

CLEVEDON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN
THE COUNCIL OFFICES, 44 OLD STREET, ON WEDNESDAY 10TH APRIL 2013 AT
7.30PM

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

IN FORMAL

Presentation by Mr E Dench on the 'Community Connect' Project which is supported by Triangle Telecom to provide free WiFi in the town centre for up to .6th of a mile from the node. This would enable anyone with a smart phone technology to log on to the internet. Triangle Telecom would provide the equipment and support at cost price to the Council. The customer would have to log on through a secure procedure, with those details being held and monitored by Triangle Telecom although the database could be passed to Clevedon Town Council for use to connect to visitors and residents alike. Once connected the front page would be CTC site, or whichever premises Triangle Telecom has signed on, with then the option to search the internet. The provision would complement existing provision and also the Councils own web site. The speed and capacity would enable users to log in to social media sites, emails, search the internet but would not be strong enough for large downloads such as films. The Town Council would have control over the WIFI node being able to turn off if required.

The Chairman thanked Mr Dench for his presentation; Mr Dench left the meeting

FGP 13/338 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors D Shopland, N Pennycott, (Illness), and C Wring (Other commitment)

FGP 13/339 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no declarations of interest on items on the agenda for which a dispensation has not been agreed.

FGP 13/340 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 13TH FEBRUARY 2013.

The minutes of the Finance & General Policy Committee meetings held on 13th February 2013 and ratified by Council on 20th March 2013 were accepted.

<u>PART 1</u>

FGP 13/341 DISCUSS AND AGREE PREFERRED CONTRACTOR RE CONCESSION TO MAINTAIN STATION ROAD, AND THE CHALET TOILETS

Members were reminded that the discussion and figures in the reports were confidential until such time as the contracts are agreed and signed for the toilet concessions therefore this item was heard under 1 (2) Public Bodies (admission to meetings) Act 1960 which restricts the meeting to members only.

Confidential minutes attached

Cllr Morgan left part way through this item

FGP 13/342 TO AGREE AND AUTHORISE THE SIGNING OF THE LEASES FOR THE CHALET AND STATION ROAD TOILETS

Copy of the leases had been circulated with the agenda; the reason behind the break clauses was explained and accepted. The lease had been discussed and agreed by the Council's solicitor.

Proposed by Cllr Hill, seconded by Cllr Middleton and **RECOMMENDED by the Finance & General Policy Committee** that this Council signs the lease as circulated

FGP 13/343 TO DISCUSS THE WEB SITE AND RECEIVE UPDATE.

The web site working group had met with and agreed a preferred supplier for the Clevedon Town Council web site. The group will be meeting with the supplier on 18th to establish design and content in line with previous discussions and agreements as per 12/292. Proposed, seconded by the working group, and **RECOMMENDED by the Finance & General Policy Committee** that the council accepts the quotation from InTouch for the Creation of the web site with a budget of £2400 from contingencies

<u>PART 2</u>

FGP13/344 TO RECEIVE AND DISCUSS THE CURRENT FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND BUDGET SHEETS

Members noted the financial spread sheets which had been circulated with the agenda.

FGP 13/345 DISCUSS THE PRESENTATION MADE UNDER PUBLIC PARTICIPATION FROM MR DENCH

Members discussed at length the presentation made by Mr Dench and the project costs circulated. Set up approx. £1600 and monthly on-going approximately £40.

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Subject to ratification by Council and Committee

Members were supportive of the idea in principal but felt that further investigation was required as to:- the company profile and viability, detailed costs for the setup, on-going and any revenue advantage, a survey of the area and where the best location for the central point to enable suitable coverage. Members noted that this would only serve one part of the town but if successful then maybe other areas could be considered. In respect of the revenue generation members asked for clarification of the Council apparent support of company via adverts.

Proposed by Cllr Hill, seconded and **AGREED** by 12 votes to 0 that this Committee supports the project in principal subject to further investigation by the Web Site working group who will provide a report to the next Committee Meeting with a view to making a recommendation to Council

Cllr Geldart left the meeting

FGP 13/346 NOTE PROPOSALS FROM MYHIGH AND ONE STOP MARKETING AND AGREE A POLICY TO LIAISE WITH INCLEVEDON AND CHAMBER OF TRADE ON THESE TYPE OF REQUESTS.

The Town Clerk explained that there were several companies coming forward with community based projects attached to commercial elements to promote or enhance the viability of the "High Street". Members felt that it would be better to have a formal policy on these. A draft policy, which had been circulated to all members, primarily requested the Chamber of Trade and InClevedon as representatives of the business community to screen these requests for business support before being presented to the Council.

Proposed by Cllr Hill, seconded and **AGREED** that this Council adopts the Policy on 'requests for fees and support re Trade and Business improvement from commercial organisations' as circulated.

FGP 13/347 RECEIVE UPDATE ON THE STATUS OF SIXWAYS, PIER COPSE, AND ALEXANDRA ROAD TOILETS.

Members were given an update on the remaining toilets in Clevedon. Sixways was not owned by NSC but were leased, as part of the lease stipulations the building is to be demolished. Pier Copse and Alexandra Road are subject to on-going conversations between NSC and a local organisation.

FGP 13/348 RECEIVE AND NOTE LATEST NEWS ON PAY AWARDS.

Members noted the latest government discussions on the pay award

FGP 13/349 CONFIRM SMALL GRANT TIMETABLE DEADLINE 31ST JULY WITH DECISION MEETING 25TH SEPTEMBER.

Members confirmed the dates for the small grants deadline and decision meeting

FGP 13/350 CHAIRMAN ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Temporary arrangements for the toilets

Members noted that in the interim until the concession was agreed the toilets were being cleaned on behalf of the Council by Glendale. The company require a 24 hour contact for emergencies. It was **AGREED**, with the Town Clerks consent, that the Town Clerk would be the first point of call with the staff members acting as back up.

Any calls and time spent outside of normal office hours would be paid in addition at the standard rate hourly cost. This would only be applicable until the concession company took over the toilets.

FGP 13/351 TO DETERMINE PART I AND PART II ITEMS.

It was **AGREED** agenda item 8 and 9 on Public Conveniences would be part 1 items although it was noted that 13/341 was a confidential item. Agenda item 11 web site which is over £1000

The meeting finished at 9.15 pm

APPROVED AS A TRUE RECORD

CHAIRMAN Date