

CLEVEDON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN
THE COUNCIL OFFICES, 44 OLD STREET, ON WEDNESDAY 29TH AUGUST 2012 AT
7.30PM

Present: Councillor C Francis-Pester Committee Chairman
Councillor, C Blades, B. Garner, J Geldart, G. Hill, L. Little, J Middleton, P
McNeill, T. Morgan, N. Pennycott, D. Shopland, & C. Wring.
Town Clerk – Ms P. Heath,

PUBLIC SESSION

Mrs Walker – A request was made for the Town Council to put its agenda's on the web site. It was **AGREED** that this will be considered by the Council at the next Council meeting with details of the cost implication.

Mr Paul Tompkins and Mr J Neil – The Barn, Youth and Community Centre
A presentation was made to the Members on the future finances of the Centre following the removal of funding from NSC. Although funding has been received from the commissioning network and the innovation fund to cover the current year and to September 2013 (school and education funding runs Sept to Sept) after that date there will be insufficient funds to carry on the youth provision services. Members questioned aspects of the service provision and funding explained by the representatives. Concern was expressed as to the crossover of services between the YMCA and the Barn, it was explained that this was minimal and that surveys of the youth had indicated that personal choice dictated which facility they used.

The Youth Service currently provides 88 sessions per year but there is a large waiting list and to try and accommodate that they would like to increase to 132 sessions per year.

The total income anticipated for 2013/2014 is £4731 from the residue of the innovation Fund. To run 88 sessions the Barn anticipates it will need £15400 and to run 132 sessions £23100. Meaning that in 2013/14 the service could have a shortfall of £10,669 or £18, 439 and in 2014/2015 £15400 or £23100.

FGP 12/267 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors C Hall (family commitment) and J. Norton-Sealey (family commitment),

FGP 12/268 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

The Following declarations of interest were made in respect of the grant allocation discussions

Community Book Shop – Cllr Hill and Cllr Garner
Flower Show – Cllr Wring, Cllr Middleton, Cllr McNeill
Gwilliam & Woodward – Cllr Little
Friend – Cllr Shopland
Pilot Gig Club – Cllr Geldart

FGP 12/269 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 4TH JULY 2012.

The minutes of the Finance & General Policy Committee meetings held on 4th July 2012 and ratified by Council on 8th August 2012 were accepted.

FGP 12/270 RECEIVE AND DISCUSS THE CURRENT FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND BUDGET SHEETS

Following a detailed discussion Members noted the financial sheets that had been circulated with the agenda.

PART 1

FGP 12/271 RECEIVE AND DISCUSS LETTER FROM PIER TRUST IN RESPECT OF FUNDING FOR THE VISITORS CENTRE AND REQUEST FOR LETTER OF SUPPORT

The Committee Chairman explained to the Members the history of the request and reminded Members of previous decisions taken by the Committee.

Following a discussion Members **AGREED** by 7 votes to 4 to write a letter of support for the Clevedon Pier and Heritage Trust funding applications to HLF and Coastal Communities.

The importance of the Pier was discussed along with the involvement of NSC as the owners.

Proposed, seconded and **RECOMMENDED** that this Council allocates funding for the Pier Visitor Facility of £15000 in 2013/2014 and £15000 in 2014/2015 subject to them receiving all of the funding required for the project.

PART 2

FGP 12/272 RECEIVE, DISCUSS AND AWARD THE ANNUAL GENERAL GRANTS AS PER THE COUNCILS CRITERIA.12/272.1 Clevedon Pier 4155/104

It was explained that this was a grant request relating to the revenue support and not for any capital work

Proposed, seconded and **AGREED** to award the grant amount of £10,000 under budget code 4155/104.

It was explained to Members that the Council allocates in the budget certain named grants and a general grant fund. Some of the named grants are allocated on a specific request agreed by the Council before the budget or at the time the budget is agreed and paid once the precept has been received. Other named grants such as the Pier Trust are paid on request during the financial year if the recipient requires the funding. The General Grant is for the small grants requested under the general grants procedure as agreed by the Committee [see minute 12/238]

12/272.2 General Grants 4156/104

A list of the applicants plus copies of the forms and financial papers had been circulated to all Committee members at the Council meeting on 8th August. Members were conscious that the General Grant budget was £4500 and that 28 organisations had requested grants to the total of £23,597.

Following long discussion and careful deliberation the following grants were awarded

- £250 Clevedon Care
- £400 Clevedon Community Centre
- £150 Clevedon First Response
- £700 Clevedon Pride – subject to the proof of purchase and allowed use by other organisations
- £100 Clevedon United Junior Football Club
- £1000 Clevedon YMCA “move on” project
- £200 Mencap – Cool summer Club
- £250 Curzon Cinema Roof Project
- £200 Daylight Plus
- £250 Friend
- £500 Marlens

Clevedon Flower Show the Committee allocated £500 to underwrite the first £500 loss subject to the accounts being presented prior to the Council year end.

Members felt that the amount allocated to General Grants was too low, Members were reminded that it had been the amount allocated at the Precept Meeting, when the budget of the Council had been set, and that any additional grants would have to be a Part 1 item to Council.

Members discussed the future grant procedures of the Council as it was felt that many organisations were relying too heavily on the Council for grants and that there needed to be a rethink on all the grants paid. It was **AGREED** to discuss this before the Council’s budget discussions.

FGP 12/273 RECEIVE WRITTEN PROPOSALS FOR THE AMENDMENT OF THE FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

No alterations had been notified

Proposed, seconded and **AGREED** the Financial Regulations 2011 with no amendments

FGP 12/274 DISCUSS THE INFORMATION RECEIVED IN THE INFORMAL SESSION ON THE FUNDING PROBLEMS OF THE YOUTH SERVICE AT THE BARN AND AGREE ANY RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL FOR FUNDING PROVISION.

Members discussed at length the information and figures given by the representatives for the Barn Youth and Community Centre.

Proposed, seconded and **AGREED** that the Committee wish to support the services undertaken by the Barn and would consider allocating funding in 2013/2014 and 2014/2015 budget subject to the wider grant allocation discussion under minute no FGP 12/272.2 above.

FGP 12/275 DISCUSS THE PROVISION OF WATER AT THE COUNCIL OFFICES BY EDEN WATER COMPANY

Members discussed the comments made at Council on 8th August and decided that the Council should continue with the Eden Water company services by 8 votes to 1.

FGP 12/276 CONSIDER SETTING UP A BUSINESS INCUBATOR AND BUSINESS ENTERPRISE SUPPORT FACILITY IN CLEVEDON TOWN CENTRE

Members were presented with a report and cost analysis at the meeting. Members were interested in the concept but felt this deserved more of a detailed discussion. Cllr Geldart was asked to provide a more detailed report and costs relating to the project, showing the facilities currently available and how the project would be managed, to be circulated with the next meeting's agenda. Any Members who had questions on the report, the project or the costs were asked to Contact Cllr Geldart before the next meeting.

ACTION CLLR GELDART

12/277 DISCUSS THE USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA SITES BY THE TOWN COUNCIL, TO DISCUSS THE HEADINGS NEEDED FOR THE GUIDELINES.

It was **AGREED** that the Council would set up its own Facebook and Twitter Accounts run from the office. The criteria and guidelines for the operation and contents would be drawn up and agreed at the next Committee Meeting; Cllr Geldart to assist.

12/278 RECEIVE COPY OF ARTICLES FROM LCR MAGAZINE FOR INFORMATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE AGENDA ITEM; - IPADS' FOR COUNCILLORS AND PENSION CHANGES.

Copy of the articles from LCR were circulated with the agenda and noted.

FGP 12/279 CHAIRMAN ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

There were no Chairman's items for information.

FGP 12/280 TO DETERMINE PART I AND PART II ITEMS.

Part I 1tem being the funding to Pier & Heritage Trust FGP 12/271

The meeting finished at 9.59 pm

APPROVED AS A TRUE RECORD

CHAIRMAN Date

FGP 29th August 2012

03/10/2012

Subject to ratification by Council and Committee