# BRYNMAWR TOWN COUNCIL

***Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, 14 June 2023 in the Council Chamber, Brynmawr Institute 18.15.***

***Present: - Councillors Mrs. D. Brown. (Chair).***

***J.M. Gardner,***

***Mrs. O.M. Swales,***

***G.D. Jones, W.K. Hodgins.***

***1. Apologies: Councillors A. Talbot, B.M. Sutton, J.M. Sutton.***

***2.*** It was moved and seconded that Councillor Mrs. D. Brown be Chair of Finance for the year 2023/2024.

***3.*** It was moved and seconded that Councillor G.D. Jones be Vice-Chair of Finance for the year 2023/2024.

***4.*** It was moved and seconded that A.C. Janes (Mr. Justin Brown) be asked to clean the War Memorial in readiness for Armistice Day.

***5.*** Mayor's Allowance for the Year 2023/2024.

It was agreed by the Finance Committee to recommend to Full Council that

the Mayor’s Allowance for 2023/2024 be £800.00.

Mayors’ allowances are covered by the Local Government Act 1972, sections 15(5) and 35(5). They are to provide recompense for example:

* Mileage to and from events
* Tickets for events
* Raffle/draw tickets
* Donations to charity stalls, etc.
* Reasonable clothing allowance for civic events
* Telephone, stationery, and printing
* Costs incurred e.g., hire of a venue, in relation to the Mayors fundraising events for the Mayor’s named charity(s)
* Reasonable expenditure required for performing the mayor’s duties in service of the Town.

There is no requirement for strict accounting for the spend, but as Brynmawr Town Council is committed to accountability and transparency regarding all expenditure, including the Mayor’s Allowance, it is expected that where possible receipts will be submitted to support the expenditure and a report to substantiate the expenditure will be provided.

The allowance is not exempt from income tax and therefore the way it is managed is important. There are two options to ensure that the allowance is administered correctly. The Allowance will be administered as follows:

***-2-***

Direct payments may be made for items such as tickets, room hire and small tokens on authorisation from the Mayor. The Mayor may claim back expenses incurred on providing receipts where possible. Any remaining allowance at the end of the Mayoral Year will remain in the general reserves fund.

***6.*** Correspondence from Ms. Michelle Hurter (Brynmawr Rotary), Community House, Brynfarm.

Financial Assistance towards a summer trip to Ape Sanctuary for families from Brynfarm and neighbouring estates.

Councillor Gardner said that he had spoken to Ms. Hurter and suggested contacting the Council for financial assistance.

The Finance Committee recommends to Full Council that £300.00 be awarded towards the summer trip to the Ape Sanctuary.

***7.*** Correspondence from Ms. Donna Wallbank (Rotary) – Financial Assistance towards the cost of rewording on the Gateway Stone Brynmawr/Beaufort area.

The Finance Committee recommends to Full Council that £200.00 be awarded towards rewording the Gateway Stone Brynmawr/Beaufort area.

***There being no other business the meeting closed at 18:35 hours.***