

Sandy Town Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Policy, Finance and Resources Committee of Sandy Town Council which was held in the Council Chamber at 10 Cambridge Road, Sandy, Bedfordshire on Monday 22 June 2015 commencing at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs P N Aldis, T Cole (Vice Chairman), A M Hill, W Jackson, G Leach C Osborne M Pettitt, M Scott (Chairman) P Sharman and S Sutton

Absent: Cllr J Ali

In attendance: Cllrs Maudlin and Stock (CBC), Mr D Kemp (DCK Beavers), Mrs C Baker-Smith (Clerk) and Ms M Bracey (Minutes Clerk) and 2 members of the public.

	<i>Actions</i>
<p>1 Apologies for absence Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Ali.</p>	Admin
<p>2 Declarations of interest i) Declarable pecuniary interests - None ii) Non pecuniary interests – None</p>	
<p>3 Minutes of previous meeting RESOLVED to receive the minutes of the Policy, Finance and Resources Committee held on 30 March 2015 and to approve them as a correct record of proceedings.</p>	Admin
<p>4 Public Participation Session There were no public presentations.</p>	
<p>5 Housing Needs Survey/Beeston Community Orchard project Presentation by John Boswell from BRCC Mr Boswell presented the report and added that the result of the survey was not positive for housing. 60% against. The proposal was for six units maximum, rental and shared ownership. Site access could be a single access or two access points. BRCC have funding for the project for 1 to 2 years for the first phase and CBC may have further monies for a later phase. Members welcomed the report. A Member mentioned that exploratory talks need to take place with Anglian Water as there are major drainage problems in that area. He also thinks there may not be major opposition to the proposal. A working group will be meeting soon to move this project forward. RESOLVED that the proposition before the Committee be agreed with the proviso that one access point be considered. Since the meeting a revised Report has been received from Mr Boswell and this is attached to these Minutes.</p>	

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6 Financial Reports

RESOLVED that Derek Kemp of DCK Beavers, Accountants, be adopted as the Responsible Finance Officer.

Mr Kemp drew the attention of the Committee to the Internal Report/Annual Return.

The Risk Assessment was discussed and it was **RESOLVED** that this document will be on the agenda of Policy, Finance and Resources Committee meeting on 3 August 2015.

Signatories on the bank account were discussed and some issues relating to the Santander Bank account.

It was **RESOLVED** that the outcome of enquiries and the signatories will be on the agenda for the Policy Finance and Resources Committee meeting on 3 August 2015.

Mr Kemp drew the attention of the Committee to a number of inaccuracies that will be corrected on the final Financial Statements.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Council adopt the Financial Statements as a detailed report.

The Annual Return was discussed and it was **RESOLVED** that this be approved.

RECOMMENDED that the Statement of Governance and the Annual accounts and accounting statement on the Annual Return be brought for approval and adoption to an Extraordinary Town Council meeting on Monday 29 June 2015.

It was proposed and agreed by all present that thanks be given to the external auditors. It was also proposed that sincere thanks be given to the Clerk and the staff for managing the situation during this period.

Admin

7 Co-option Procedure

Further to the meeting Cllrs Cole and Scott had with CBC, Cllr Cole is investigating the application procedure and it was **RESOLVED** to bring an application form and procedure to the next Town Council meeting on 6 July 2015 for consideration.

Discussion took place re a ballot paper and it was **RESOLVED** that the Council amend Standing Orders and move to a paper ballot.

It was also **RESOLVED** that the Council move forward on co-opting, rather than wait for a Town Clerk to be appointed.

Cllr Cole

8 Sandy Town Council Grants

RESOLVED that the Policy Finance and Resources Committee administer the grants and that the Council revert to the previous Sandy Town Council application form.

Admin

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9 Events

The Clerk reported that she had spoken to Melanie Brooker at Stevenage Leisure, who manage the Jenkins Pavilion on behalf of the Council, discussing the possibility of them managing events on Sunderland Road. **RESOLVED** that all events on Sunderland Road be managed by Stevenage Leisure.

Discussion took place about other sites belonging to the Council and it was proposed that a small working party be set up to look at these areas, with guidance from Stevenage Leisure.

RESOLVED that Cllrs, Aldis, Hill and Jackson, form this working group.

Admin

10 Elder Close, Beeston

RESOLVED that the piece of land be released and that the Management Company draw up an agreement between the Town Council and themselves and pay all costs involved.

RESOLVED that Cllr Hill pursue the siting of a memorial bench.

Admin

Cllr Hill

11 Renewal of Service Agreement

RESOLVED that the Service Agreement be extended for one more year with THSP with the proviso that a meeting takes place as soon as possible to discuss with the company, concerns that had been raised.

RESOLVED that at the time the Town Clerk is appointed all outside contracts be reviewed

Cllr Hill
Cllr Pettitt