

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY 19th February 2015

PRESENT

Councillors

L. D Barker
P. Bates
G Baxendale
R I Brightwell
G Brittain
D T Brown
G R Edwards (Chairman)
G P Hayes
Mrs. S A Holland
Mrs A M Martin
D Murphy
D A Parker
Mrs J D Parry (Vice Chairman)
N T Price

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Mrs E. Wardlaw who is an ex-officio member of this Committee.

2. MINUTES

FAP/54/1415 RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 8th January 2015 be agreed and signed by the Chairman.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members are requested to declare both "pecuniary" and "non-pecuniary" interests as early in the meeting as they become known.

Cllr G Baxendale declared a non-pecuniary interest in any matters related to Cheshire East Council, he then declared a pecuniary interest in item 6 (i) and left the room whilst this item was discussed.

Cllrs D. A Parker declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 6 (ii).

4. OUTSTANDING ACTIONS

There are no outstanding actions.

5. GRANT APPROVALS AND COMMITMENTS 2014-15

A summary of grant approvals and commitments was considered by the Committee and it was noted that £7,229 is available for grants in 2014-15.

FAP/55/1415 RESOLVED that the grant summary be received.

6. NEW APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

FAP/56/1415 RESOLVED that:-

i. GR 22/1415 – Congleton Cricket Club

A grant of £250 be approved.

ii. GR 23/1415 – Trinity Methodist Church

A grant of £1000 be approved.

iii. GR 24/1415 – Congleton Spiritualist Church

A grant of £250 be approved.

7. NEW GRANT ACTIVITIES MONITORING FORMS

It was noted that a Grant Activities Monitoring Form was received from Bromley Farm Community Development Trust.

8. LETTERS OF THANKS

It was noted that a letter of thanks was received from Bromley Farm Community Development Trust.

9. MANAGEMENTS ACCOUNTS FOR APRIL 2014 – DECEMBER 2014

FAP/57/1415 RESOLVED that the Managements Accounts for December 2014 be received.

10. BANK RECONCILIATION

FAP/58/1415 RESOLVED that the bank reconciliation for January 2015 be received.

11. LIST OF PAYMENTS

FAP/59/1415 RESOLVED that the Payments List between 1st Dec 2014 and 31st January 2015 be received.

12. SIMNET

A lengthy discussion took place relating to the legal advice provided by SAS Daniels and Cllr L D Barker in respect of winding up SimNet and pursuing a refund of the payment made via the courts and a receiver. The members though were concerned that further expenditure could be incurred without any return.

FAP/60/1415 RESOLVED that:-

- i. To accept what has happened and close the issue relating to SimNet and the purchase of a Digital Display System.
- ii. To issue a report on the purchase of the Digital Display System including an apology.
- iii. Report to be produced once the findings of the External Auditor are known.

13. RIDE ON MOWER

A report was considered by the members relating to the purchase of a replacement ride on mower.

FAP/61/1415 RESOLVED that an ex-demonstration ride on mower Toro LT3400 be purchased from Cheshire Turf Machinery at a cost of £13,947 + VAT.

14. VEHICLE TRACKING

A report on the notion of installing a vehicle tracking device to all Streetscape vehicles was considered and a number of quotes considered.

FAP/62/1415 RESOLVED that the matter be referred back to the next meeting of the Finance & policy Committee so that a comparison of performance and benefits of the various systems be produced for further consideration.

15. LEASE VEHICLE

A report relating to the lease of a further tipper truck was considered.

FAP/63/1415 RESOLVED that the matter be referred back to the next meeting of the Finance and Policy Committee so that vehicle mileages can be produced and a comparison of excess mileage charges from the potential suppliers considered.

16. PORTABLE CAMERA

The notion of purchasing a portable CCTV camera was considered.

FAP/64/1415 RESOLVED that :-

- i. One trial unit be purchased.
- ii. Siting of the camera to be conducted by the Police so that appropriate surveillance procedures are adhered to.
- iii. Report on the effectiveness of the unit to be produced.

17. COMPLAINTS POLICY

The Committee considered a new Complaints Policy.

FAP/65/1415 RESOLVED that the revised Complaints Policy be approved and be recommended to Full Council for adoption as part of the Constitution.

Mr. G.R. Edwards
Chairman