

CLEVEDON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN
THE COUNCIL OFFICES, 44 OLD STREET, ON WEDNESDAY 19TH DECEMBER 2012
AT 7.30PM

Present: Councillor C Francis-Pester Committee Chairman
Councillor, C Blades, B Garner, J Geldart, C. Hall, G. Hill, L. Little, J
Middleton, P McNeill, T. Morgan, J Norton-Sealey, N. Pennycott, G Watkins,
& C. Wring.
Town Clerk – Ms P. Heath,
In Attendance: Cllr L. Knott,

FGP 12/301 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors D Shopland (Illness),

FGP 12/302 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no declarations of interest for items on the agenda

FGP 12/303 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 24TH OCTOBER 2012.

The minutes of the Finance & General Policy Committee meetings held on 24th October 2012 and ratified by Council on 28th November 2012 were accepted.

FGP 12/304 RECEIVE AND DISCUSS THE CURRENT FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND BUDGET SHEETS

Following a detailed discussion Members noted the financial sheets which had been circulated with the agenda. Members noted that the income for the hire of the two Council Office rooms was still covering building expenditure.

FGP 12/305 CLEVEDON LOCAL COMMISSIONING NETWORK

The Commissioning Group would attend a future meeting of the Finance and General Policy Committee in the New Year.

FGP 12/306 RECEIVE DETAILS OF PROPOSED COUNCIL TAX CHANGES IMPLEMENTED BY GOVERNMENT.

The Town Clerk explained the alteration to Council tax basis as implemented by Central Government and the delay that will be expected in the Council receiving its tax calculation base. Members noted that the change means that year to year analysis will no longer be on the same base concept.

Members also discussed that possibility that Parish and Town Councils precept may be capped from 2014 onwards.

It was noted that the Transport & Highways budget sheet was missing from those circulated. The Town Clerk left the meeting to obtain the figures. The Members agreed to discuss lower items on the agenda whilst awaiting the Clerk with decisions reported to the Clerk upon return

FGP 12/307 CLEVEDON PRIDE GRANT – TO RECEIVE AND DECIDE IF TO ALLOW COST OF PA SYSTEM AGAINST THE GRANT FOR CANOPY?

Proposed seconded and **AGREED** to pay the £200 for the PA from the £700 grant request.

Town Clerk returned

FGP 12/308 TO AGREE PURCHASE OF FURTHER 10 HOURS OF IT SUPPORT @£750.

Following a discussion it was proposed seconded and **AGREED** by 15 votes to 1 to purchase another 10 hours of IT support.

FGP 12/309 [FGP 12/292] WEB SITE TO RECEIVE PROPOSALS FROM THE WEB SITE WORKING GROUP WITH UPDATE ON COSTS.

The Members were informed that despite emails and telephone calls the preferred Company had not contacted the Town Clerk to discuss the web site and the free 3 months as reported. It was **AGREED** that Cllr Geldart would contact the Company and ask for them to contact the office within the next 24 hours or the Council would go to its second preferred company.

FGP 12/310 RECEIVE AND DISCUSS THE FIRST DRAFT OF 2013/2014 BUDGET

Members went through the proposed budgets for 2013/2014 in detail. Members were reminded that the Committee budgets had been included in individual minutes with details as required.

Committee Budget adjustments as agreed by FGP Committee.

- Cost Code 401 – Environment & Property –
- Proposed, seconded and **AGREED** by 6 votes to 5 to remove the Flag pole and Flags from the E & P Budget Request
- Proposed seconded and **AGREED** by 6 votes to 4 to retain the lettering over the office windows.
- Planning – new Committee Budget request added to the spread sheet of £300 for the Vision document.
- Transport & Highways budget was read to the members.

Members discussed the use of earmarked reserves and general reserves. Members queried the £30,000 for Property Maintenance and its use. A further meeting to look at the named grants (deadline 31st December) and budget adjustment re Government figures on 21st January will be held, with a verbal report to the Precept Meeting on 23rd January.

FGP 12/311 RECEIVE NOTIFICATION OF 3 YEARS BUSINESS PLANS RECEIVED

It was **AGREED** to hold a meeting on 7th January to discuss in detail the 3 year plans of the organisations received as per Cllr D Shopland's motion. Copy of the plans submitted would be emailed to all committee members and would also be available in the office prior to the meeting.

FGP 12/312 [FGP 12/291] RECEIVE AND DISCUSS REPORTS ON CLEVEDON PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

A copy of the report from NSC had been circulated prior to the meeting; this was discussed in detail. It was confirmed that as of 1st April 2013 there would be no more funding for Public Conveniences in NSC budget and that the toilets would close. Members were informed that an option for a third party to take over 2 of the toilets (Station Road and the Chalet) as a concession responsible for maintaining the service and to charge for use. This would require the Town Council taking over a 99 year lease of the 2 buildings; it was **AGREED** by 12 votes to 1 to ask NSC to pursue that option on behalf of the Town Council with an understanding that no final decision to lease the premises would be made until the final details of the proposal had been received with safeguards as to the future of the option. Sixways is mainly used by bus companies and it was suggested that they be asked to fund this toilet. Alexander Road/Pier Copse would be closed. These building require considerable funding on maintenance which would not be viable also the new Pier visitors centre opposite would include public toilets.

FGP 12/313 [FGP 12/289] RECEIVE AND DISCUSS INFORMATION ON THE BUSINESS INNOVATION SCHEME

It was **AGREED** by 8 votes to 1 to defer this item to the February meeting to enable members to discuss in detail the information provided plus the costs circulated prior to the meeting

FGP 12/314 [EMERGENCY ITEM] RECEIVE REPORT ON VILLAGE HALL AND PROBLEMS CREATED BY CHIMNEY STACK AGREE EXPENDITURE TO REMOVE/REPLACE {E&P 12/273 }

Member were informed of the background to this item and to the need for a decision, As this is a building held in trust by the Council a formal resolution to spend the money was required

A copy of the quotation had been circulated to all E & P Committee Members who agreed option 1 the removal of the damaged stack at a cost of £440; this was **AGREED** by 12 votes to 0

FGP 12/315 AGREE PROCEDURE FOR DISPENSATIONS UNDER LOCALISM ACT 2011 S 33.

The reason for this dispensation procedure was explained to members who **AGREED** its adoption.

FGP 12/316 RECEIVE PROPOSAL FOR COMMUNITY CONNECT FROM TRIANGLE TELECOM AND DECIDE IF ANY MONEY SHOULD BE PLACED INTO 2013/2014 BUDGET TO ASSIST.

It was **AGREED** to invite Triangle Telecom to the April meeting to discuss their proposal.

FGP 12/317 CHAIRMAN ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

There were no Chairman's items for information

FGP 12/318 TO DETERMINE PART I AND PART II ITEMS.

It was confirmed that the Budget although a Part 1 would be discussed and agreed by the Precept Meeting, so would not be shown as Part 1 in these minutes.

The meeting finished at 9.35 pm

APPROVED AS A TRUE RECORD

CHAIRMAN Date