



MINUTES (subject to agreement at the next Committee meeting)
of a meeting of THE FINANCE & STRATEGY COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 25 JULY 2016 AT
7PM IN THE TOWN HALL, HIGH STREET, STONEHOUSE

Present:

Jo Byrne (Committee Convenor)
John Callinan
Paul Stephens (Deputy Committee Convenor)
Pam Swain (Vice Chairman/Deputy Town Mayor)
Theresa Watt (Chairman/Town Mayor)

Also Present:

Town Clerk Gill Jennings
Councillor Kambites, Jacqui Webster (Quedgley PC)

Attendees are reminded that the Proceedings of this meeting may be recorded, filmed or photographed but that any person requiring such a record is asked to give polite notice at the start of the meeting.

K1/301 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES

There were no apologies

K1/302 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members are reminded of their obligation within the requirements of the Adopted Model Code of Conduct to declare any personal or disclosable pecuniary interests where applicable.
There were no declarations of interest

K1/303 ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No adjournment was called.

K1/304 TO FORMALLY APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 13 JUNE 2016

Proposed Pam Swain, Seconded Theresa Watt - the Minutes were approved by unanimous vote

Councillor Kambites mentioned that she would be interested in being on the Town Hall working group.

K1/305 TO REVIEW NEWSLETTER COSTS

Only two out of four of the quotations expected had been received therefore this matter would be deferred until the Town Council meeting of the 5th September.

K1/306 TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE YOUTH WORKING GROUP

The Working Group would meet with youth groups on the 7th September and a meeting with the Youth Forum would be arranged, perhaps at the same time. The youth groups have been helping with the In Bloom efforts making planters out of recycled materials, weeding and litter picking.

K1/307 TO CONSIDER REGULAR HIGH STREET EVENTS (Cllr Kambites/Watt)

Both Councillors expressed a keen interest in maintaining a vibrant shopping centre and felt that added attractions and events were required. Suggestions were put forward of music on the Greens, craft fairs, car boots and encouraging use of the Cotswold Way. It was felt that the press could provide better coverage of Stonehouse events. The Clerk reminded the Committee that there was no Events budget, that engagement with businesses and Stroud District was required and that also the Town Hall needed a better layout to provide for events.

Cllr Byrne was congratulated on her inspirational work with the flower pot trail.

An Events Working Group was set up: Cllr. Byrne, Watt, Kambites

K1/308 GENERAL POLICY WORKING GROUP

To be tasked with considering the Council Strategy Document against the Draft Plan

The Working Group agreed to consider how the Neighbourhood Plan was included in the Council's Strategy once the consultation results were analysed and amendments made, probably during September.

K1/309 FINANCE

1. To check and agree expenditure/receipts totals against budget headings June
Expenditure £10100.68 Receipts £1042 were checked against budget and agreed

2. To agree payments due to date in July
Payments of £91146.97 were agreed.

3. To consider grant applications deferred from last meeting.

Having been satisfied with sight of the relevant accounts the Committee proceeded as follows:

Grant of £2000 to CAB proposed Cllr Watt, seconded Cllr Swain - all in favour

Grant of £500 to Bandit Music Projects, proposed Cllr. Swain, seconded Cllr Callinan - all in favour

4. Update on investments and required action

Now that all account application forms had been completed the Cooperative account could be progressed with the initial investment of £75000. The Nat West Account would be ready for an investment of £75000 in August.

K1/310 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

3RD October 2016

Public Bodies (admission to Meetings) Act 1960. The Committee passed a resolution excluding the public from Item K1/311 and K1/312 due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted and publicity of the item would be prejudicial to the public interest

K1/311 LEGAL MATTER

1. To receive a report from the Town Hall working group, consider valuations, and consider current lease arrangements.

Cllr Callinan reported that the Working Group had met and considered 3 options going forward.

The Group were not satisfied that there was a clear advantage to anyone concerned with the current proposal of co-location. Now that the valuations were available these would be shared with Glos County Council to test whether the costs could be met before further discussion took place. Cllr Watt expressed concern that the door for discussion be left open.

The Committee were of the opinion that the current leaseholder should be freed from their lease at the end of the financial year. For Resolution.

K1/311 (continued)

2. Update on court proceedings

There had not been any news from the courts except that the plaintiff had entered a plea.

K1/312 To receive Minutes from the Staffing Committee Meeting of the 18th July and consider any recommendations

It was proposed by the Staffing Committee that the Committee Clerk be moved to SCP24 in view of the quality of her work and pending her completion of the ILCA qualification.

Proposed Cllr Watt, seconded Cllr Byrne - all in favour.
