting documentation is received

Total Awarded £1,232.00

### **34/2024 PLAYGROUND SURFACING – EMERGENCY REPAIRS**

The quotes to carry out emergency repairs had been circulated with the agenda.

It was proposed by Cllr Evans, seconded by Cllr Fileman-Wright and **resolved** to recommend to the full council to **accept** the quote for grass mats and to make provision for the other repairs in each future budgets.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 18.27pm.