



**MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING** held in the St Piran’s Room, Penlee Centre, Penlee Park, Penzance on Monday 26 June 2023 at 7:00 pm.

**PRESENT**

Councillors	Z Lawlor (Chair)	
	MJ Beveridge	J McKenna
	SJ Bosworth	NG Pengelly
	NA Davis	SJ Reynolds
	W Elliott	

Also present: James Hardy (Town Clerk), Cameron Sil (Responsible Finance Officer), Elliot Ridington (Democratic Services Officer) and Councillor Marrington (until 7.35 pm).

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Broadhurst and Crago.

**2. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR**

It was proposed that Councillor Pengelly be appointed Vice-Chair of the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

(Proposed: Councillor Reynolds; seconded: Councillor Lawlor)

It was then unanimously

**RESOLVED** that Councillor Pengelly be appointed Vice-Chair of the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

**3. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

In accordance with the Council’s Code of Conduct:-

Councillor Pengelly declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in Agenda No. 7(d) ‘Application for Grant – Chapel Street Music’ as he undertook work for the applicant. He then left the meeting for the duration of this item.

**4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Sam Fitzpatrick was in attendance and spoke in favour of Agenda No. 7(a), ‘Applications for Grants – West Cornwall Women’s Aid’.

Tim Boulton as in attendance and spoke in favour of Agenda No. 7(c), 'Applications for Grants – Music Ability CIC'.

Timothy Dean was in attendance and spoke in favour of Agenda No. 7(d), 'Applications for Grants – Chapel Street Music'.

Treve Nicol was in attendance and spoke in favour of Agenda No. 7(e), 'Applications for Grants – Global Jamming'.

**5. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

There were no confidential items for consideration.

**6. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11 APRIL 2023**

It was

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting held on 11 April 2023 be approved as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chair.

(Proposed: Councillor Reynolds; seconded: Councillor Beveridge)

Vote; Three in favour. Five abstentions.

**7. APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS**

(a) West Cornwall Women's Aid

Information about the organisation's cause and the reason for the grant request was set out at Appendix 1 to the report - the grant application form.

Following consideration, it was unanimously

**RESOLVED** that a grant of £2950 be awarded to West Cornwall Women's Aid from the Social Action Grants Budget.

(Proposed: Councillor McKenna; seconded: Councillor Beveridge)

(b) Newlyn Community Flora Group

Information about the organisation's cause and the reason for the grant request was set out at Appendix 1 to the report - the grant application form.

Following consideration, it was

**RESOLVED** that a grant of £950 be awarded to the Newlyn Community Flora Group from the General Grants Budget.

(Proposed: Councillor Beveridge; seconded: Councillor McKenna)

Vote; Four in favour. Four against. The Chair then exercised his casting vote in favour.

(c) Music Ability CIC

Information about the organisation's cause and the reason for the grant request was set out at Appendix 1 to the report - the grant application form.

Following consideration, it was

**RESOLVED** that a grant of £2520 be awarded to the Music Ability CIC from the Social Action Budget.

(Proposed: Councillor Reynolds; seconded: Councillor Beveridge)

Vote; Unanimous. However, Councillor Bosworth was not present for this item.

(d) Chapel Street Music

Information about the organisation's cause and the reason for the grant request was set out at Appendix 1 to the report - the grant application form.

Following consideration, it was

**RESOLVED** that a grant of £2400 be awarded to Chapel Street Music from the General Grants Budget.

(Proposed: Councillor Bosworth; seconded: Councillor W Elliott)

Vote; Unanimous. However, Councillor Pengelly was not present for this item.

(e) Global Jamming

Information about the organisation's cause and the reason for the grant request was set out at Appendix 1 to the report - the grant application form.

Following consideration, it was unanimously

**RESOLVED** that a grant of £990 be awarded to Global Jamming from the General Grants Budget.

(Proposed: Councillor McKenna; seconded: Councillor Beveridge)

**8. REPORTS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES FOR DECISION – ARTS AND CULTURE**

(a) Penlee House Building Condition Actions

A buildings condition survey was undertaken by GPJ Consulting Engineers and presented to the former Penlee House Committee at its meeting held on 20 March

2023. At that meeting a list of remedial works was presented, with some areas highlighted as a priority, and some of the works outlined had since taken place.

The report set out the remedial building works recommended for completion during the 2023/24 financial year, with recommended virements from reserves to cover the costs of these works.

Following consideration, it was unanimously

**RESOLVED** that it be noted that, at its meeting held on 5 June 2023, the Arts and Culture Committee resolved the following:-

‘The remedial building work projects proposed to be carried out in the financial year 2023/24, as set out in the table contained within the report, be approved.’

It was then further unanimously

**RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND TO PENZANCE COUNCIL** that a virement of up to £14,900 be made from 4995/1/2 (Penlee House Buildings Reserve) to 4100/2/6 (Penlee House Maintenance and Repairs) to meet the costs associated with the proposed remedial building work projects, as set out in the table contained within the report, to be completed during the financial year 2023/24.

(Proposed: Councillor Beveridge; seconded: Councillor Reynolds)

## **9. REPORTS FOR DECISION**

### **(a) Coach House Project – Town Deal Enterprise Grant**

Penzance Council, the historic Penlee House Committee and the Arts and Culture Committee had all previously resolved to support the further development of a revised Masterplan for the proposed redevelopment of Penlee House and the Coach House.

To support this aim, an initial Town Deal Enterprise Grant Expression of Interest was submitted to the Penzance Town Deal Board to deliver Phase 1 of the Masterplan to transform the Coach House into a café/restaurant. The project would generate income to support Penlee House Gallery by providing quality employment, diversifying the catering offer, increasing profitability and creating commercial gallery space for local artists. Revitalising a neglected Victorian building and improving landscaping would also increase footfall and support wider users of Penlee Park.

The Expression of Interest was supported by the Town Deal Board and Penzance Council had now been invited to submit a full application. The estimated Total Project Cost was £519,915 and an application had been made for the maximum contribution of £250,000. As part of the bid development, £164,230 of potential Council contributions from Earmarked Reserves had been identified but further work was required to identify funding options for the remaining balance of £105,685.

During the debate, Councillor McKenna requested that it be noted that he would be abstaining from the vote on this item as he was a Member of the Penzance Town Deal Board which would consider any future grant application.

Following consideration, it was

**RESOLVED** that

1. The further development of a full Town Deal Enterprise Grant application for the Penlee Coach House Project be supported.
2. It be noted that the Town Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer will carry out a budget review, to investigate both potential reserve and underspend positions, to identify potential match funding and make further recommendations to Penzance Council.

(Proposed: Councillor Pengelly; seconded: Councillor Beveridge)

Vote; Six in favour. Two abstentions.

(b) Service Level Agreement with Pengarth Day Centre

This item had been withdrawn from the Agenda and would be presented directly to the Penzance Council meeting scheduled to take place on 17 July 2023.

(c) Financial Papers to Receive and Accept

Following consideration, it was unanimously

**RESOLVED** that the following financial papers be received and accepted:-

(i) – Paid Expenditure from 1 April to 31 May 2023

(ii) – Bank Reconciliation from 1 April to 31 May 2023

(iii) - Financial Comparison for the Period Ending 31 May 2023

(Proposed: Councillor Reynolds; seconded: Councillor W Elliott)

**10. REPORTS FOR INFORMATION**

There were no reports for information.

**11. MATTERS ARISING FOR REPORT AT NEXT MEETING**

There were no matters arising for report at the next meeting.

**Finance & General Purposes Committee – Monday 26 June 2023**

The meeting closed at 8:04 pm

Chair  
21 August 2023