

Minutes of the Meeting of the FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE held at the Town Council Offices, Bradbourne Vale Road, Sevenoaks on Monday 29 April 2013 at 7:00pm.

PRESENT

Cllr R L Piper (Chairman)

Cllr S G Raikes (Vice Chairman)
 Cllr N J L Busvine (temporary substitute for Cllr Mrs A E Dawson)
 Cllr J M Canet
 Cllr G R S Clack
 Cllr A S Clayton [arr 7.20pm]
 Cllr Mrs M E Crabtree
 Cllr R M C Hogarth
 Cllr R J Parry
 Cllr P E Towell
 Cllr Mrs P C Walshe
 (11)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Cllr S L Arnold
 Cllr A Eyre
 Chief Executive/Town Clerk
 Deputy Town Clerk
 Responsible Finance Officer

APOLOGIES

Cllr Mrs A E Dawson [Minute No 267 b (i) – temporary substitute is Cllr N J Busvine]

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No members of public were present at the meeting.

481 DISPENSATION

There were no requests for dispensation

482 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Cllr S G Raikes declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in all matters relating to Street Lighting.

483 MINUTES

It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on 25 February be adopted and signed by the Chairman

484 SUB COMMITTEES

It was RESOLVED that:

(i) Youth Council

It be noted that the meeting was postponed due to Easter school holidays

(ii) Youth Services Sub Committee 27 March 2013

the minutes of the Youth Services Sub Committee meeting held on 27 March 2013 be received and adopted subject to the following amendment to minute 47 to read 'a further **young person** working at the Town Council on work experience has signed up to become a Youth Councillor'.

(iii) Community Centre

A report relating to the recent presence of travellers and the emergency expenditure relating to the purchase of a height barrier for the car park and the requirement for repairs to two garage roofs be received and noted

The caretakers at the Community Centre and Town Council staff were thanked for their prompt and efficient actions in dealing with this matter.

A report be compiled and sent to the appropriate Government Minister and MEP requesting a change in the law of trespass

485 FINANCE REPORTS**It was RESOLVED that:**

- a) Statement of Accounts
the Statement of Accounts, together with the Finance Officer's report from 1 to 28 February 2013, be received and adopted.

Community Centre staff were congratulated on the increased number of hirings during the period. It was **AGREED** to investigate the cost of installation of wi-fi at the community centre.
- b) Suppliers' Accounts
the accounts listed in the schedules from 1 to 28 February 2013 (£27,720.92) having been inspected and compared with the schedules be authorised for payment
- c) Payroll Account
the payments from the account listed in the schedules from 1 to 28 February 2013 having been compared with the schedules be confirmed
- d) Petty Cash Account
the payments from the petty cash account from 1 to 28 February 2013 (£551.62) having been inspected and compared with the schedules, be confirmed
- e) Internal Audit
The Committee received and noted a letter dated 19 April 2013 from the Internal Auditor
- f) Finance Regulations
The current Financial Regulations were reviewed in accordance with the Standing Order No 13 and adopted. Noted to review again in near future to include reference to credit cards
- g) Hospitality and Gifts Register
Hospitality or Gifts received by the employees of Sevenoaks Town Council staff and Town Councillor during the period from 1 to 28 February 2013 were received and noted

486 DCLG CONSULTATION

The Committee received the consultation document 'Taxpayer-funded pensions for councillors and other elected local office holders' and

It was RESOLVED that

The Town Council would only comment on its own sector and supported Option 1: 'No access to the new Local Government Pension scheme from April 2014 through being directly elected to local office for town and parish council sector.'

487 GRANTS

a).The Committee received and noted the current Grant Aid Schedule for the 2013/2014 financial year subject to the following amendment: '*Annual donation to Sevenoaks Conservation Council*'

b) The Committee considered the following grant applications and it was **RESOLVED** that the grants as listed below be made:-

	Organisation	Sum Granted £
1	Vine Cricket Club	565.00
2	Family Drive (single parents)	1,000.00
3	Summer Festival Committee (penguins)	750.00
4	Summer Festival Committee (music stage)	1,250.00
5	Magic Beans Productions	2,000.00

488 SEVENOAKS MARKETS

The Committee received and noted a progress report on the Sevenoaks Markets, the running of which the Town Council took over on 1 April 2013. It was **AGREED** that 'Sevenoaks Markets' be added as an agenda item to future Finance & General Purpose meetings. The Town Clerk asked Councillors to distribute publicity literature to as many organisations as possible.

489 BARNIES LIMITED

It was **RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Town Clerk be authorised to sign and seal the renewal lease for Barnies Limited.

490 TOWN PARTNERSHIP

The Committee received and noted the minutes of the meetings held on 27 February and 17 April 2013. It was noted there was a typographical error in the minutes of 27 February 2013 Min 5iii. '*The Board received a verbal update from the Chamber of Commerce on progress made towards the 2013 Business Show.*'

The Chairman of the Town Partnership announced that the new web site was due to go 'live' on Tuesday 7 May 2013, that sponsorship had been secured for all of the Business Awards and the Awards Evening would be at Coolings on 25 September 2013.

491 CURRENT MATTERSi). Raleys Development

An update sheet was circulated and noted by Members. Currently the negotiations for this project are delegated to the Chairman of Finance & General purposes Committee , the Chairman of the Open Spaces & Leisure Committee and the Town Clerk.

Long and lengthy negotiations have taken place with Knole for a Deed of Modification on the land, subject to legal formalities it is hoped that these are now reaching a conclusion.

The Committee were advised that within these negotiations Knole has changed its formula for compensation for providing the Deed of Modification from 5% of land value to 5% of Gross Development Value on market sale price, to be paid by the developer. The change was envisaged to have an impact on the tender price of the land.

It was **RESOLVED that**

The Town Council proceed as on the terms set out in the above paragraph

ii). Remembrance Sunday & Christmas Lights Event

It was AGREED that a further letter be sent to the Police Commissioner as no reply had been received to date regarding police provision for events

iii). Sevenoaks Job Club & Connexions

noted

iv). Payments by Parish and Community Councils

A letter be sent to NALC urging pressure be put to get the legislation passed by Government

v). Data Transparency Act

noted

vi). Community Centre

noted

vii). Wall rear of Chamber

noted

viii). Sport Strategy

It was noted that an inaugural meeting was held on 25 April 2013 with members of Sevenoaks Sports Clubs, schools, Sports Council, Sevenoaks District Council and Sencio to discuss aspirations for current and future sports facilities in Sevenoaks and potential shared usage

ix). Town Council Strategy

The Town Council Strategy meeting was held on 26 April 2013 to review the existing Strategy and consider the future priorities of the Town Council

x). SRFC complaint

Cllrs Arnold, Eyre and Hogarth will form complaints panel

It was **AGREED that** the complaints procedure be reviewed at Annual Council meeting to enable Vice Chairman to participate in the panel

492 PRESS RELEASE

None

The meeting closed at 9.20pm

Chairman Signed Date