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6<sup>th</sup> June 2023

### **To All members of the Council**

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the **FINANCE & GENERAL SERVICE COMMITTEE MEETING**, in **THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 65 STATION ROAD, NE63 8RX**, on **Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> June at 6:00pm**.

The agenda for the meeting is set out below, along with associated papers. If you have any questions about any of the items on the agenda, please contact the office.

The meeting is open to the press and public. Our Risk Assessment requires that anyone wishing to attend the meeting, reads the risk assessment and meeting guidelines in advance. These are available on request, or via the Town Council website.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sarah Eden".

**Sarah Eden**  
**Executive Office/RFO**

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### **AGENDA**

#### **1. WELCOME BY THE CHAIR**

The Chair will open the meeting.

#### **2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

To receive any apologies for absence.

#### **3. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

To receive any declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011.

*Members are also reminded that they need to regularly review their declarations of interest forms and ensure they remain up to date.*

#### **4. DISPENSATIONS**

To receive and consider any dispensations.

#### **5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The Chair to receive any items put forward by members of the public and to put questions to or draw relevant matters to the attention of the Council. This is for a period of 15 minutes overall and is limited to 3 minutes per person.

*Please email/telephone the Clerk with questions on items on the agenda no later than 5.00pm on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2023.*

#### **6. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

To receive and sign as a true record, the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2023 (enc)<sup>i</sup>

#### **7. CLERK AND OFFICER UPDATES**

To receive an update on items actioned since the previous meeting (enc)<sup>ii</sup> *to be tabled*

#### **8. BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE 2023/24**

##### ***i. Updated Budget Report***

To receive updated budget report and address any questions to the Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) (enc)<sup>iii</sup>

##### ***ii. Accounts Paid and to be Paid (including Bank Reconciliation)***

To receive a schedule of accounts paid and to be paid; to endorse those accounts paid and agree those to be paid, since 16<sup>th</sup> May 2023 (enc)<sup>iv</sup>

#### **9. ANNUAL GRANT AID 2023/24**

To receive a summary of Annual Grant Aid applications received between 20<sup>th</sup> April – 19<sup>th</sup> May 2023, including feedback on presentations from those members present, and agree any awards (enc)<sup>v</sup>

#### **10. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS 2023**

The receive recommendations in respect of 2023 displays, taking into consideration defective council owned stock, and improvements within the budget available, and to agree to place an order (enc)<sup>vi</sup>

#### **11. EVENTS, COMMUNITY AND ENGAGEMENT (enc)<sup>vii</sup>**

##### ***a) Ashington Family Hub Brunch Club***

To agree to make £1,000 available from the Events, Community & Engagement Budget to allow Ashington Family Hub to deliver weekly brunch sessions in the school summer holidays.

##### ***b) Ashington Family Hub Bus Trips***

To agree to make £900 available from the Events, Community & Engagement Budget to allow Ashington Family Hub to run two family trips during the school summer holidays.

##### ***c) Ashington Family Hub Graffiti Workshop***

To agree to make £300 available from the Events, Community & Engagement Budget to allow Ashington Family Hub to run a graffiti workshop for young people agreed 8 -13.

##### ***d) Ashington Family Hub Animal Antics***

To agree to make £200 available from the Events, Community & Engagement Budget to allow Ashington Family Hub to run an Animal Antics workshop for young people agreed 8 - 13.

### **e) *Feedback and Evaluation***

To agree to delegate to the Communication and Engagement Officer to seek feedback and evaluation on activities agreed to be funded by the Council.

### **12. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Members are invited to consider passing a resolution to exclude the press and public to allow the consideration of the next agenda item, which requires ongoing negotiation:

In accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 Sec 1 (2) "A body may, by resolution, exclude the public from a meeting (whether during the whole or part of the proceedings) whenever publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted or for other special reasons stated in the resolution and arising from the nature of that business, or of the proceedings; and where such a resolution is passed, this Act shall not require the meeting to be open to the public during proceedings to which the resolution applies."

### **13. ENHANCE SERVICES PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT (NEGOTIATIONS)**

To receive a report of the negotiations meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2023, and agree those trial suggestions to be taken forward in discussions with Northumberland County Council (enc)<sup>viii</sup>

### **14. DATE, TIME AND VENUE FOR THE NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2023, 6:00pm, Council Chamber.

## **ENCLOSURES**

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<sup>i</sup> Draft Minutes of the Finance and General Services Committee, 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2023

<sup>ii</sup> Clerk and Officer Update, June 2023 – to be tabled

<sup>iii</sup> Updated Budget Report 2023/24

<sup>iv</sup> Schedule of Accounts paid/to be paid

<sup>v</sup> Summary of Annual Grant Aid applications for 2023/24

<sup>vi</sup> Recommendations for Christmas Lights displays 2023

<sup>vii</sup> Report from Comms & Engagement Officer

<sup>viii</sup> Report of Partnership Negotiation Meeting, 19<sup>th</sup> May 2023