



**MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING ON  
TUESDAY 19<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2024 AT THE OFFICES OF BIGGLESWADE TOWN COUNCIL,  
THE OLD COURT HOUSE, 4 SAFFRON ROAD, BIGGLESWADE COMMENCING AT  
7.00PM**

**PRESENT:**

Cllr D Strachan (Chairman)  
Cllr I Agnew (Deputy Chairman)  
Cllr G Barrett  
Cllr M Foster  
Cllr M North  
Cllr M Russell  
Cllr C Thomas

Mr P Tarrant – Town Clerk & Chief Executive  
Mr A Wilkinson – Assistant Accountant  
Mx K Chambers – Committee Clerk  
Ms F Gumush – Communications & Events Officer

Members of the Public – 1 (online)

**Meeting Formalities:**

Following a reminder to meeting attendees, both panel and public, that this is a formal meeting, the Chairman advised that members of the public will be given an opportunity to speak during public open session but not at other times. The meeting is being filmed and by being present attendees are deemed to have agreed to be filmed and to the use of those images and sound recordings. The Chairman advised that attendees should not disclose any personal information of individuals as this would infringe the Data Protection Rights of the individual. The Chairman asked everyone to mute their microphones when not speaking.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr D Albone.

**b. NO APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr S Sajid.

**c. REMOTE ATTENDANCE**

Cllr M Knight.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**a. Disclosable Pecuniary interests in any agenda item:**

None.

**b. Non-Pecuniary interests in any agenda item:**

Cllr. Knight for Item 9a.

**3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman had no announcements.

**4. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION**

No members of the public wished to speak.

**5. INVITED SPEAKER**

No guest speaker was invited.

**6. MEMBERS' QUESTIONS**

None.

**7. MINUTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF MEETINGS**

The draft Minutes were **APPROVED** as an accurate record of the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

**8. MATTERS ARISING**

None.

**9. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

**a. Grant Applications 23/24 Tranche Three**

The Town Clerk & Chief Executive presented the report.

He noted that grant application requests for more than £2,000 had to be approved by the Town Council as stated in the grants policy.

The Town Clerk & Chief Executive also added that successful applications would be paid for before the end of the 2023/2024 financial year, again in line with the Council's grants policy.

Members considered all the grant application requests and agreed grants for thirteen organisations as following:

<b>APPLICANT</b>	<b>AMOUNT REQUESTED</b>	<b>AMOUNT AWARDED</b>
Carers in Bedfordshire	£2,000	£1,000
BigglesFM	£1,850	£1,850
Keech Hospice Care	£1,000	£1,000
Royal British Legion – Biggleswade Branch	£400	£400
Autism Bedfordshire	£500	£425
Biggleswade Community Group	£1,200	£400
Biggleswade History Society	£900	£900
Bloomin Well CIC	£4,500	£500
Ivel Bereavement Support	£1,000	£600
Biggleswade United Football Club	£1,950	£1,950
Biggleswade, Sandy & District NCT	£1,250	£850
Veg Box Scheme	£700	£325
Hear2Listen CIC	£1,000	£800

<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£11,000</b>

Members also **RESOLVED** to agree that successful recipients of grants should provide evidence that the grant has been used for the stated purpose and the quantifiable impact on behalf of the community.

**10. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

None.

**11. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION**

a. No one from the public wished to speak.

**12. EXEMPT**

None.

The Chairman closed the meeting at **7:33pm**.