

LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL
FINANCE AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE –19th June 2023

Minutes of the Meeting held in the Council Chambers, Claremont House, High Street Lydney on
Monday 19th June 2023 at 5.05 pm

PRESENT: Councillors R Holmes (Chair), S Holmes, C Harris, P Johns and
T Saunders

M Greenfield - Town Clerk
C Matthews - Assistant Clerk (Locum)

1. **APOLOGIES**

No apologies were received, all councillors were present.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr S Holmes - Declared an interest in item (ii) Lydney Community Centre
Cllr C Harris - Declared an interest in item (iv) Lydney Town Ladies

3. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Following a proposal from Councillor S Holmes, Seconded by Councillor Harris, the
Committee RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 27th
February 2023 – APPROVED

4. **ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN TO THE FINANCE AND SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE**

It was proposed by Cllr T Saunders that Cllr C Harris to take the position of Vice
Chair, Seconded by Cllr S Holmes and Unanimously Agreed.

5. **EARMARKED RESERVES**

The Committee scrutinised the current Earmarked Reserves for the year ending
31st March 2023 and AGREED the following: - Proposed by Cllr R Holmes and
AGREED with the following Record of Voting: Unanimous.

Play Areas Faller fields £34,522.22
To be held in obedience.

Lydney War Memorial £2,000.00

The Committee agreed that the amount held in reserves was appropriate taking into
account cleaning/repairs.

Cemetery £10,500.00

The Committee agreed to amalgamate this reserve with Cemetery: Additional Burial
bringing the total to £30,500.00.

Cemetery – additional Burial £25,000

To be held in obedience.

Cemetery – Green Burial £13,500.00

To be held in obedience.

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LGPS Reserves £23,509.00

It was stated that this reserve is set aside for staff who may need to retire early due to ill health and this is already covered via a policy paid for by County Council.

The Committee agreed to transfer the monies into more appropriate reserves as follows:

Election Costs - £10,000.00 (as there are no current contingencies in place)

Machinery - £3,509.00

Grants (New entry) - £3,000.00

Professional Fees (New entry) - £7,000.00

Machinery £6,400.00

The Committee noted that the reserve amount currently held is reasonable and will be further increased taking into account the additional £3,509.00 being transferred from LGPS Reserves.

The Chair proposed that these reserves should be topped up on an annual basis going forward.

Forest Greenway £10,000.00

Reserve amount to be split as follows;

£500 to be moved by virement into stationery budget heading 4155

£2,300 to be moved by virement into PPE Budget number 4185

£2,000 to be moved by virement into Floral Displays Budget number 4490

£5,200 to be moved to the Amenities Committee. Decision on which budgets to place the money left to the Amenities Committee.

Regeneration £27,001.28

Reserve amount held.

Allotment Provision £25,000.00

Reserve amount held.

Projects £156,391.68

The Committee agreed for this reserve to be sub sectioned for transparency as follows:

Play Equipment - £45,000.00

Sensory Garden - £15,000.00

Skate Park Project - £40,000.00

Lighting - £20,391.68

Technology - £19,000.00

Events - £7,500

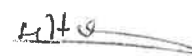
£2,500 to be gifted to Bathurst Park and Recreational Trust

New Vehicle - £2,000.00 (With an additional £2,000.00 to be added on an annual basis).

£5,000 to be moved by Virement to Building maintenance budget heading 4105.

Tree Maintenance £5,000.00

Reserve amount held.



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Environment Project £8,445.00
Reserve amount held.

Community Grant – Jubilee £892.43

Reserve amount to be moved to Civic Fund but the Town Crier and have annual allowance of £500.00 going forward for Membership Fees and Expenses.

The Chair, Vice Chair, committee representatives and the Clerk have been authorised to decide on budget movements, including EMRs, to assist the council's budgeting processes.

6. TO CONSIDER GRANT APPLICATIONS

The Committee was requested to consider four requests for a grant, which had all been circulated along with a copy of the Council's Grants Policy Guidance Sheet:

(i) Victoria Centre

To provide a contribution towards a new cooker.

Requested £1,000

Proposed by Cllr R Holmes. Agreed unanimously that the grants amount be agreed.

(ii) Lydney Community Centre

To provide a contribution towards a new flat roof.

Requested £1,000

Proposed by Cllr R Holmes that the grant not be accepted. Agreed unanimously with one abstention

(iii) Forest of Dean Baby Bank

To purchase and install a collection of storage and drop off structures for items.

Requested £1,000

Proposed by Cllr S Holmes and Seconded by Cllr T Saunders. Agreed unanimously.

(iv) Lydney Town Ladies

To provide a contribution towards removable football goals.

Requested £1,000

Proposed by Cllr T Saunders and Seconded by Cllr S Holmes Agreed unanimously with one abstention.

7. COUNCILLORS REPORTS

No reports were received

8. FUTURE BUSINESS

The Chair invited members to contact him with suggestions for future business.

9. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

Monday 6th of November Council Chambers

The meeting closed at 6.32pm

Chair 

Date ... 6/11/23

