

AGENDA ITEM 4 (c)

MINUTES of the Meeting of the **FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE** held at the Council Chamber, Drake Road, Tavistock on **TUESDAY 23rd FEBRUARY, 2016** at **7.30pm.**

PRESENT Councillor H Smith (Chairman)
Councillor Mrs A Johnson (Vice Chairman)

Councillors P Palfrey, P Sanders, J Sheldon
Councillor Mrs M Ewings (Deputy Mayor)
Councillor C Rogers (Chairman – Properties Committee)

IN ATTENDANCE Town Clerk, General Manager, Assistant to the Town Clerk, Works Manager

281. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Mrs S Bailey (Mayor), A Lewis and J Moody.

282. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No Declarations of Interest were received at this point in the Meeting.

283. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on Tuesday 12th January, 2016 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman (Appendix 1).

284. GENERAL FINANCE

a) Schedule of Payments

The Committee received and considered copies of the monthly accounts as at 31st December, 2015 and 31st January, 2016 for submission to the next Council Meeting (Appendix 2).

b) Budget Monitoring Report

The Committee received and considered copies of the Budget Monitoring Reports as at 31st December, 2015 and 31st January, 2016 (Appendix 3).

Noted That in response to a question it was reported the sum contributed to the Borough Council Dog Warden Scheme was in the order of £ 3,625 per annum.

285. FORWARD PLANNING POLICY & PROGRAMME SUB-COMMITTEE

The Committee considered the Minutes of the Meeting of the Forward Planning, Policy and Programme Sub-Committee held on Monday 15th February, 2016 (Appendix 4).

RECOMMENDED THAT Subject to the amendment of Minute No 262 to delete 'review' and insert, in its place, 'revenue' the Minutes of the Meeting of the Forward Planning, Policy and Programme Sub-Committee held on 15th February, 2016 be received and the recommendations therein endorsed.

Noted That

- a) it was agreed that a note drafted by a Member and circulated to the Sub-Committee (Minute No 261 refers) be distributed to all Councillors;
- b) Councillor Mrs M Ewings declared a prejudicial interest in Minute No 262 by virtue of occupying a position of general management or responsibility in the organisation concerned and left the room during consideration thereof;
- c) A discussion took place around the sum appropriate to allocate in connection with Minute No 262.

286. ITEMS REQUIRING A DECISION

The Committee considered the following matters requiring a decision:-

a) TAP Funding Request from Mary Tavy Parish Council
(Appendix 5)

RECOMMENDED THAT having regard to the proximity of other Parishes more directly affected and the absence of a formulated TAP application the Council not support this proposal.

Noted That

- i) the foregoing recommendation did not preclude the Town Council's representatives from supporting the application at the Links Meeting if/as appropriate.
- ii) the County Council be requested to outline any arrangements for evaluation of TAP Funding applications.

b) Appointment of a 'Lead Councillor for Dog Concerns'

This item (Appendix 6) had been placed on the Agenda at the request of Councillor J Sheldon. Following a discussion on the merits/drawbacks of the proposal a motion in favour of same was lost.

287. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

The following items had been circulated for information only;

- a) Councillor ICT - the Committee was advised that the Borough Council could offer the same hardware as was available to Borough Councillors within the allocated budget. When details had been received Members would be afforded the opportunity to subscribe.
- b) Tavistock Chamber of Commerce – Minutes of the Meeting held on 4th January, 2016 (Appendix 7)
Noted That – concern was raised at the lack of representation of Tavistock Town Council with no apologies having been tendered - Councillors Mrs J Whitcomb and J Moody (Reserve) were the appointed representatives of the Council. It was further noted the Clerk or General Manager provided officer attendance in the absence of the Reeve or Town Hall Manager.
- c) Townscape BID Ltd –Minutes of the Meeting held on 20th January, 2016 (Appendix 8).
Noted That
 - i) concern was raised at the lack of representation at BID Meetings of Tavistock Town Council (which was a major contributor to the BID Levy).The Deputy Mayor gave an oral update on the process which would be used to determine whether the BID Company continued for another term and left the Meeting following consideration of this item.

- ii) the Works Manager was reviewing issues/options associated with the possibility of the Council providing a Beacon on the occasion of the 90th Birthday of Her Majesty the Queen.
- d) THI Progress Report (Appendix 9)
Noted That a request was received to additionally include business names where applicable to assist the identification of properties listed.
- e) Report of the Assistant to the Town Clerk (Appendix 10)
- f) NALC Larger Councils' Committee – Draft Minutes of the Meeting held on 26th January, 2016 (Appendix 11)
- g) Items for Future Agendas – there were no items suggested.
- h) Updates received from Council Representatives serving on outside bodies - an update was received from the appointed representative on recent attendance at a Destination Okehampton meeting. A copy of a related report was available for inspection at the Council Offices.

288. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

Pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and having regard to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, it was

RESOLVED THAT the Press and Public be excluded from the Meeting for the following items of business.

289. FORWARD PLANNING POLICY & PROGRAMME SUB-COMMITTEE (CONFIDENTIAL by virtue of relating to confidential and commercial matters affecting persons other than the Council)

Minute No 264 had previously been subject to recommendation by the Properties Committee and no changes to same were proposed.

290. DEBTORS (CONFIDENTIAL by virtue of relating to commercially sensitive information)

The Committee considered and noted the list of all those with debts to the Council dating from earlier than the last Quarter Day (Appendix 12) and received up-dates, where appropriate, in respect of same.


291. TOWN HALL STOCK REPORT

(**CONFIDENTIAL** by virtue of relating to commercially sensitive information)

The Committee considered and received the Stock Audit and Analysis Report for the period 23rd September, 2015 – 6th January, 2016 (Appendix 13).

The Press and Public were re-admitted to the Meeting.

The Meeting closed at 8.19pm

Signed..........

Dated.....5/4/10.....

CHAIRMAN

