

CLEVEDON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE
COUNCIL OFFICES 44 OLD STREET ON WEDNESDAY 23RD AUGUST 2017 AT 7.30PM

Present: Councillor C Francis-Pester Committee Chairman
 Cllrs, N. Barton, J. Geldart (7.55), A. Giles-Townsend, G. Hill, L. Little, J. Middleton,
 T. Morgan, J. Norton-Sealey, G. Watkins, J. West
 In Attendance, Cllr B. Cherokoff, Ms Paula Heath Town Clerk

FGP 17/720 RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors L. Fone, & C. Starr, (family commitment)

FGP 17/721 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no formal declarations of interest for items on the agenda.
 Cllr Hill declared a personal Interest in grant for Clevedon Bookshop
 Cllr Watkins declared a personal interest in grant for Clevedon bookshop

FGP 17/723 RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MEETING

The minutes of the Finance & General Policy Committee meeting held on 28th June 2017 and ratified by Council on 2nd August 2017 were accepted and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

FGP 17/724 RECEIVE THE FGP COMMITTEE BUDGET/ACTUAL SPREADSHEET

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

PART 1

FGP 17/725 DISCUSS AND AGREE AMENDMENT TO STANDING ORDERS NO 1.CC & 1.EE

17/725.1 Standing order 1CC

Following a discussion it was agreed to **RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL** to amend standing order 1cc to read "*That all mobile phones and tablets shall be switched off during all meetings of the Council, unless dispensation has been obtained from the Chairman other than those being used by the Councillors who have 'opted out' of paper copies of Council papers as tablets and on airplane mode.*"

17/725.2 Standing order 1EE

Members discussed the problems arising from this standing order, noting that one of the reasons this had been introduced was to encourage newer Councillors to take on committee responsibilities, but this had not worked in practice. Members decided that each individual Committee can encourage Councillors to take on responsibilities without putting them under pressure of the standing order.

Proposed, seconded and agreed by 7 votes to 2 to **RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL** that standing order 1 EE is deleted.

PART 2

FGP 17/726 RECEIVE MOTION BY CLLR GELDART.

That: Clevedon Town Councillors pledge up to 5 hours, per year, to support and assist the office staff and office projects. The 5 hours to be worked over the year at the discretion of the office staff and does not include any time

undertaking their responsibilities as a councillor (attending meetings, constituency work, training and representing the Council on outside bodies) or as a Chairman.

The role will include manning the phones and reception when only one member of the staff is in the office, undertaking research and investigation on specific projects as directed by the office staff. An email will be sent by the office when assistance is required and a log kept of the hours worked

A request was made to defer this item to the end of the agenda when Cllr Geldart would be present and could explain the motion; this was denied

A discussion was held as to whether the motion should be discussed by Council or whether investigation should first be had by the staffing committee

Proposed, Seconded and **AGREED** by 6 votes to 3 that this should be discussed by Council with view to instructing the staffing committee.

Cllr Geldart arrived during the following item

FGP 17/727 RECEIVE, DISCUSS AND AGREE THE SMALL GRANTS AS PER THE PROCEDURE AGREED MIN NO 16/648

Clevedon woodcutters for Wildlife

Proposed, seconded and agreed to award £250 by 10 votes to 0

Clevedon Pilot Gig

Cllr Geldart declared a personal interest as her husband is a member of the club

Proposed, seconded and agreed to award £500 by 9 votes to 0

Alive Activities

Proposed, seconded and agreed to award £200 by 7 votes to 2

Christchurch

Proposed, seconded and agreed that as this was part of the Church it breached the Council criteria no. 8

Clevedon Community Bookshop co-operative

Proposed, seconded and agreed that as a co-operative funding other charities it didn't qualify for a grant

Clevedon Gardeners

Proposed, seconded and agreed to award £200 by 10 votes to 0

Having discussed the work of the gardeners and their request for Council support it was AGREED that the Clevedon Gardeners would come under the remit of the TEA Committee

Clevedon Happy Companions Club

Cllr Geldart declared a personal interest as she volunteers at the unit

Proposed seconded and agreed to award £200. by 10 votes to 0

Clevedon Rifle Club

Proposed seconded and agreed to award £250 by 6 votes to 4

Create together project

Proposed, seconded and agreed that this is a worthwhile project and ask that they reapply next year when they can demonstrate funding support from other organisation.

Daylight Plus Club

Proposed seconded and agreed to award

£150 by 7 votes to 0

Eat well spend less

Proposed seconded and agreed to award

£300 by 6 votes to 2

Golden oldies Charity

Proposed seconded and agreed to award

£150 by 9 votes to 0

Gordano Valley Leg Club

Proposed seconded and agreed to award

£347 by 6 votes to 3

Gwilliam & Woodward Charity

Proposed, seconded and agreed that as an organisation set up to award grants to individuals it didn't qualify for a Town Council grant

NS Mencap "cool summer" club

Proposed seconded and agreed to award

£250 by 8 votes to 0

St Peters Hospice

Proposed seconded and agreed to award

£250 by 7 votes to 3

A proposal to award £500 was defeated by 7 votes to 3

Vision NS

Proposed seconded and agreed to award

£200 by 7 votes to 1

Wellspring Counselling Ltd

Proposed seconded and agreed to award

£250 by 5 votes to 4

It was agreed to publicise the grants awarded with a press release

ACTION Cllr Geldart & Town Clerk**FGP17/728 AGREE THE TOWN CLERKS ATTENDANCE AT THE SLCC NATIONAL CONFERENCE WED 18/THUR 19TH OCTOBER AT A COST OF £330 +VAT**

Proposed, seconded and AGREED for the Town Clerk to attend the National Conference of the Society of Local Council Clerk at a cost of £330.

FGP 17/729 AGREE THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE I T COMMITTEE**AGREED** members of the IT committee – Councillors Starr, Geldart, Barton, Cherokoff**FGP 17/730 AGREE THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE STAFFING COMMITTEE****AGREED** members of the Staffing Committee – Councillors Barton, Middleton, West, Francis-Pester. The Chairman of the Council is ex officio on this subcommittee.**FGP 17/731 AGREE MEMBERSHIP OF THE APPEALS COMMITTEE****AGREED** that the appeals committee will be formed from the remaining members of the Finance & General Policy Committee

FGP 17/732 DISCUSS AND CONFIRM THE RECRUITMENT OF A NEW CARETAKER

Members were informed that Mr Jonathan Huscroft had been appointed as the new caretaker

In response to a question it was confirmed that the Staffing Committee would investigate the employment of a town orderly through Glendale, similar to Portishead.

FGP17/733 CHAIRMAN ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

There were no chairman's items for information

FGP17/734 DETERMINE PART I AND PART II ITEMS.

Part 1 item – Agenda item 5 changes to standing orders

Meeting closed at 8.30 pm

CHAIRMAN DATE