

RESOURCES AND GENERAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Members of the Resources and General Services Committee are summoned to attend a Meeting at **7.30pm** on

Wednesday, 4 October 2023

at Loughton Town Council, Council Chamber, 1 Buckingham Court, Rectory Lane, Loughton IG10 2QZ

to transact the business as shown in the agenda.

Mark Squire Town Clerk 27 September 2023

Councillor M Owen (Chairman)
Councillor S Fontenelle (Vice Chairman)

Councillors R Brookes S Murray

B Cohen M Stubbings W Kauffman

Note to Councillors:

If you are unable to attend the meeting, please phone your apologies to the office on 020 8508 4200.

AGENDA

1 Apologies for absence

To RECEIVE any apologies for absence.

2 Declarations of Interest

Councillors to declare any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest in any items on the agenda.

3 Confirmation of Minutes

To CONFIRM the minutes of the meeting held on 27 June 2023.

4 Public Representations

To hear any representations from members of the public who have registered a request to address the Committee in accordance with no 5, Appendix C, of the Standing Orders.

5 Town Clerk's / Chairman's Report

To report (for discussion only) on any further significant information / matters that may be of interest to Committee members

6 Training and Conferences

The Deputy Town Clerk/RFO attended an Essex Pension Fund 'understanding annual benefit statements' webinar on 15 September 23, which was very informative.

To receive and note.

7 Staff Salaries 2023/24

No decision has yet been made on the outcome of 2023/24 pay negotiations.

To receive and note.

8 Christmas Closedown Arrangements 2023

In line with the existing Town Council policy agreed in February 2008 and updated in October 2021, the office is operational with 'skeleton staffing' and reduced hours. The Christmas period will therefore be:

Friday 22 December	Closed 12 noon
Monday 25 December	Closed
Tuesday 26 December	Closed
Wednesday 27 December	10am – 3pm
Thursday 28 December	10am – 3pm
Friday 29 December	10am - 12.45pm
Monday 1 January	Closed

To receive and note.

9 Citizens Awards

The Committee is asked to reaffirm its commitment to the annual Citizen Awards, the cut-off date for entries being 31 January 2024. Community groups and local schools will be approached, and social media publicity will be used to further promote the awards. The award presentations to be made again at the next Annual Town Meeting in March 2024.

10 Financial Assistance

The Committee are asked to consider and AGREE whether they wish for the Financial Assistance scheme to continue in 2024/25.

Members are asked to review and AGREE the inclusion of rule number 13 (highlighted in red on page no 5, full document pages 5-8) of the Financial Assistance Scheme application form and next form review date of October 2026.

A number of emails have been received from successful 23/24 grant recipients, where projects have already been completed since the start of the financial year, thanking the Council for their support.

To receive and note.

11 Annual Town Meeting

The 2024 Annual Town meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 5 March 2024, commencing at 8pm in the Murray Hall. Whilst this is not a council meeting, all Town Councillors are expected to attend. The Committee is asked if it wishes to continue with the format used in last year's meeting by inviting local organisations and voluntary groups, particularly those in receipt of Financial Assistance from the Council, to mount displays at the event to attract more public interest. Certificates to organisations successful in their grant applications for 2024/25 (subject to members decision of agenda item 10 above) would also be presented by the Town Mayor. The meeting is usually concluded with refreshments and an opportunity for members of the public to speak informally with their Councillors.

To receive and note.

12 Finance

12.1 Current Financial Position

The current financial position as of 31 July 2023 is attached together with details of the funds available from earmarked reserves (see pages 9 - 10).

A note of the Council's current bank balances and most recent reconciliations as of 31 July 2023 are attached (see pages 11 – 14).

12.2 Accounts Paid

Payments totalling £551,756.49 as detailed on payment schedules nos 378-380 (see pages 15 - 17) have been made since the report to the meeting on 27 June 2023. Schedules and accompanying invoices are available at the Council offices for inspection.

For information, details of all Council payments in excess of £500 are provided on the Council's website under the 'Finance and Transparency Schedule of Payments' section.

13 Internal Financial Check

To note that Councillor Murray was scheduled to visit the office on 2 October 2023 and undertook a financial check on Monthly Payroll / Tax & National Insurance / Pensions from the start of the 2023/24 financial year to the end of September 2023.

To receive and note.

14 Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) 2022/23

PKF Littlejohn LLP, the external auditors, have signed and returned section 3 – External Auditor's Report and Certificate 2022/23, without any comments. This was dated 22 August 2023 (see page 18).

Notice of 'Conclusion of Audit', which finalises the yearly audit requirements, dated 25 August 2023, has been posted on the Town Council's noticeboards and website.

To receive and note.

15 Internal Audit

The interim internal audit from Heelis & Lodge will take place on 25 January 2024.

To receive and note.

16 Remembrance Service

16.1 Remembrance Donation

The Town Council annually makes a donation to the Royal British Legion in support of the Poppy Appeal and towards the cost of the wreath laid by the Town Mayor at the annual Remembrance Service to be held this year on 12 November 2023.

Last year, the Committee increased the donation to £150 (previously £100). Members are asked to confirm if it wishes to make a similar donation this year. Payment will need to be approved under the General Power of Competence

16.2 Friday 10 November – 11am

As the 11th hour of the 11th day falls on a Saturday this year, members are asked to consider and AGREE whether a small wreath laying service can be held on the preceding Friday morning, to enable local schools to be invited to lay their wreaths, along with both the Town Mayor and British Legion.

17 Policies Review

Members are asked to review the following policies, for which there are no changes to be made. In view of the volume of paperwork, members are requested to look at the document section on the Town Council website or view via the links below:

- **17.1 Early retirement policy** Recommended next review October 2027 (See Page 19)
- 17.2 Reserves policy Recommended next review October 2027
 See link below:

RESERVES POLICY - Updated Oct 2020 WA.pdf (loughton-tc.gov.uk)

18 Loughton Town Council (LTC) email addresses

Our IT consultant has provided some indicative advice and costings As we already have the domain name for Loughton-tc.gov.uk, we are able to add the Councillors to this, with no extra permissions needed

- The cost per Councillor would be:
 - o £4 per month, per Councillor, just for the email address or (total £1,056 p.a.)
 - £6 per month, per Councillor, for the email address and access to "one drive" (total £1,584 p.a.)
- There would be no further set up charges, just the monthly charges, per Councillor as mentioned above
- Delivery time to implement can be completed in a few, subject to other workloads

We currently have no budget for this project, which would cost c£2,640 p.a.

Recommend setting a budget allocation for this project for implementation when the new Town Council is implemented in Maty 2024.

19 Think Loughton- Circulation newsletter-R&GS Min 249.

Alternative delivery quotes have been provided, ranging from £50 to £500 more expensive than the existing delivery company. Further quotes for the whole package of design, print and delivery are awaited.

To receive and note.

Mark Squire TOWN CLERK 27 September 2023

Agenda item 10 Financial Assistance



SCHEME OF GRANTING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

- 1 The annual deadline for receipt of applications is 31 December. Grants to successful applicants will be made in the following financial year. (The financial year is from 1 April to 31 March.)
- 2 Up to 90% of the grants budget will be allocated to applications received by this deadline. At least 10% of the budget will be retained for emergency applications. Organisations which apply for financial assistance after the deadline will be required to indicate why they could not meet the deadline, i.e. explanation of unforeseen financial requirements.
- 3 Applicants are required to complete the Council's form to apply for financial assistance, and to provide all the information requested.
- 4 Grants are not restricted in the purpose to which they may be put, and applications can be made for capital or revenue expenditure or special projects. Quotations/estimates for the project expenditure maybe required to ensure that applicants are considering the best value for money.
- In considering applications for financial assistance, the Council will take into account how well the project meets the needs of the local community and provides a positive benefit to a significant number of Loughton residents; how effectively the group will use the grant; whether the costs were appropriate and realistic; what level of contributions have been, or would be, raised locally; whether the organisation should reasonably have been expected to obtain sufficient funding from another, perhaps more appropriate source; how the group is managed, as indicated by its constitution; for larger projects, is the proposal sustainable in the long term?
- 6 Organisations are not restricted to the number of grant applications made over a period of time. However, the history of previous applications will be considered in the decision-making process.
- 7 Grants awarded for purchase of goods or services will be paid on receipt of a receipted supplier's invoice. Special arrangements may be made to pay the grant on receipt of an order for the goods or services if an organisation can demonstrate that its cash flow prevents it from paying the invoice before receiving the grant. The grant must be requested for payment within twelve months of notice of the grant being made. After this time the offer will lapse.
- Where a grant is offered for a project still in the planning stages the Council may pledge to grant a certain sum which will become payable when the project is under way. In this case, the offer will only be kept open for a limited period; the project must have commenced, or a firm commitment made to a start date e.g., by placing contractually binding orders to start imminently, before the grant can be claimed, and this must be within twelve months of notice of the grant being made. After this time the offer will lapse.
- 9 There is no maximum figure set for grants awarded, within the budget for grants set annually by the Council. You are advised to check the budget available before submitting your application.
- 10 Applications will be considered at a meeting of the Resources and General Services Committee; applicants will be informed of the outcome after that meeting.
- 11 The Council policy is that financial assistance will only be made to small-scale local projects and not national or county appeals. However, this does not preclude local branches of national organisations from applying.
- 12 The Council is prevented by statute from giving financial assistance to individuals, charities operating overseas or to a fund established to help persons outside the UK.
- 13 Guidance issued by NALC regarding the 1984 Local Government Act which prohibits councils' involvement in 'property relating to the affairs of the church', e.g., the maintenance or improvement of the buildings or land or contributing to the costs. There is an absence of case law, which may have clarified whether later legislation overrides this 1984 specific provision. The Council will therefore, when considering a grant to a church, decide whether this is a prudent course of action.
- 14 As a condition of receiving a grant, organisations will be required to acknowledge the Town Council's support in their publicity material.

The application form, accounts and other information may be copied and placed on the public agenda for the meeting, so please ensure the information is clear and legible. No personal data will be disclosed.

Next review October 2025

Agenda item 10 cont. Financial Assistance

APPLICATION	ANCIAL ASSISTANCE
Please complete the form clearly in black ink Continue on another sheet	and keep the writing within the boxes.
YOUR ORGANISATION	
Name of organisation (please give location, if different from correspondence address on back page)	
Summary of aims and objectives	
Age groups specifically catered for, if any	
Is the organisation a non-profit making body?	
Is the organisation a Registered Charity?	
(if so, please give registration number) Number of members in the organisation	
Number of members resident in Loughton	
Is membership restricted in any way?	
Do you charge a membership fee, or charge for access to your activities? Please give details	
DETAILS OF GRANT APPLIED FOR	
Purpose for which the grant is required including with details of the proposed expenditure (include appropriate).	

Agenda item 10 cont. **Financial Assistance**

Explain how Loughton residents will benefit from this project	?
Are you making this application as part of the annual round date 31 December)? Yes / No If No. please explain the circumstances to justify this emerge 2 of the scheme before completing this section).	
Total cost of project	
Amount of grant requested	
Funds available from organisation's own resources	
Funds granted from other bodies (please give details)	
If there is a shortfall in these figures, how do you propose to fund the deficiency?	
PREVIOUS APPLICATIONS	

Financial Year	Amount	Purpose	Successful
1.4.22 - 31.3.23			Yes / No
1.4.21 - 31.3.22			Yes / No
1.4.20 - 31.3.21			Yes / No
1.4.19 - 31.3.20			Yes / No
1.4.18 - 31.3.19			Yes / No

Please give details of all grant applications made by your organisation to the Town Council,

ACCOUNTS & CONSTITUTION

whether successful or not, in the last five years.

You are required to send a copy of your constitution and most recent audited or independently verified accounts and balance sheet with this application together with copies of quotations/estimates for the project expenditure. NB: If you are part of a national or countywide organisation, the accounts must be Loughton branch specific. If you are a new organisation without past accounts, please attach a copy of your budget for the year.

Agenda item 10 cont. Financial Assistance

Name of person mak	ing grant application		
Address for correspo	ndence		
Email address			
Tel. No.		Day Evening	
DECLARATION			
I certify that the inform I enclose the followin a) a copy of our cons I undertake on behalf	mation provided is corre g documents in support stitution b) most recent of the organisation that hich it was granted, ar	ect. of this application: set of audited account any financial assistanc	the organisation named. s c) quotations/estimates. e offered will only be used ne Town Council if it is not
Signed		Date	
Name (please print)			
Capacity in which sig	ned		
	which the cheque	:	
contract for services with binding obligations on us	only undertakes the pro n you. Our Data Privacy I s covering the duration, no on request from the	Notice forms part of this a ature and purpose of the	a necessary to perform the agreement and includes the processing and your rights; vailable on our website:
name, address, email a contact you and respond	ddress, phone number) w	rill be processed and sto and provide information	ersonal information such as red so that it is possible to relating to your application. ur prior consent.
Loughton Town Counc	vith supporting informati cil, Unit 1 Buckingham (ct postage is applied for the	Court, Rectory Lane, Lo	ughton IG10 2QZ
For office use only: Acknowledged	[ecision ecision	
Statutory power		nformed	
Statutory power	"		

Loughton Town Council Summary Income & Expenditure by Budget Heading 31/07/2023 Month No: 4 Resources and General Services Committee Report

		Actual Last Year	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Budget	Variance Annual Total	Funds Available	% of Budget
Resources and General Services							
Communication	Expenditure	18,042	4,940	18,355	13,415	13,415	26.9%
Office Expenses	Expenditure	16,562	4,026	15,125	11,099	11,099	26.6%
Audit	Expenditure	3,408	-1858	3,305	5,163	5,163	-56.2%
Central Personnel	Expenditure	391,213	129,553	412,200	282,647	282,647	31.4%
Council Expenses (1)	Expenditure	14,325	12,653	19,970	7,317	7,317	63.4%
Other Services (RGS)	Expenditure	1,776	0	400	400	400	0%
Members' Expenses	Expenditure	1,626	58	2,360	2,302	2,302	2.5%
Buckingham Court	Expenditure	70,474	22,148	64,906	42,758	42,758	34.1%
	Income	0	1050	2,000	950		52.5%
Service Re-charge (2)	Expenditure	-285,000	0	-371,000	0	0	0.0%
Library	Expenditure	7,781	0	0	0	0	
Grants	Expenditure	29,364	4,750	38,500	33,750	33,750	12.3%
	Income	7,013	5,000		-5,000		

INCOME – EXPENDITURE TOTALS

R&GS Expenditure	269,572	<u>176,271</u>	204,121	<u>27,850</u>	<u>27,850</u>	<u>86.4%</u>
Income	<u>7,013</u>	<u>6,050</u>	<u>2,000</u>	<u>4050</u>		<u>302.5%</u>
Net Expenditure over Income	<u>262,558</u>	<u>170,221</u>	<u>202,121</u>	<u>31,900</u>		

Notes:

- (1) Council Expenses "Actual Year To Date" includes the Town Council annual Insurance.
- (2) The Service Recharge will be applied at the financial year-end.

Agenda item 12.1 cont. Earmarked Reserves for 2023/2024:

A summary of the Committee's reserves showing the amounts available from reserves in this current financial year is provided below:

Resources and General Services Committee	31.07.23
Elections	19,854.81
Total	19,854.81

ate:14/09/2023		Loughton Town Cou	ncil	Page 1
me: 14:22		Bank Reconciliation Statement a for Cashbook 1 - No 1 Curre		User: JCG
Bank State	ment Account	Name (s) Statement Date	Page No	Balances
Nat West no	. 1 account	31/07/2023	ı	154,625.94
Unpresente	d Payments (N	Ainue)	Amount	154,625.94
De announce	Non-mediatron contra	and American management and average and		
	10987 P491	L & J Hall Digging Services Lt	1,515.00	
11/05/2023		Couno Office Solutions Limited	90.96 310.16	
	11204 P106 11218 P121	AM Garden Machinery Ltd James Todd & Co. Ltd.	120.78	
	11210 P121	Couno Office Solutions Limited	120.78	
	11225 P130	Fluid Solutions Plumbing & Hea	171.00	
	11232 P140	BG Shutters and Blinds Ltd	295.00	
	11238 P145	Portable Toilet Hire (London)	804.00	
	11250 P170	Grangewood Plastic Packaging L	230.40	
	11256 P179	Counc Office Solutions Limited	87.85	
	11258 P180	Regional Waste Recycling Comme	525.20	
10/07/2023	11267 P194	Arbtec Tree Services	948.00	
10/07/2023	11270 P199	James Todd & Co. Ltd.	234.96	
10/07/2023	11271 P201	TBS Hygiene Ltd	90.00	
10/07/2023	11272 P202	Chamberlain of London	10.00	
10/07/2023	11276 P210	Youth Employment Strategy	1,750.00	
10/07/2023	11277 P211	Loughton Methodist Church	1,000.00	
10/07/2023	11278 P212	Worth Foundation	1,500.00	
10/07/2023	11279 SD18	Vona Aghoaghovbia	250.00	
			_	10,038.51
				144,587.43
Unpresente	d Receipts (PI	us)		
28/03/2023	R285		184.00	
01/07/2023	R285 resve		-184.00	
31/07/2023	R91		547.60	
				547.60
				145,135.03
			Balance per Cash Book is :-	145,135.03
			Difference is :-	0.00

Page 1		Loughton Town Council			Date:23/08/2023
User: JCG		Bank Reconciliation Statement as at 31/07/2023 for Cashbook 2 - No 2 Current Account			Time: 10:02
Balances	Page No	Statement Date	count Name (s)	ment Account	Bank Stater
58,057.71		31/07/2023	int	. 2 account	Nat West no
58,057.71					
	Amount		ents (Minus)	d Payments (Unpresente
	866.24	0PW00111168	7 HMRC only 1	811 P207	10/07/2023
	9,249.13	Fund	8 Essex Pensio	812 P208	10/07/2023
	7,800.00	0PW00111168	77 HMRC only 1	811 P207	10/07/2023
17,915.37					
40,142.34					
			ots (Plus)	d Receipts (P	Unpresente
	0.00				
0.00					
40,142.34					
40,142.34	er Cash Book is :-	Balance			
0.00	Difference is :-				

Date:23/08/2023	Loughton Town Council		Page 1
	Bank Reconciliation Statement as at 31/07/2023 for Cashbook 3 - NatWest Business Reserve Acc		
Bank Statement Account Name (s)	Statement Date	Page No	Balances
NatWest Business Reserve Acc	31/07/2023		101,327.15
		-	101,327.15
Unpresented Payments (Minus)	@ <u>1</u>	Amount	
		0.00	
		_	0.00
			101,327.15
Unpresented Receipts (Plus)			
		0.00	
		_	0.00
			101,327.15
	Balance per Ca	ash Book is :-	101,327.15
	Di	ifference is :-	0.00

Date:23/08/2023	Loughton Town Council	Page 1		
Bank Statement Account Name (s)	Statement Date Page	No Balances		
Santander	31/07/2023	337,318.13		
		337,318.13		
Unpresented Payments (Minus)	Amo	ount		
		.00		
		0.00		
		337,318.13		
Unpresented Receipts (Plus)				
	C	.00		
		0.00		
		337,318.13		
	Balance per Cash Book	is :- 337,318.13		
	Difference	is :- 0.00		

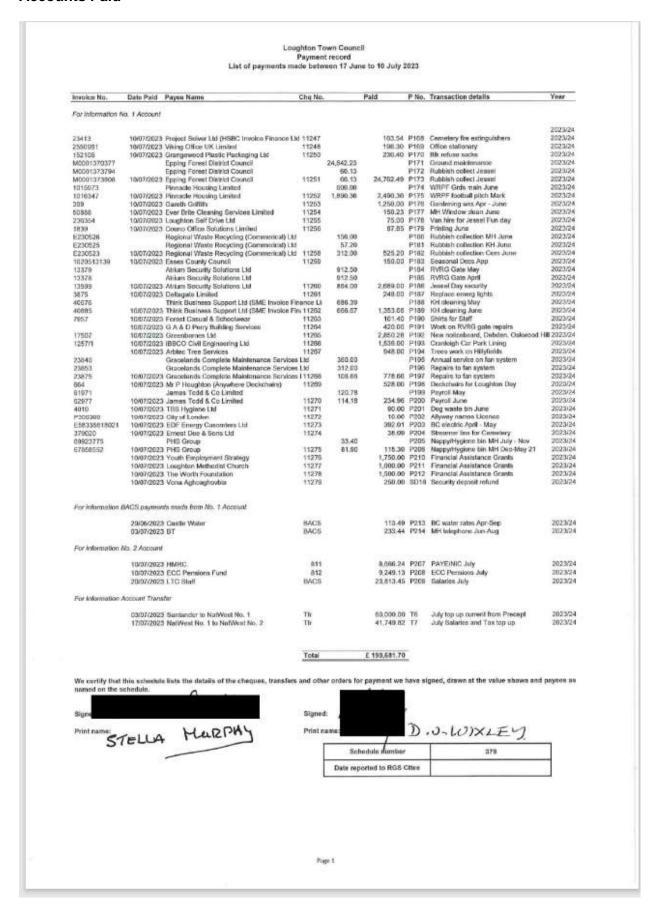
Date: 14/09/2023	Loughton Town Council		Page 1
	conciliation Statement as at 31/07/2023 abook 5 - Security Deposits Current a/c		
Bank Statement Account Name (s)	Statement Date Pa	ge No	Balances
Security Deposits Current a/c	31/07/2023		138.00
		_	138.00
Unpresented Payments (Minus)	A	mount	
		0.00	
			0.00
			138.00
Unpresented Receipts (Plus)			
		0.00	
			0.00
			138.00
	Balance per Cash Bo	ok is :-	138.00
	Differen	ce is :-	0.00

Date:23/08/2023	Loughton Town Council Bank Reconciliation Statement as at 31/07/2023 for Cashbook 6 - Nationwide Instant Saver Acc		Page 1 User: JCG
Bank Statement Account Name (s)	Statement Date	Page No	Balances
Nationwide Instant Saver Acc	31/07/2023	94	104,618.89
		5 -	104,618.89
Unpresented Payments (Minus)		Amount	
		0.00	
		<u></u>	0.00
			104,618.89
Unpresented Receipts (Plus)			
		0.00	
			0.00
			104,618.89
	Balance pe	er Cash Book is :-	104,618.89
		Difference is :-	0.00

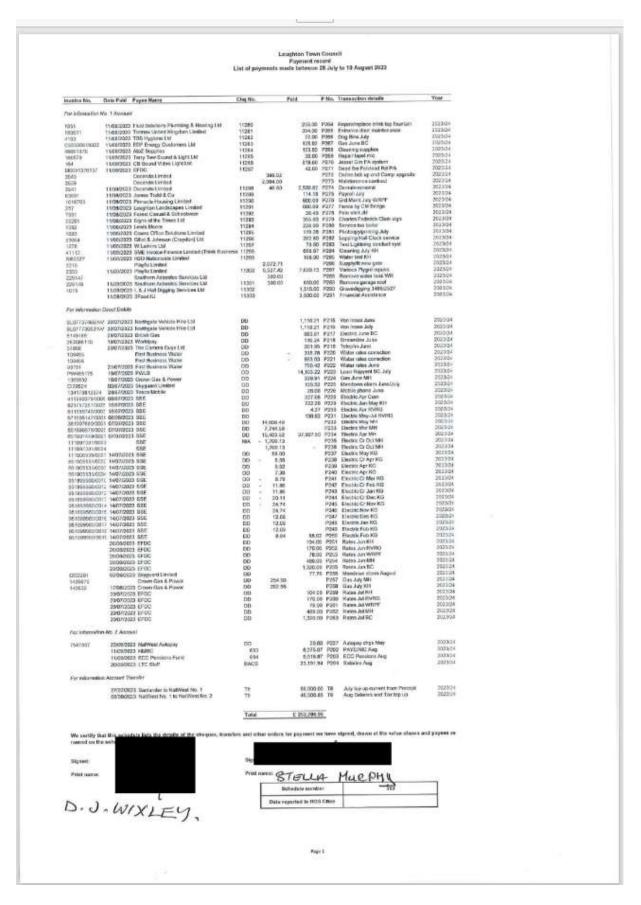
Agenda item 12.2 Accounts Paid

Loughton Town Council Payment record List of payments made between 1 June to 16 June 2023 Paid P No. Transaction details Year Invoice No. Date Paid Payee Name Chg No. 109.69 P119 Tollet rolls MH 118.80 P120 Repair door kepped SC 120.76 P121 Payroff May P122 Sin collect Cem June P123 Sin collect Cem June P124 Sin collect Cem June 105.50 P125 Photocopyingbymining May 234.00 P125 Photocopyingbymining May 234.00 P125 Photocopyingbymining May 234.00 P127 TL Summer Issue & Annual Report 110.23 P126 Fine siam services MH 384.00 P129 Staff uniform MH 171.00 P130 Replace fault lap WRA 72.00 P131 Day waste bins May 600.00 P132 Grid maint May 1,000.00 P133 Grid maint May 1,000.00 P134 Confidential waste disposal P136 Annual Football inspection P136 Annual Football inspection P136 Annual Football inspection P137 Annual Football inspection P138 Py Spring clean up RVMG 162.00 P139 Dispose of old goals 205.00 P140 Slind repairs MH 2,114.19 P141 TL Delivery 76.64 P142 Usu shaller paint 77.40 P143 P142 Usu shaller paint 77.40 P143 P141 Usu shaller paint 77.40 P143 P141 Usu Shaller paint 77.40 P143 P144 Usu shaller paint 77.40 P149 Rides for Jessel Green 400.00 P145 Entertainment Jessel Green 400.00 P149 Rides for Jessel Green 1,000.00 P149 Rides for Jessel Green 1,000.00 P150 Rides for Jessel Green 1,000.00 P151 First aid for Jessel Green 420.00 P151 First aid for Jessel Green For information No. 1 Account 16/06/2023 Nisbets 28832711 11216 2023/24 26932711 311238 61971 E230128 E230130 E230131 1781 19/09/073 - Nabets 19/09/073 - Nabets 19/09/073 - Searx Seculity Services Ltd 19/09/2023 - James Todd & Co Limited Regional Waste Recycling (Commercial) Ltd 19/09/073 - Regional Waste Recycling (Commercial) Ltd 19/09/073 - Regional Waste Recycling (Commercial) Ltd 19/09/073 - Counc Office Selection Ltd 19/09/073 - Euroloos Limited 19/09/073 - Euroloos Limited 11217 2023/24 11218 2023/24 312.00 57.20 156.00 2023/24 2023/24 2023/24 2023/24 2023/24 11221 2023/24 16/06/2023 Total Media 16/06/2023 Chubb Fie & Security Utd 16/06/2023 Forest Casual & Schodwear 16/06/2023 Fluid Solutions Plumbing & Healing Utd TL/101/PRINT 11222 2023/24 9904990 11223 2023/24 7934 11224 2023/24 11225 11225 11226 11227 11228 11229 1815 2023/24 1606/2023 Fluid Solutions Plumbling 8 Healing Ltd 1606/2023 Fish Hyglens Ltd 1606/2023 Financia Housing Limited 1606/2023 Scott Dryden 1606/2023 State Sourity Streeding Ltd Trevor Muller Playground Inspections Ltd 1606/2023 Trevor Muller Playground Inspections Ltd 1606/2023 Trevor Muller Playground Inspections Ltd 2023/24 1015122 LTGA059 21184 2023/24 2023/24 2023/24 2023/24 2023/24 2023/24 1759 1762 11230 170,00 1760 2023/24 1606/2023 Trevor Muller Playground Inte FOC 1606/2023 EFDC 1606/2023 EFDC 1606/2023 Royal Mail Group Ltd 1606/2023 G.C. Johnson Ltd 1606/2023 G.C. Johnson Ltd 1606/2023 Dettagale Limited 1606/2023 Dettagale Limited 1606/2023 Dettagale Limited 1606/2023 Dettagale Limited 1606/2023 Postable Tolect Hire Lendon 1606/2023 Postable Tolect Hire Lendon 1606/2023 Hot Mailer Tolect Hire Lendon M0001369108 42.60 2023/24 11231 M0001369283 2023/24 M000136828 SI-10829 9067858656 IN0059285 EA37651 3874 11232 11232 11243 11243 11236 11236 2023/24 2023/24 2023/24 2023/24 2023/24 2023/24 2023/24 2023/24 3221 16/06/2023 Mr Happy 16/06/2023 Mr D Wilde 11239 2023/24 11240 2023/24 LHH837 16/06/2023 KBL Event Hire 2023/24 16/06/2023 Odine Events Limited 16/06/2023 Mr J Smith (Gright Lights) 16/06/2023 First Aid Cover Ltd 16/06/2023 G A & D Peny Build Contractors 11242 2023/24 2023/24 FAC014758 For information Direct Debits 10/06/2023 The Committe Guys Ltd 22/06/2023 Tesco Mobble 27/06/2023 Brifath Gas 19/06/2023 Brifath Gas 19/06/2023 Skyguard Limited 17/06/2023 Crown Gas & Power 17/06/2023 Crown Gas & Power 04/06/2023 Peninsula Business Serv. 24/06/2023 Northgale Vehicle Hire Ltd 10/06/2023 Worldguy 20/06/2023 Worldguy 15/05/2023 Worldguy 15/05/2023 Morldguy 196.28 P155 Telephin May 28.00 P156 Mobile phone May 584.55 P157 Electric May BC 318.79 P159 Water states May 77.76 P159 Water states May 77.76 P159 Gas May RM 1,132.20 P181 Gas May RM 24.11 P182 Employ serv. June 1,138.21 P163 Van lease May 120.14 P184 Streamline Apr 124.56 P185 Streamline Apr 124.56 P185 Streamline Apr 124.56 P185 Streamline Apr 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 2023/24 134175943372 2023/24 134175943372 4925444 990359 (226796 1393795 1393795 U003582882 SL07702918INV 254519507 2023/24 2023/24 2023/24 2023/24 2023/24 2023/24 2023/24 2023/24 Streamline Apr Streamline May Credit card payments Apr 2023/24 258714497 2023/24 15/05/2023 NatWest Credit Card 14/06/2023 NatWest Credit Card 2023/24 DD 378.93 P162 Credit card payments May 2023/24 For information BACS payments made from No. 1 Account 12/06/2023 M Wallers BACS 218.88 P153 MH Hall hire refund 2023/24 For information No. 2 Account 8,299.52 P150 PAYENIC June 9,013.77 P151 ECC Pensions June 23,251.54 P152 Salaries June 16/06/2023 HMRC 2023/24 809 16/06/2023 ECC Pensions Fund 810 2023/24 20/06/2023 LTC Staff 2023/24 For information Account Transle 06/06/2023 NatWest No. 1 to NatWest No. 2 40,585.83 Tb. June Salaries and Tax top up £ 108,368.81 Total We certify that this schedule lists the details of the cheques, transfers and other orders for payment we have signed, drawn at the value shown and payees as Print name: STELLA. MURPHY D. J. WIXLEY Date reported to RGS Cities

Agenda item 12.2 cont. Accounts Paid



Accounts Paid



Agenda item 14 - Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) 2022/23

Section 3 - External Auditor's Report and Certificate 2022/23 LOUGHTON TOWN COUNCIL - EX0166 In respect of 1 Respective responsibilities of the auditor and the authority Our responsibility as auditors to complete a limited assurance review is set out by the National Audit Office (NAO). A limited assurance review is not a full statutory audit, it does not constitute an audit carried out in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK & Ireland) and hence it does not provide the same level of assurance that such an audit would. The UK Government has determined that a lower level of assurance than that provided by a full statutory audit is appropriate for those local public bodies with the lowest levels of spending. Under a limited assurance review, the auditor is responsible for reviewing Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return in accordance with NAO Auditor Guidance Note 02 (AGN 02) as issued by the NAO on behalf of the Comptroller and Auditor General. AGN 02 is available from the NAO website - https://www.nao.org.uk/code-auditpractice/guidance-and-information-for-auditors/ This authority is responsible for ensuring that its financial management is adequate and effective and that it has a sound system of internal control. The authority prepares an Annual Governance and Accountability Return in accordance with Proper Practices which: · summarises the accounting records for the year ended 31 March 2023; and · confirms and provides assurance on those matters that are relevant to our duties and responsibilities as external auditors. 2 External auditor's limited assurance opinion 2022/23 On the basis of our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR), in our opinion the information in Sections 1 and 2 of the AGAR is in accordance with Proper Practices and no other matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met. Other matters not affecting our opinion which we draw to the attention of the authority: None. 3 External auditor certificate 2022/23 We certify that we have completed our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return, and discharged our responsibilities under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, for the year ended 31 March 2023.

External Auditor Name			
	PKF LITTLEJOHN LLP		
External Auditor Signature	Post littlight Les	Date	21/08/2023
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Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2022/23 Form 3 Local Councils, Internal Drainage Boards and other Smaller Authorities* Page 6 of 6

Agenda item 17.1 - Early retirement policy



Local Government Pension Scheme 2014 – Employer Discretions Policy Statement

Regulation	Policy
R16(2)(e) & R16(4)(d) R17(1) RTP15(1)(d) Shared cost additional pension scheme.	The Town Council will not set up a shared cost APC or AVC scheme. The only circumstances under which the Town Council will contribute, as required, is where an employee chooses within 30 days following a period of authorised unpaid leave of absence, to purchase pension.
R30(6) & TP11(2) Flexible retirement	The Town Council will consider employee requests to take flexible retirement on a case by case basis after taking into account business needs and costs that may apply.
R30(8) Waiving of actuarial reduction on flexible retirement	The Town Council will not waive actuarial reductions on a flexible retirement for both active, deferred members and suspended tier 3 ill health pensions.
R30(8) Waiving of actuarial reduction before normal pension age	The Town Council will not waive, in whole or part, the actuarial reduction on benefits where a member voluntarily elects to draw his or her benefits before normal pension age.
TPSch 2, paras 1(2) and 2(2) Power of the employing authority to 'switch on' the 85 Year Rule	The Town Council will not "switch on" the 85 year rule for a member voluntarily electing to draw benefits on or after age 55 but before age 60.
TP3(1), TPSch 2, paras 2(1) and 2(2), B30(5) and B30A(5) Waiving of any actuarial reduction on pre and/or	The Town Council will not waive actuarial reductions on pre and or post April 2014 benefits.
Post April 2014 benefits. R31 Power of employing authority to grant additional pension	The Town Council will not award additional pension to any member.

In addition, the Council reserves the right to

- a) Deal with any other discretions which may apply under the LGPS on their merits on an individual basis; and
- b) Amend any of the policies if in its opinion this would be appropriate given the special circumstances of an individual case.