

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY 20TH FEBRUARY 2014

PRESENT

Councillors

P Bates
R I Brightwell
D T Brown
G R Edwards (Chairman)
D Murphy
Mrs J D Parry (Vice Chairman)
N T Price

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs G Baxendale, Mrs S A Holland and D Parker.

Apologies were also received from Councillors G P Hayes and G S Williams who are not members of this particular Committee.

2. MINUTES

FAP/28/1314 RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 9th January 2014 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 D Brown declared a non-pecuniary interest in any matters relating to Cheshire East Borough Council.

Cllr P Bates declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 6 (i) and 9.

Cllr D Murphy declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 6 (ii) and 9.

Cllr Mrs A Martin declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 6 (ii).

4. OUTSTANDING ACTIONS

There are no outstanding actions.

5. GRANT APPROVALS AND COMMITMENTS 2013-2014

A summary of grant approvals and commitments was considered by the Committee and it was noted that £17,536 is available for grants in 2013-14.

FAP/29/1314 RESOLVED that the grant summary be received.

6. NEW APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

FAP/30/1314 RESOLVED that:-

1. GR 16/1314 – Congleton Harriers

A grant of £250 be approved subject to the Town Council being able to nominate one of the charities that subsequent donations are given to.

2. GR 17/1314 – Friends of Congleton Park

A grant of £250 be approved.

7. NEW GRANT ACTIVITIES MONITORING FORMS

The Grant Activities Monitoring Form from Congleton Musical Theatre was noted.

8. LETTER OF THANKS

Letters of thanks from St Peter's Church and Congleton Choral Society for grants provided by the Town Council were noted.

9. RUBY'S FUND

FAP/31/1314 RESOLVED that a suitable auction gift be purchased to the value of approximately £50 as a donation to fundraising for Ruby's Fund.

10. MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS FOR APRIL 2013 – DEC 2013

FAP/32/1314 RESOLVED that the Management Accounts for December 2013 be received.

11. RBS BANK

The report was received and noted.

12. TREASURY MANAGEMENT POLICY

The Treasury Management Policy for 2014-15 was considered by the Committee.

FAP/33/1314 RESOLVED that investment funds to remain with the RBS Bank and that the Town Clerk in conjunction with the Chairman make such investments as required to implement the strategy.

13. MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY

The Medium Term Financial Strategy covering the years 2014 -18 was considered by the Committee.

FAP/34/1314 RESOLVED that the Medium Term Financial Strategy be received and its assumptions noted.

14. COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT GRANT

Correspondence from Cheshire East Borough Council confirming the level of Council Tax Support Grant of £65,558 for 2014-15 was considered.

FAP/35/1314 RESOLVED that the correspondence be received.

15. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

FAP/36/1314 RESOLVED that the following recommendations from the Town Hall Committee be approved:

THC/24/1314 RESOLVED that the following work be awarded to the lowest tender provided by AD Booth:

- a. Bridestones Roof - £16,020 + VAT.
- b. Roof over the main staircase - £2,450 + VAT.
- c. Repairs to the Museum, guttering and fascia boards - £11,700 + VAT.

FAP/37/1314 RESOLVED that the following recommendations from the Community, Environment and Services Committee be approved, but section b to be amended to:-

- I. Approval to purchase a second hand ride on mower up to a value of £20,000 + VAT, with 500 hours or less on the clock.
- II. If a suitable machine is not found within 4 weeks the Chairman and Town Clerk have delegated power to purchase a new machine.

CES/57/1314 RESOLVED that:-

- a. Ancillary equipment to be purchased at a cost of circa £16,000.
- b. Finance and Policy Committee to determine whether or not to purchase a new ride on mower at a cost of £35,000 or a second hand ride on mower at a cost of circa £20,000.

Mr. G.R. Edwards
Chairman