

CLEVEDON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE
COUNCIL OFFICES 44 OLD STREET ON WEDNESDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER 2019 AT
7.30PM

Present: Committee Chairman Cllr H. Young
 Cllrs N. Barton, B. Cherokoff, C. Francis-Pester, J. Geldart, A. Goodliffe, G. Hill, T. Morgan, K. O'Brien, D. Shopland, J. West.
 Ms Paula Heath Town Clerk,
 Members of the public 2

Public Session

A presentation was made by Mrs H. Neale, Chairman of Curzon Trustees and Mrs S. Shaw, CEO of the Curzon on the roof replacement project. The Cinema built in 1912, extended in 1920 is one of the best examples of tin panelling. The roof has now deteriorated with tiles, flashing and joints all failing. The Curzon has obtained structural surveys in 2008 and 2017 which shows that the walls and fabric of the building is sound. The project is to replace all the tiles on the roof. The original tiles were heavier, than the proposed tiles, but as the building is listed the new tiles match the style of the original tiles. Following full survey and costings the replacement roof will cost £600,000. Damage internally caused by the water ingress now make the replacement of the roof an imperative, with work planned to start in January. The Curzon Cinema have actively been seeking funds and grants to cover the required money. One project is "tag a tile" the ability to 'purchase' a tile and write a message for future generations; another is the decorating of the old tiles by renowned modern artists and celebrities to be auctioned; another is the short rework, with the permission of Aardman Animations, of a section of "the wrong trousers" to publicise the fundraising; recognition of major donors. Lottery Grant of £239,900 has been awarded subject to matched funding. The Curzon were seeking financial support by the Council. Also support in altering the conservation boundary to include the Curzon as this would enable them to seek heritage funding which is only available for buildings in the Conservation Area. The total refurbishment of the building and adaption for accessibility requirements will be in the region of 2 to 3 million pounds, conservation area status will be essential in raising this amount. The Creative Quarter which is centred around the Curzon and including the Library is part of the future aspirations to enhance Clevedon.

FGP 19/918 RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Everitt (family commitment) Cllr Westwood(illness).

FGP 19/919 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

It was agreed that declarations in respect of the small grants request would be made at the appropriate time. Cllr Young declared a personal interest as her husband is a non-remunerated trustee of the Curzon.

*Proposed, seconded and **AGREED** to move agenda item 8 The Curzon Cinema to be heard next.*

FGP 19/920 DISCUSS THE INFORMATION RECEIVED IN PUBLIC PARTICIPATION FROM CURZON CINEMA AND AGREE A RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

Following questions by Councillors on the project and the fund raising it was:

Proposed seconded and **AGREED by 10 votes to 0** to look at the extending or altering of the Conservation Area boundary, in conjunction with the Neighbourhood Plan.

Proposed seconded and **AGREED by 10 votes to 0** to support the creation of a Creative Hub around the Curzon.

Proposed seconded and **AGREED by 10 votes to 0** to investigate the possibility of raising funds to assist the Curzon for £100,000 via the Public Works Loan Board, with repayments being made by donations from the Curzon.

Proposed seconded and **AGREED by 11 votes to 0** to hold a special FGP meeting prior to the November budget meeting to discuss any financial support for the project to be included in the 2020/2021 budget; the Curzon representatives would be invited to attend. In line with normal grant procedures a copy of the accounts and costings would be required.

*Proposed seconded and **AGREED** to suspend standing orders to enable Mrs Neale to respond.*

Mrs Neale informed Members they would be happy to attend the special FGP meeting and provide any documentation or information notified in advance.

*Proposed, seconded and **AGREED** to reinstate standing orders.*

It was **AGREED by 11 votes to 0** any specific information required by members should be requested through the Town Clerk at least 1 week before the meeting.

FGP 19/921 RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MEETING

The minutes of the Finance & General Policy Committee meeting held on 17th July 2019 and ratified by Council on 7th August 2019 were accepted and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

FGP 19/922 RECEIVE THE FGP COMMITTEE BUDGET/ACTUAL SPREADSHEET 2018/19

Members noted the accounts spreadsheets that had been circulated with the agenda.

FGP 19/923 RECEIVE, DISCUSS AND AWARD GRANTS UNDER THE SMALL GRANT SCHEME.

As per the designated system the Members decided first if a grant should be awarded and then the amount to be awarded. Members discussed each application. Members were reminded that the successful applicants were invited to the Annual Town Meeting to make a presentation on their work and the Council's funding.

Above and Beyond – requested £200
Yes by 6 votes to 0 with 5 abstentions.

£200 by 11 votes to 0

Clevedon Bid – requested £2500

Interest declared – Cllr Barton & Cllr West are the Council's Representatives.

No by 11 votes to 0

Members discussed this application at length but there was confusion arising from the wording of the grant application as to whether this was for BID or to be passed to Clevedon Pride; draft accounts had been provided for BID but no Accounts for Clevedon Pride. It was also unclear whether the request was for capital or revenue funding.

Clevedon Coastal Rowers - requested 500.00

Interest declared – Cllr Geldart as husband rows for a rival club.

Yes 6 votes to 4 £200 by 9 votes to 0

Clevedon Community Bookshop – requested £500

Interest declared – Cllr Barton & Cllr Hill as Trustees

No by 10 votes to 0

Members felt that the reserves held by this organisation was sufficient for the project.

Criteria Amendment – it was suggested that the grants criteria was amended to exclude organisations whose practice or constitution provided grants or funding to external charity bodies when criteria are reviewed in advance of next year's small grants process.

Clevedon Community Resilience – requested £126.00

Interest declared – Cllr Barton as the Town Councils representative

Yes by 10 votes to 1 £126 by 10 votes to 0

Clevedon Cricket Club – requested 1200.00

Interest declared – Cllr West as a member of the Cricket Club; Cllr Geldart's children are members of the Cricket club

Yes by 10 votes to 1 £500 by 7 votes to 3

Clevedon Happy Companions Club – requested 500.00

Yes by 11 votes to 0 £500 by 10 votes to 0

Clevedon Men Shed – requested £750.00

Yes by 10 votes to 0 £500.00 by 10 votes to 1

Clevedon United Junior FC – requested 500.00

Interest declared – Cllr Geldart's children are members of the Clevedon United Junior FC

Yes by 10 votes to 0 £500 by 10 votes to 0

Clevedon YMCA – requested £890

Yes by 10 votes to 1 £500.00 by 9 vote to 2

Dial – requested £100

No by 8 votes to 1

Members noted that only a very small percentage related to Clevedon and Clevedon resident's contra to criteria 10

Herbert Gardens Tennis Club – requested £900

Interest declared – Cllr Young as a former member. The Council is the Trustee for Herbert Gardens.

Yes by 5 votes to 4 £500. by 7 votes to 3

subject to obtaining landlords consent

Land Yeo Friends – Requested £150

Yes by 10 votes to 0 £150 by 11 votes to 0

Criteria amendment – criteria no 7 be strengthened to limit the number of times an annual grant can be awarded in a specific time frame.

North Somerset Mencap "Cool summer Club" – requested £250

Yes by 11 votes to 0 £250 by 11 votes to 0

St Peters Hospice – requested £500

No by 7 votes to 2

Members noted that only a very small percentage related to Clevedon and Clevedon resident's contra to criteria 10

Wellspring Counselling Ltd – requested £900

Yes by 11 votes to 0

£500 by 10 votes to 1

West of England MS Therapy – Requested £400

Yes by 10 votes to 0

£400 by 10 votes to 0

FGP 19/924 RECEIVE LETTER FROM INTERNAL AUDIT, TO AGREE PROCESS TO APPOINT NEW INTERNAL AUDITOR.

Member received and accepted the Internal Auditors letter stating he would no longer be able to conduct the internal audit. It was **AGREED** to research other internal auditors based on the internal audit specification for the November meeting.

Proposed, seconded and **AGREED** to send a letter of appreciation to the Internal auditor.

FGP 19/925 RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE IT COMMITTEE ON 1ST AUGUST 2019, AND CONFIRM THE RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED WITHIN.

Propose, seconded and **RESOLVED** to accept the IT Minutes as a true record and to confirm all recommendations within the minutes.

FGP 19/926 RECEIVE A REQUEST FROM THE CLEVEDON CLIMATE EMERGENCY WG TO ENGAGE WITH NSC TO ACTIVELY UNDERTAKE 'WILDING' OF GRASS VERGES AND OPEN SPACES IN CLEVEDON; BALANCING BETWEEN THE ENVIRONMENT REQUIREMENT AND PUBLIC USE.

Members held a short discussion on what "wilding" means, members felt that just leaving weeds to take over verges and open spaces is not acceptable but wild meadow planting in suitable areas would be acceptable. No definition of suitable areas was agreed.

Proposed, seconded and **AGREED** that this should be transferred to the Town Events & Amenity Committee.

FGP 19/927 RECEIVE REQUEST FROM CLLR EVERITT TO ATTEND THE "FUTURE HIGH STREET CONFERENCE" IN NOTTINGHAM ON 18TH SEPTEMBER 2019.

Proposed, seconded and **AGREE** the attendance of Cllr Everitt at the Future High Street Conference

FGP 19/928 RECEIVE NOTIFICATION FROM THE PENSION REGULATOR OF THE RE-ENROLMENT DATE.

Members received and noted the re-enrolment date in November 2019

FGP 19/929 RECEIVE AND NOTE THE AMENDMENT TO PENSION SCHEME BY THE MCCLOUD JUDGEMENT – EMAILED 6TH AUGUST 2019.

Members received and noted the amendment to the pension scheme by the McCloud judgment, noting that it may affect the Town Clerks pension; further details would be issued when update is received from Avon Pension Fund.

DRAFT MINUTES TO BE RATIFIED BY THE COMMITTEE AND COUNCIL

The following items will be heard under 1. (2) Public Bodies (admission to meeting) Act 1960 due to confidential contractual information and employment issues to be discussed.

FGP 19/930 RECEIVE LETTER FROM NSC RE MILLENNIUM ORCHARD

The Town Clerk advised all members that this was a confidential matter due to the possible contractual discussions/negotiations and subject to Code of Conduct. Members were also advised that Town Councillors who are also District Councillors would have a conflict of interest in this item both currently and should there be further discussions/negotiations with North Somerset Council (the District Council), in respect of this matter.

Members received and discussed the information contained in the letter. It was **AGREED by 11 votes to 0** that no further action concerning this be taken until the formal planning application has been received, and that a response would be sent to North Somerset Council to that effect

Members were advised that the Millennium Orchard is leased to Transition Clevedon and is restricted access.

Members welcomed the offer from North Somerset Council for the lead NSC officer to meet with Councillors to provide additional information on current special educational needs requirements in North Somerset.

FGP 19/931 RECEIVE STAFFING COMMITTEE MINUTES DATED: -

Proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED by 10 votes to 0** that the staffing meetings held on 3rd July 2019, 10th July 2019, 7th August 2019 are accepted and agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

Cllr D. Shopland left the meeting

FGP 19/932 CHAIRMAN ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

932.1 North Somerset Council letter re Parish & town Council Forum

Members received the letter from NSC inviting 2 representatives to a forum meeting on the 12th October at Nailsea Tithe Barn. Proposed, seconded and **AGREED** the Clevedon Town Council representatives would be Cllr Carl Francis-Pester & Cllr Barry Cherokoff.

932.2 SLCC Regional Conference at Cheltenham

Proposed seconded and **AGREED** the Town Clerk & deputy town Clerk can attend – any Councillor wishing to attend to inform the office by 25th September 2019

932.3 Engagement with BID

The Chairman updated members on an informal meeting held with Clevedon BID Manager. It was agreed that the BID be invited to make regular presentations to the Council on all their projects over and above the regular update by the Town Council representatives

FGP 19/933 DETERMINE PART I AND PART II ITEMS.

There are no Part 1 items

Meeting closed at 10.07pm

CHAIRMANDATE

DRAFT MINUTES TO BE RATIFIED BY THE COMMITTEE AND COUNCIL