

FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MINUTES

MONDAY 5th June 2017

Present: Cllr. D Saunders (Chair).

Binks, Buckley, Dexter, Hayton, Leys, Matterface, Parsons, M.

Saunders, Savage, and Taylor-Smith.

Town Clerk, Danielle Dunn.

Minutes marked * require a resolution from the Town Council

32 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs. Shaw, B. Bayford, J. Bayford and Moore gave apologies prior to the Summons.

33 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None declared

34 MINUTES

RESOLVED to APPROVE and Chairman to SIGN the minutes of the extraordinary meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting held on Monday 8th May 2017.

Proposed Cllr Taylor-Smith, Seconded Cllr Binks, Decision: Unanimous

35 MINUTES OF SUB-COMMITTEES AND WORKING PARTIES

RESOLVED to RECEIVE the minutes of the Leisure and Tourism Sub-committee 22nd May 2017 (unconfirmed)

36 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

None

37 CORRESPONDENCE AND CONSULTATION RESPONSES

-Poppy Prom and WI poppy display.

DISCUSSED The Town Clerk set out that Lorraine Hiller from Bradstow School was planning a Poppy Prom in Pierremont Park to commemorate the 100yr anniversary of WW1, the event would take place during November 2018. There was no really decision for the Town Council to undertake as the event would be on TDC land, the only part that would affect the Town Council was a projection of poppies onto the front of Pierremont Hall. Loraine Hiller was requesting a letter of support from the Town Council as this would help her apply for funding to deliver the prom.

AGREED for the Town Clerk to draft a letter of support for the Poppy Prom.

It was also set out that the WI poppy display would now be postponed from 2017 to 2018 to coincide with the Poppy Prom.

Update on recent allotment inspection:

FOR INFORMATION The Town Clerk set out that allotment inspection had been undertaken and two warning letters were sent to allotment tenants on the 25th May stating that work on their plots needed to be undertaken in the next 21 days, otherwise the Town Council would start formal proceedings against them.

Group response to the Thanet District Council parking consultation:

AGREED that the Town Council would not write a group response to the Parking Consultation and Cllrs were encouraged to send in their own comments should they wish to. Cllr D Saunders set out that a petition had been sent to TDC regarding the increased parking charges in 5 car parks, 4 of which are in Broadstairs and this was being discussed by the Overview and Scrutiny Panel.

38 FINANCIAL MATTERS AND ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED to receive the periodic financial reports:

The Independent member reviewing the bank reconciliations, stated that there had not been time to assess the reconciliations before the meeting, but the list was viewed and checked in the meeting.

RESOLVED to AUTHORISE payment of accounts schedule no. 266.

Cllr Savage questioned the fee being paid to Serco to maintain the Culmer's Amenity land, questioning what work was being undertaken and how was their work being monitored. The Town Clerk agreed that a schedule of monitoring of their work should begin as this had only ever been undertaken on an adhoc/informal basis. The Town Clerk also explained that the Serco contract is likely to be reviewed in the not too distant future. ACTION Town Clerk to look into a schedule of ground maintenance monitoring.

RESOLVED to increase the Mayors budget by £200 to cover the parking charges incurred by the Town Sergeant, an additional budget heading, 'Mayor's Parking' should be added to the Mayors Budget to cover this cost.

Proposed Cllr Dexter, Seconded Cllr Taylor Smith- Decision Agreed, Cllr M Saunders abstained from the voting.

Cllr Dexter explained that a Town Clerks permit used to be issued to cover parking in the district and this was previously utilised by the Town Sergeant. The Town Clerk to investigate, although it was agreed that this was probably no longer available.

EDF energy bill:

VERBAL UPDATE: The Town Clerk explained that the Ombudsmen had sided with EDF and that the Town Council was now liable to pay the outstanding bill of circa £2500 for the Community Hall. Following legal advice the Town Council would not challenge this figure. Cllr Binks highlighted to other members that this could be paid for via a payment plan over a long period of time.

Architectural Heritage Fund Grant

VERBAL UPDATE: Town Clerk set out that correspondence had been received from the AHF stating that the Town Council had been awarded a grant of £2250 grant to cover the consultants fees for the building works at Pierremont Hall.

39 DECORATIVE LIGHTING

RESOLVED to AUTHORISE the decorative lighting scheme as agreed at the Leisure and Tourism sub-committee of the 22nd May 2017.

Proposed Cllr Binks, Seconded Cllr Leys, Decision- Unanimous

DISCUSSED Cllr Taylor-Smith requested that the Town Council look into having free parking on the evening of the Christmas Light switch on. ACTION Town Clerk to investigate this further.

40 PUBLIC RELATIONS (PR) POLICY

RESOLVED to adopt the attached PR policy as part of the Town Council's wider policy framework.

DISCUSSED Cllr Matterface explained that this could be difficult for Cllrs who were 'twin-hatters' as requests could come from different directions.

41 WAR MEMORIAL PLAQUE

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk be allowed to apply for listed building consent to attach the plaque to the wall at Pierremont Hall.

AGREED that the plaque should be attached to the inside of the gate post, but the final location to be discussed with the conservation officer.

DISCUSSED it was agreed that the addition of new gates to the gate posts at the war memorial wouldn't be suitable for the gate posts. Cllr Hayton stated that the closing the gates could cause problems with access to the park and people winging and climbing on the gates.

42 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN LOCALITY GRANT

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk has the authority to apply for a Locality Grant to cover consultation costs for the consultation on the Neighbourhood Plan Issues and Options report, due to be bought before the committee in July.

Proposed Cllr Binks, Seconded M Saunders, Decision- Unanimous

43 TREE CHARTER

RESOLVED that the Town Council sign the Forestry Commission's Tree Charter.

Cllr Taylor-Smith set out that the Town Council could also look into the adopt a tree scheme.

44 PROPOSED FORWARD AGENDA ITEMS

It was noted that the next meeting is Monday 24th JULY 2017.

Town Clerk
Meeting closed at 8:06 p.m.

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