



Broadstairs & St Peter's Town Council

FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MINUTES

MONDAY 25th JANUARY 2021

Present: Cllrs, Bailey, B Bayford, J Bayford, R Binks (Chair), R. K. Binks, Dexter, Garner, Rawf, D Saunders, M Saunders, Savage

Town Clerk: Kirsty Holroyd

Deputy Town Clerk: Christine Chappell

Events Manager: Leanne Hadden

376 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies with reason were offered and accepted from Cllr Buckley
Due to technical issues Cllrs P and W Moore were unable to join the meeting
Cllr. Parsons was not in attendance

377 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received

378 MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Members received the minutes of the meeting held on the 23rd November 2020.

RESOLVED: that the minutes be approved as a true record of the meeting and signed by the chairman at the earliest opportunity.

Proposed: Cllr Saunders, seconded: Cllr B Bayford, agreed

379 MINUTES OF SUB-COMMITTEES and WORKING PARTIES

Members received the minutes of the following sub-committees and working parties:

- Asset and Budget Review Sub-Committee 16 December 2020 (confirmed)
- Asset and Budget Review Sub-Committee 18th January (unconfirmed)
- Staff Management Sub-Committee 11th December 2020 (unconfirmed)
- Leisure and Tourism Sub-Committee 12th January 2021 (unconfirmed)

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note.

380 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman reported that two benches had been acquired at no cost from TDC and could be positioned in the grounds of Pierremont Hall. She wished to thank Cllr M Saunders for arranging this.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note

381 CORRESPONDENCE and CONSULTATION RESPONSES

The Town Clerk provided a written report covering a number of issues:

- Twinning signs: The Deputy Clerk updated members on the condition of the three signs around the town.

RESOLVED: That the Deputy Clerk be given delegated powers to complete the project with the Twinning Society provided the final cost is within £250 of the estimate and ensuring the correct Wattignies colour is used.

- Beach security – The Clerk reported on an email from the security firm which provided staff last week and asked members to consider whether such a service would be required this year.

RESOLVED: To refer this matter to the Leisure and Tourism Committee for further consideration and to discuss how TDC might also be involved.

- Bandstand Kiosk

An email had been received from the current lessee regarding his lease.

RESOLVED: That the matter be referred to the Community Assets Committee for further consideration.

382 BROADSTAIRS FOLK WEEK LTD

Members received a presentation from Lee Wellbrook, Chairman and Jo Tuffs, Festival Director. Mr Wellbrook explained that due to the uncertainties surrounding the holding of events this year, the organisation was predicting delayed – although not necessarily reduced – revenue. As a result, he asked Council to consider a rent holiday on the office they rent within Pierremont Hall with repayment taking place later in the year.

RESOLVED: That a decision in this matter be deferred until the next meeting when the possibility of holding summer events is clearer. In the meantime, Cllr J Bayford will facilitate discussions with TDC on possible use of the Memorial Recreation Ground.

383 BANDSTAND HIRE REQUEST

Members received and considered a request to hire the bandstand and surrounding area for a summer event.

RESOLVED: That the matter be referred to the Community Assets Committee for consideration.

384 FINANCIAL MATTERS AND ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENTS

Members received the periodic financial report for the period 23rd November to 22nd January 2021. One councillor queried the entries listed as zero rating for VAT. The Clerk agreed to check against invoices.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note.

Members received the budget comparison for the period 1st April 2020 to 20th January 2021.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note

385 BUDGET AND PRECEPT 2021-22 *

Members received and discussed the recommendation from the Assets and Budget Review Sub-Committee regarding the precept, budget and associated press release in order to make a final recommendation to Council.

RECOMMENDATION:

- **That the proposed budget for 2021/22 be approved with a slight amendment for the income expected from the Bandstand Kiosk.**
- **that the precept be frozen for the fiscal year 2020-2021**
- **that Thanet District Council be requested to collect a precept of £655,579.80 which equates to a band D council tax of £68.40 per year**

386 ENVIRONMENTAL WORKING PARTY

Cllr Garner gave the following verbal update from the Environmental Working Party including the following initiatives:

- 20 mph speed limit being considered for the town centre and highways tree planting around the town - Cllr. R. Binks in her capacity as a KCC Councillor has been assisting and updating the Working Party.

-Holmes Park – wildflowers, bluebells, snowdrops and hedging are being planted by volunteers and TDC workforce.

-Hedgehog Survey – An additional survey on hedgehog road casualties is being undertaken with a view to putting some sign.

-TDC Cllr. Steve Albon is attending the next Working Party Meeting to discuss ways in which the Working Party can support the running and upkeep of Pierremont Park.

387 EVENTS UPDATE

Members received the Events Update from the Events Manager who reported that it appeared unlikely that wedding for more than 30 guests would be permitted this year. However the venue had received interest and several new bookings from parties interested in a ceremony only. She was also concentrating her efforts on marketing the meeting rooms, one of which now has a regular booking.

388 GRANTS 2020- 21

Members considered those grants which had not been paid out or those which had been returned due to events not taking place. Members acknowledged that even though the events had not taken place, some organisations would have run up considerable administration costs. However, they agreed that the support offered must be equitable.

RESOLVED: That all 2020-21 requests for funding assistance be considered at the next F&GP meeting when the whole picture will be discussed.

389 GRANTS 2021-22

Members received the recommendation from the Leisure and Tourism sub-committee regarding the proposed grant recipients for the 2021-2022 Civic Year. (Min 359).

RESOLVED: That those grants under £2000 be approved since they fall within the delegated powers of the L&T committee and they concern small capital items of expenditure rather than events. The larger grants are to be reconsidered at the next F&GP meeting when more is known about the possibility of holding events.

390 FUTURE MAINTENANCE ARRANGEMENTS FOR TOWN COUNCIL OWNED LAND.

Members received the recommendation from the Allotments and Land Sub-Committee regarding the maintenance arrangements for Town Council owned land for the year 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022 (min 243) and the subsequent recommendation from the F&GP Committee (min 291).

The Deputy Town Clerk informed Members about the impact of Covid-19, the time restrictions for undertaking the tender process, the proposed costs for the period 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022 and the working relationship with the current contractor.

RESOLVED that the Grounds Maintenance Contract with BoxGreen Horticulture be extended from 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022 at the costs quoted.

Proposed Cllr R Binks, Seconded Cllr J Bayford

Finance and General Purposes Committee Minutes 25th JANUARY 2021

391 PROPOSED FORWARD AGENDA ITEMS

The date of the next meeting will be Monday 22nd March 2021 at 7pm.

Town Clerk
Meeting closed at 8.45pm

Meeting was recorded: ~~yes~~/no
Members of the public were present: ~~yes~~/no
Members of the press were present: ~~yes~~/no