



Midsomer Norton Town Council

Council Offices, The Town Hall, The Island, Midsomer Norton, BA3 2HQ
Phone: 01761 418701 Email: townclerk@msn-tc.gov.uk
Mayor: Councillor Gordon Mackay Town Clerk: Katie Mason

1 - Present

Cllrs Shaun Hughes, Gordon MacKay, Lynda Robertson, Martyn Plant (Chair),
Charlotte Lucas

Also present Katie Mason (Town Clerk) and Kate Egan (Deputy Clerk and RFO)

Meeting started at 7.00pm

2 - Public Question Time

This section (at the Chair's discretion may last up to 20 minutes) is not part of the formal meeting of the Council and minutes will not be produced.

There were no members of the Public in attendance or members of the Press.

3 - Apologies for Absence

Cllr Cheryl Scott

4 - Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

1. Members to declare any interests which are not currently entered in the member's register of interests or he/she has not notified the Monitoring Officer of it.
2. To receive written requests for dispensation for disclosable pecuniary interests.
3. To grant any request for dispensation as appropriate.

Decision: There were no declarations of interest or request for dispensations.

5 - Confirm Previous Minutes

To confirm the Minutes of the Finance and Operations Committee Meetings held on 18th December 2023

Cllr Charlotte Lucas joined the meeting at 7.13pm

Decision: The Committee RESOLVED that the minutes from the Finance and Operations Meeting held on 18th December be accepted as a true record and were signed and dated by the Chair.

6 - Approval of Payments and Signature of the Monthly Bank Reconciliation

Proposal to approve and sign the Monthly Bank Reconciliation and note the Monthly Reports.

Reports attached:-

- Payments made during December 2023

7 - Approval of Grants

Approval of Grant Applications

7.1 - Midsomer Norton & Radstock Dial A Ride

Approval of a grant application from Midsomer Norton & Radstock Dial A Ride for £1,000.

Decision: The Committee RESOLVED to approve the grant application for Midsomer Norton and Radstock Dial A Ride for £1,000.

7.2 - Somerset Farmers Market

Approval of a grant application from Somerset Farmers Market for £1,500

Decision: This was deferred to the next meeting as a couple of points required clarification.

8 - CIL Monies

59C A local council must use CIL receipts passed to it in accordance with regulation 59A or 59B to support the development of the local council's area, or any part of that area, by funding—

- (a) the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure; or
- (b) anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on an area

This change would explain why other town/parish Councils have used CIL money for projects like maintaining or installing new notice boards and signs or funding community hall improvements etc.

[CIL-money-2019-20.pdf \(sherborne-tc.gov.uk\)](#)

[LOCAL PRIORITIES FOR PARISH CIL SPENDING | Rushlake Green Village Leaf](#)

Although there may be better projects to consider for CIL, noticeboards, or equipment and decorating costs for the Town Hall can be potential CIL allocations.

The Council could consider using some CIL to fund a feasibility study to create a cycle/pedestrian link connecting the Town Trust's land at Withies Lane with the Silver Street Nature Reserve and Five Arches Greenway off Silver Street.

Many residents have asked about Withies Lane and also independently approached Ward Councillor Sarah Evans who Cllr Mackay is going to meet with on site to discuss the idea.

Decision: Following a discussion Cllrs Gordon MacKay and Shaun Hughes will carry out some research as to the ownership and costs of feasibility studies, these will then be brought back to a future meeting.

9 - For Notification - Rise in Pension contributions and Pay Award

Note that the employer contributions have increased, and staff members have been awarded the new pay award, this was backdated to 1st April 2023

10 - Date of Next Meeting

The next Finance and Operations Committee Meeting will be held on Monday 19th February commencing at 7.00pm

Meeting closed at 8.01pm.