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**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE GOVERNANCE, FINANCE AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE
DATED THURSDAY 18 JANUARY 2024 AT 10:30AM AT CULLOMPTON TOWN HALL**

PRESENT:

Councillors: J Buczkowski (Chair), T Spring, J Stanford.

Officers: The Town Clerk, Deputy Clerk.

G23/028 Apologies for Absence. There were no apologies for absence received.

G23/029 Declaration of Interests. There were no Declarations of Interests made.

G23/030 Minutes.

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting of the Governance, Finance and Resources Committee held on 14 December 2023 were adopted as a true and correct record of the meeting; they were signed as such.

G23/031 Public Question Time. There were no members of the public present.

G23/032 Budget 2024/2025.

RESOLVED to RECOMMEND to Council that the expenditure budget of £564,215 is approved, General Reserve are to be set at £188,071, being 4 months expenditure in accordance with current best practice, earmarked reserves are set at £335,447. The total funding requirement is £1,081,733 which will be made up of forecasted equity of £523,518, forecasted income of £39,400 and a precept of £524,815.

[This equates to a Band D property charge of £145.12 per annum, a 4.94% increase or £6.84 per annum or 13p extra a week.]

G23/033 RESOLVED that, due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted and in accordance with the [Public Bodies \(Admission to Meetings\) Act 1960 s1\(2\)](#), the Press and public are excluded from the rest of the meeting.

G23/034 Staffing Matters.

The Deputy Clerk exited the meeting.

Committee discussed the case in great depth. They stated how they were satisfied with the substance of the complaint and that it was understood by Committee. Committee agreed they would have no further questions of the complainant if the Complainant had been in attendance.

1. **RESOLVED** that, because the staff member was acting on direct instruction from their line manager and that the complaint was about that staff member specifically, the complaint was not upheld. The Committee acknowledges that best practice was not followed and apologises to the complainant on behalf of the Council. In future, there will be clear guidance and a Policy put in place to rectify this.

2. **RESOLVED** that an Information Release Policy is brought to a future meeting of the Governance, Finance and Resources Committee for adoption.
3. **RESOLVED** that all emails relating to a secondary complaint are to be sent to members of the Governance, Finance and Resources Committee, a report is be presented to Full Council, as the Complaints Policy has not been followed in this matter, and requesting clear direction from the Council on how this complaint is to be resolved.

Meeting closed at 1207.

DRAFT