



RAMSGATE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee

Venue: The Council Chamber, the Custom House, Harbour Parade, Ramsgate.

Date: Wednesday 25th April 2018

Present: Councillors; Campbell (Chairman), Brown, Connor, Larkins, Martin, L. Piper, S. Piper, Shonk and Stummer-Schmertzing.

Also, in attendance: R Styles-Town Clerk and Miss E. Richford - Deputy Town Clerk (RFO).

226. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from:

Cllr Young - family illness (The Chairman asked that a letter of sympathy and support be sent to Cllr Young from the Council).

Cllr L. Fairbrass - Holiday.

Cllr J. Fairbrass - Holiday.

Cllr Falcon - TDC meeting.

Cllr Hartley -Other business.

Cllr Kennedy- Work commitment.

227. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were made.

228. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 24th January 2018 (minutes 159 to 170) are agreed as a true record.

Proposed by: Cllr Larkins.

Seconded by: Cllr Connor.

RESOLVED

229. ACCOUNTS 2017-18 -FINAL QTR.

A report was given by the Deputy Town Clerk and Finance officer.

Noted by the meeting.

Staff

Apprentice Lengthsman position to be converted to Junior Lengthsman job description as the apprentice scheme is not suitable for this kind of work.

Proposed: Cllr Campbell.

Seconded: Cllr L. Piper.

RESOLVED

Decorative Lights

The meeting agreed to purchase the lighting equipment, replaced by Broadstairs TC. for £1,000. The meeting agreed to look at extending the lighting system to take in the High Street as far as Chatham Street, using the Broadstairs equipment and any festoon lighting that can be reused. Newington and St Lawrence may also receive Christmas trees for the first time. Charlotte Court may also be included in an extended lighting scheme.

Proposed: Cllr Campbell.

Seconded: Cllr Rev. Piper.

RESOLVED

Albion Gardens Waterfall

The meeting agreed that TDC should be approached and offered a proposal for RTC to manage the waterfall. Capital expenditure will come from other sources. RTC would commission MD Electrics (the former maintenance electricians) to carry out regular maintenance work at an agreed price.

Proposed: Cllr Campbell.

Seconded: Cllr Shonk.

RESOLVED

Voluntary groups

The meeting noted the interest of voluntary groups in carrying out work at Albion Gardens and elsewhere and urged all such groups to contact the Town Clerk so that their activities can be integrated with Council work.

230. REPLACEMENT OF CIVIC ROBES

The Deputy Town Clerk outlined the requirement to replace the mayoral robe because it has suffered water damage and a tear in its fur trimming.

The meeting selected a Panama wool robe, a Bicorn hat and jabot. Civic expenditure was under budget in the last financial year. Total expenditure authorised was £1,588.

Proposed: Cllr Campbell.

Seconded: Cllr Rev. Piper.

RESOLVED

231. REVISION OF STANDING ORDERS

The Clerk made some revisions as recommended by KALC/NALC to bring the Council standing orders in compliance with new statutes and regulations, that have been enacted since the last NALC template standing orders were compiled. The meeting agreed the revision

Proposed: Cllr Campbell.

Seconded: Cllr Stummer -Schmertzing.

RESOLVED

Registration of Cllrs under GPDR.

TDC Cllrs can use their allowance to pay for registration under GPDR; therefore, the meeting agreed that RTC should pay for RTC Cllrs registration if they are not already covered by membership of other (Principal) Councils. RTC policy at the moment is not to operate a member's allowance scheme, but instead to operate a ward grant scheme.

Proposed: Cllr Campbell.

Seconded: Cllr Rev. Piper.

RESOLVED

232. SITE TRANSFER PROGRESS

The Clerk described the progress made with TDC on site transfers in Ramsgate. The meeting noted the report and added the site at the intersection of Grange and Park Road and Albion Gardens to the list.

Proposed: Cllr Campbell.

Seconded: Cllr Rev. Piper.

RESOLVED

233. EFFINGHAM STREET FIRE STATION

The Clerk described progress to date with Kent Fire and Rescue. To progress the project certain items need to be agreed as follows:

Appoint solicitors

Robinson Allfree were appointed solicitors for this project.

Proposed by: Cllr Campbell.

Seconded by: Cllr Rev.Piper.

RESOLVED

Appoint a surveyor

3 quotations were sought and PMC Surveyors were appointed as surveyor for the project.

Proposed: Cllr Campbell.

Seconded: Cllr Martin.

RESOLVED

Appoint and Architect.

DelRenzo Associates were appointed on the basis that they had done the outline work for the project at no cost to the Council.

Proposed: Cllr Campbell.

Seconded: Cllr L. Piper.

RESOLVED

Form a building Sub Committee

This Committee will consist of the Chairmen of the standing Committees, plus Cllr Hartley (based on her specialised knowledge of fund raising) and those members of the community, that the Sub Committee believe may assist it in its activities, by virtue of their specialised knowledge.

The Committee will meet as often as required and will report its findings to the F+GP Committee.

Proposed: Cllr Campbell.

Seconded: Cllr Martin.

RESOLVED

Formation of a trust.

The meeting was not satisfied that a trust to own or operate the building was needed or desirable and decided against authorising any work on that matter.

Proposed: Cllr Campbell.

Seconded: Cllr Shonk.

RESOLVED

234. EQUIPMENT REQUEST

The following items were authorised for acquisition at the best price:

Stihl Kombi.

At the best price.

Proposed by: Cllr Campbell.

Seconded by: Cllr L. Piper.

RESOLVED

Ariens Zero Turn mower

At the best price

Proposed by: Cllr Campbell.

Seconded by: Cllr Larkins.

RESOLVED

Nifty Lift 120T

At best price at around £12.5k

Proposed by: Cllr Campbell.

Seconded by: Cllr Shonk.

RESOLVED

Medium sized panel van with fitted tow bar.

At the best price.

Proposed by: Cllr Campbell.

Seconded by: Cllr Martin.

RESOLVED

235. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk stated that the former Lengthsman had retired and two new Lengthsman have been engaged. One is in post and the other will join on 1st June 2018. It was agreed that staff would be clearly identified as RTC staff.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.20 pm.

MAYOR/CHAIRMAN