



BROMYARD & WINSLOW TOWN COUNCIL

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Minutes of meeting held on
Monday 20th November 2023
in the Council Chamber, Council Offices,
Rowberry Street, Bromyard.

**Minutes
F23/48 - F23/50**

Members Present: Cllrs Churchill, Davies, Dunne-Thomas, Franklin (Chairman), Holman, Law (Vice-Chair), and Page.

In attendance: Cllr Brookes

Officers Present: Karen Mitchell (Town Clerk)

F23/48 Apologies for absence

LGA 1972 S85 (1)

None. All members present.

F23/49 Declarations of Interest and written requests for dispensations.

Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2007 SI No. 1159

Cllr Churchill declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI) in item F23/50, as a Trustee of the Bromyard Recreation Ground Charity (Kempson Players).

F23/50 Budget 2024-2025

Members worked through the first draft of the budget for 2024/25 (v1.0) on a line-by-line basis and made various amendments to budget lines to reflect anticipated expenditure.

Budget requirements from the Planning & Economic Development, and Properties Committees had been entered against the appropriate budget lines.

The following expenditure items were considered:

Having declared a DPI, Cllr Churchill left the chamber during consideration of the following item:

1. Letter from the Bromyard Recreation Ground Charity regarding annual grant funding.

Members considered a request from the Bromyard Recreation Ground Charity (Kempson Players) for an increase in the annual grant funding from the council to take account of rising costs.

It was RESOLVED that the Full Council be recommended to increase the annual grant to the Bromyard Recreation Ground by £2,000 to a total of £6,000 for the financial year 2024/25.

Cllr Churchill re-joined the meeting.

Initials..... Date.....

2. Ideas proposed by members of the Council.

- a) Provision of public toilets - High Street/Market Square. Cllrs Davies and Robinson

Cllr Davies expressed support for this proposal. While the members agreed with the concept, it was agreed that this was not within the gift of the town council. It was suggested that Herefordshire Council should be approached to provide such a facility as they had previously sold off the public toilet building located at the eastern end of town to a private buyer.

- b) Sweeping services (person and equipment) - town centre paths. *Cllr Davies*
Councillor Davies expressed her support for this idea, emphasising the importance of enhancing the visual appeal of the town for both visitors and local residents.

Following discussion, **it was RESOLVED**, in principle, to employ a staff member to sweep/weed paths in the town centre.

A significant underspend/carry forward from the current year budget line 4238 - Devolved Services/Public Realm, could be used to offset the employment costs for this position.

This matter would be referred to the Staffing Committee for further consideration.

The 2024/25 draft budget (v.2) as amended will be further considered at the Finance Committee meeting on 11th December and at the Full Council meeting on 18th December. Herefordshire Council has requested that the precept request for 2024/25 be submitted by 31st December 2023.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.51pm.

CHAIRMAN DATE