



WANTAGE TOWN COUNCIL

Council Office, The Beacon, Wantage, OX12 9BX

Town Clerk: Julia Evans 01235 763459

www.wantagetowncouncil.gov.uk

Minutes of the meeting of the Policy, Management & Finance Committee of Wantage Town Council held on 27 January 2025 at 7.30pm in The Beacon, Portway, Wantage, OX12 9BX
The minutes are draft until approved at the next meeting

Councillors Present:

A Crawford (Chair), A Dunford, J Hannaby, P Kirby-Harris, K Morris, P O’Leary, S Third, L Todd, C Walters

In attendance:

Julia Evans Town Clerk

		ACTION
58	Apologies for Absence Councillors I Cameron, T Gilhome, E Johnson, A Menzies & V Wright	
59	Declarations of Interest None	
60	Minutes of the last meeting It was PROPOSED by Cllr Third, SECONDED by Cllr Walters and RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 11 November 2024. The minutes were signed.	
61	Statements & Questions from the Public None	
62	Matters arising from the minutes: a) Update re Community Bus Service. The S106 agreement had been returned. Awaiting the funds. b) Asset of Community Value – Wantage Community Hospital and allotment sites. No progress.	Clerk
63	Briefings by applicants for donations and grants a) Around table. The history of the charity was outlined. Grants had previously been received from VWHDC and another grant from a local trust was received in December but they are running out of money. The charity feeds 130+ people every Wednesday. A small amount in donations is received every week.	
	POLICY	
64	Update on draft Emergency Plan. The draft plan had been distributed. It was noted that the area by the outfall was overgrown and there was nothing holding flood water back. The Letcombe Brook project officer to be invited to the next meeting. Invitation to be copied to the chair of the project. It was suggested that a social media campaign be developed to get people involved with the flood group. Other key stakeholders were to be invited to the flood group meeting, including Olly Glover MP. Cllrs Third and Morris to arrange.	Clerk Morris & Third Crawford

	It was noted that Humber Ditch was not being maintained. AC to ask the property team to investigate.	
65	To approve and adopt the Sustainability Policy. It was PROPOSED by Cllr Kirby-Harris, SECONDED by Cllr Dunford and RESOLVED to adopt the policy.	
66	To approve the inclusion of a statement on climate emergency awareness on the agenda for each committee and council meeting. It was PROPOSED by Cllr Dunford, SECONDED by Cllr Walters and RESOLVED that the statement be included on all meeting agendas.	
	MANAGEMENT AND FINANCE	
67	To receive the Income and Expenditure Report. It was noted that there was only a small sum left in the donations budget. There was not enough budget for laptops and mobile phones for the new staff. It was PROPOSED by Cllr Crawford, SECONDED by Cllr Hannaby and RESOLVED that an extra £1000 expenditure be approved for this purpose. Clerk to ensure that the new equipment was included on the insurance policy.	Clerk
68	To review the accounts for payment. Noted.	
69	To sign the bank reconciliation statements. It was PROPOSED by Cllr Crawford, SECONDED by Cllr Hannaby and RESOLVED that the statements be approved. The statement was signed.	
70	To review the Barclaycard statement for January. It was PROPOSED by Cllr O'Leary, SECONDED by Cllr Todd and RESOLVED that the statement be approved.	
71	To approve and sign the easement agreement for the SW outfall at Kingsgrove. To be put on the agenda for the full council meeting on 10 th February.	Clerk
72	Additional Road names for Kingsgrove. Two were required. Medlar, Mulberry, Quince and Spelt were suggested. Clerk to inform the Vale. Cllr Crawford to contact the Sykes family for permission to use the name in the future.	Clerk Crawford
	CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS	
73	Grant application requests a) WARP. c/f to April. b) Around table. It was PROPOSED by Cllr Dunford, SECONDED by Cllr Walters and RESOLVED that £2k be awarded. Cllr Crawford to talk to the chef about food outlets. Clerk to inform the Mayor how much was in the Mayor's fund.	Crawford Clerk
74	To consider the type of support to be included in the Miscellaneous donations budget. The grants policy to be used to refine applications. Applicants should be asked to provide evidence that they have also applied elsewhere. Another meeting was to be arranged with Sweatbox. Attendees to be Mr Smart, Michelle Rozier, Cllrs Crawford, Hannaby, Kirby-Harris and Menzies.	Clerk
75	Date of next meeting: Monday 10 th March 2025	

The meeting closed at: 8.42pm

Signed: _____ Date: _____