



Broadstairs & St Peter's Town Council

FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MINUTES

Monday 27 February 2023 at 7pm in The Council Chamber, Pierremont Hall

Present: Cllrs B Bayford, J Bayford, R Binks (chairman) RK Binks, M Garner, D Saunders & M Saunders,

Town Clerk: Kirsty Holroyd

66. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies with reason from Cllr Buckley were received and accepted.

67. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received

68. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Members considered the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 30 January 2023. **RESOLVED: that the minutes be approved as a true record of the meeting and signed by the chairman.**

69. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE

The Town Clerk reported that the Civic Service had taken place and had been a very enjoyable occasion. Cllrs D and M Saunders and A Rawf had also attended.

70. MINUTES OF SUBCOMMITTEES

i) Members received the draft minutes of the Environment sub-committee held on Wednesday 25 January 2023.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note

71. CORONATION

Members received a verbal report from Cllr J Bayford. There were no further recommendations to consider at this meeting but the project was developing well. Members received and noted a copy of the budget for the event.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note

72. INSURANCE RENEWAL 2023-24

Members received a renewal quote and policy schedule from Zurich. The Town Clerk reported that the annual premium requested for the new year represented a 14.5% increase, mainly attributable to the increased costs in building materials and therefore in building cover. A valuation of the Council's assets had taken place the previous week but the report had not been received in time for this meeting. However it was hoped that when actual

costs were applied to the quote rather than estimates, the premium will decrease.

RESOLVED: That the policy be renewed at a maximum premium of £6564.68.

73. PAYMENTS

i) Members received and approved payments made since the last council meeting (see attached)

RESOLVED: That all the payments be approved.

ii) Members received and considered the explanation for the 50% upfront deposit requested by Westgate Security

RESOLVED: That the deposit of £3826.25 can be paid

iii) Members received the notice for the KCC licence approving Pierremont Hall as an approved premises for Civil Marriages and Civil Partnerships.

RESOLVED: That the two-room licence to cover the council Chamber and the Mayor's Parlour be renewed for three years at a cost of £2200.

74. INTERNAL AUDIT

Members received and considered a draft investment strategy.

RESOLVED: That the document can be recommended for adoption by Council with the addition of two comments: -

- 1. The capital appreciation of the Council's built assets as a long-term investment**
- 2. The completion of phase III accounting for a large portion of the monies held in reserves.**

Members also considered moving funds held in the Nationwide Instant Saver account into a notice account in order to attract a better rate of interest.

RECOMMENDATION: That the monies be moved into the Nationwide 95-day notice account.

75. PIERREMONT HALL HIRERS FEES

Members received a report from the Events and Bookings Manager concerning proposed price increases. Fees have not increased since Pierremont Hall opened and were necessary now to meet increases in National minimum wage and in utility costs and ensure that the business remains viable. Regular bookers would no doubt be disappointed but have been given two months' notice and would continue to be offered a discount for long term hire.

RESOLVED: That price increases be effected in line with the EBM's report

76. DATE OF NEXT MEETING Monday 24 April in the Council Chamber, Pierremont Hall

Meeting closed at 7.35 pm

Signed _____

Date _____