

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON TOWN COUNCIL

VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE FINANCE & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

In accordance with s78 of the Local Authorities and Police Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulation 2020

20 JULY, 2020

MINUTES

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Present:

Councillors:

Alcock	How
Coles (Chairman)	Jackson (Mayor)
Curtis	Lee
Dyer	

Mackenzie (observer)	
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Clerk: Deputy Town Clerk

Press: None

Public: None present (meeting streamed live on YouTube)

15. To Accept Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Dowling, Fojtik and Vos and accepted for the reasons given.

16. Declarations of Interest on items on the Agenda

There were no declarations of interest.

17. To Receive Written Requests for Dispensation for Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.

There were no written or verbal requests for dispensations.

18. To Grant Any Requests for Dispensation

There were no requests for dispensation required.

19. Public Participation

No one wished to speak during public participation.

20. To Approve Draft Open Minutes of the Finance & Scrutiny Committee Meeting held on 9 June, 2020

It was Proposed, Seconded and unanimously

RESOLVED: That the Open Minutes of the Finance & Scrutiny Committee Meeting held on 9 June, 2020 be approved as a correct record.

In accordance with current procedures, the Chairman's signature and the date will be appended electronically to the Minutes.

21. Management Accounts for the period 1 April 2020 – 30 June 2020

There were no questions from members and the report was noted.

22. Financial Statements (Annual Accounts) for the year 2019-20 ended 31 March 2020

Having noted the report, it was Proposed, Seconded and unanimously

RECOMMENDED: That the Financial Statements (Annual Accounts) for the year 2019-20 be approved by Council.

23. Internal Audit and Annual Governance and Accountability Return for the year 2019-20

Members noted the report, which included the Internal Audit Report contained in the Annual Governance and Accountability Return.

It was Proposed, Seconded and unanimously

RECOMMENDED: That the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for the year 2019-20 be approved by Council.

24. Reserves

A brief verbal explanation was given.

It was confirmed that the Reserves Policy will be reviewed at the next meeting of the Committee, as part of the annual budget process. It was noted that the policy was amended within the last year to specify that the General Reserve should be at least 50% of the Precept.

Members were asked to give consideration to what would be prudent going forward, in light of the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on Council's income and expenditure in the current year.

25. Deputy Town Clerk's Verbal Report – for information only

As members had now recommended the Financial Statements to be approved, Council's accountants will be asked to add the date of approval to be that of the Town Council meeting on 28 July, 2020. Two minor amendments to dates in the notes will also be requested, as suggested by the internal auditor.

26. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting is 8 September, 2020 at 6:30pm at the Town Hall or 6:00pm using Zoom software if virtual meetings are still in place.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 4:13pm