

YEOVIL TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of the **POLICY, RESOURCES AND FINANCE COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, Town House, 19 Union Street, Yeovil on **Tuesday 28 July 2009**

(7.00pm – 8.30pm)

Present:

Steve Hawker – Chairman
Bridget Dollard
Tony Fife
Dave Gooding
John Grana

Dave Greene
Tom Parsley
Wes Read
David Recardo
Alan Smith

Also Present:

Tony Lock – Yeovil East Ward
Alan Tawse – Town Clerk

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments from members of the public.

7/183 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 26 May 2009, copies of which had been circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

7/184 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Philip Chandler, Clive Davis, Andrew Kendall and Pat Martin.

7/185 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Bridget Dollard declared a personal and prejudicial interest in respect of Agenda Item 5 (Applications for Grant Aid – Yeovil and District Chrysanthemum and Dahlia Society) by virtue of her association with the Hall used by the Society as the venue for its shows.

Tom Parsley and David Recardo each declared a personal interest in respect of Agenda Item 5 (Applications for Grant Aid – Yeovil Community Arts Association) in view of their acquaintance with the Applicant.

Tony Fife, Dave Greene, Tom Parsley, David Recardo and Alan Smith each declared a personal interest in respect of Agenda Item 5 (Applications for Grant Aid – Octagon Theatre (SSDC) and South Somerset District Council

(Community Play Officer) by virtue of their membership of South Somerset District Council.

7/186 **CORRESPONDENCE**

There were no items of correspondence.

7/187 **APPLICATIONS FOR GRANT AID**

- (a) Yeovil and District Chrysanthemum and Dahlia Society

RESOLVED that a grant of £450 be awarded towards the general running costs of the Society and its shows. (S.137 of the Local Government Act 1972 – as amended).

(Bridget Dollard, having declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the above matter, left the room during its consideration and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon

- (b) Yeovil Olympiads Athletics Club

RESOLVED that a grant of £800 be awarded to help support the annual promotion of the Yeovil Games. (S.137 of the Local Government Act 1972 – as amended).

- (c) Octagon Theatre (SSDC)

RESOLVED that a grant of £1,000 be awarded to assist with the cost of staging the annual Summer School. (S.145 of the Local Government Act 1972 – as amended).

- (d) Yeovil Community Arts Association

RESOLVED that no action be taken regarding the application.

- (e) South Somerset District Council (Community Play Officer)

RESOLVED that no action be taken regarding the application.

- (f) South Somerset Citizens Advice Bureau

RESOLVED that a grant of £2,000 be awarded towards the general running costs of the Bureau. (S.142 of the Local Government Act 1972 – as amended).

7/188 **CAPITAL FUND**

The Committee considered the report of the Town Clerk (Agenda item 6 refers).

During the ensuing discussion, reference was made to the ongoing negotiations regarding the possible disposal of the former Ski and Activity Centre.

RESOLVED

that the press and public be excluded from this part of the meeting in accordance with Section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

During the closed part of the meeting, the Town Clerk and Members of the Steering Group appointed by the Town Council to oversee the negotiations outlined the latest position and confirmed the intention to circulate a copy of the written submissions received to all Members – along with the Steering Group's recommendations - and to report back to the Town Council in September to enable Members to consider and determine upon the matter. The Committee was advised that although three expressions of interest had initially been received, only one bid remained.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the current position concerning the Capital Fund be noted;
- (2) that the present position regarding the disposal of the former Goldcroft Allotment site and the marketing of the former Ski and Activity Centre be noted;
- (3) that arrangements be made for all Members of the Town Council to be provided with details of the submission by the remaining bidder at an early date;
- (4) that the intention to consider and determine upon the matter at the 1 September meeting of the Town Council be supported, and arrangements be made for a Members' Briefing to take place with the appointed Marketing Agent at 5.30pm that evening ahead of that meeting;
- (5) that the steps taken by the Town Clerk to secure the necessary funds by way of a fixed-rate loan of £265,000 to fulfil the Council's financial commitments, be noted; and
- (6) that the District Council's response to the possible use of the anticipated S106 contribution towards the funding of the proposed upgrade of the play area at the Monks Dale Recreation Ground be reported to the next meeting.

7/189 YEOVIL IN BLOOM – SPONSORSHIP INITIATIVE

The Committee considered the report of the Town Clerk (Agenda item 7 refers).

RESOLVED

that the developments in this matter be noted.

7/190 **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – APRIL/MAY 2009**

The Committee considered the report of the Finance Administrator (Agenda item 8 refers).

RESOLVED

that the Financial Statements and payments therein for the above months be approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments from members of the public.

7/191 **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

RESOLVED

that the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting in accordance with Section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

7/192 **STAFFING ISSUES**

The Committee considered the confidential report of the Town Clerk (Agenda item 9 refers).

RESOLVED

- (1) that the matters be noted;
- (2) that approval be given to the proposals set out in the report subject to the Town Clerk seeking a further quotation for the services referred to in the first part therein; and
- (3) that a special meeting of the Committee be held to consider that quotation and to decide upon the most appropriate course of action thereafter.

Chairman

29/07/09
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