

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF
ARTHURET PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 8TH JANUARY 2024 AT
7.00p.m. IN THE COMMUNITY CENTRE**

DRAFT

<u>Present</u>	Cllrs Sir JFS Graham, G Routledge, M Gunson, C Adams, C Johanssen and L Mason
<u>Apologies Minute No 359</u>	Apologies and reason for absence were received from Cllr R Graham
<u>Declaration of interest Minute No 360</u>	.There were no declarations of interest by councillors.
<u>Internal control and review of risk assessment Minute No 361</u>	The risk assessment documentation was considered and reviewed. Following discussion councillors agreed a need to review and update documentation.
<u>Salaries and wages Minute No 362</u>	The clerk was paid in accordance with the conditions laid down by NALC/SLCC, Councillors were provided with the latest revised pay scales and agreement of National pay agreement awards. Agreed there would be an increase in the Council Rooms cleaner payments to reflect the increase in the National minimum wage to £11.42 from 1st April 2024. It was agreed the caretaker for the changing rooms would receive payment following the National minimum wage conditions. Payment to the riverside cleaner would remain unchanged.
<u>Clerks' gratuity Minute No 363</u>	Following the Chairman informing the council that the clerk's resignation was imminent , 3 months notification as per contract, the clerks gratuity payment was addressed. Due to changes over the long period of the clerk's employment and the clerks contract the clerk informed the council that clarification had been sought through NALC and the final gratuity payment on leaving would be confirmed. In response to Cllr M Gunson, the clerk confirmed that the council had, since it became a legal requirement for employers, contributed towards a pension.
<u>Tenders Minute No 364</u>	The following recommendations were made. GRASSCUTTING

£2,380

S Nicholson

TREES

K Murchison £1,700

PLANTING OUT, WATERING, MAINTENANCE OF FLOWER BEDS, HANGING BASKETS AND TUBS

K Murchison £2,600

PLAYING FIELD LOCHINVAR SCHOOL SITE

Longtown FC £1,300 to include a monthly cleaning of the changing rooms.

MAINTAIN THE SCAUR SHRUBERRY

K Murchison

Community Grants
Minute No 365

The balance remaining to allocate from the Beck Burn Wind Farm community pot was £692

Hire charges
Council Rooms
Minute No 366

Agreed to recommend no increase in the room hire charge of £10 per hour for local community group and £12 for business hire. It was agreed that as the Council Rooms had been closed for such a long period of time, once available, it would be advertised for hire to encourage use.

New Projects
Minute No 367

Noted that

- The clock had been repaired
- .Market Cross project remains a long-term project.
- Provision of new seats in 3 locations
- MUGA installation progressing

There was no provision in the budget for new projects other than through grant funding.

Anticipated
Income to March
2024 Minute No
368

Anticipated income to 31st March 2024 was £7,740.00 as itemised on the financial draft.

Estimated
expenditure to
March 2024
Minute No 369

Estimated expenditure to 31st March 2024 was £29,146.00 as itemised on the financial draft.

Anticipated
income to March
2025 Minute No
370

Anticipated income to 31st March 2025 as itemised on Financial Draft was £15,020.00 excluding grants.

**Recommended
expenditure
2024/2025
Minute No 371**

Recommended expenditure for 2024/2025 was £92,259.00 as itemised on the financial draft.

**Recommended
Precept
Minute No 372**

The recommended precept for 2024/2025 was agreed at £75,671.00 representing a 6% increase.

