

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 September 2010**

(7.00pm – 8.20pm)

Present:

David Recardo - Chairman	Mike Lock
Philip Chandler	Tony Lock
Clive Davis	Ian Martin
Bridget Dollard	Pat Martin
Tony Fife	Wes Read
Steve Hawker	Alan Smith
Andrew Kendall	

Also Present:

Alan Tawse Town Clerk

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments from the public.

7/273 MINUTES

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 27 July 2010, copies of which had been circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

7/274 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received.

7/275 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Tony Fife, Andrew Kendall, Tony Lock, Ian Martin, Pat Martin, David Recardo and Alan Smith each declared a personal interest in Agenda item 5 (Applications for Grant Aid – South Somerset District Council) by virtue of their membership of that public body.

7/276 CORRESPONDENCE

There were no items of correspondence.

7/277 APPLICATIONS FOR GRANT AID

(a) 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).

- (b) Somerset Area Cruse Bereavement Care

RESOLVED that a grant of £750 be awarded towards the running costs of the Organisation. (S.137 of the Local Government Act 1972 – as amended).

- (c) South Somerset District Council

RESOLVED that consideration of the application be deferred until the March 2011 meeting of the Committee by which time the outcome of an application for a capital contribution of £27,000 from the District Council towards the proposal would be known.

- (d) Yeovil Chamber Choir

RESOLVED that a grant of £40 be awarded to meet the costs of the hire of the venue for the planned concert. (S.145 of the Local Government Act 1972 – as amended).

7/278 **CAPITAL FUND**

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

RESOLVED

- (1) that the position concerning the Capital Fund be noted; and
- (2) that the current position regarding the rolling programme of play area improvements be noted.

7/279 **NEW INITIATIVES BUDGET**

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

During the ensuing discussion, Members considered the merits of the proposal by the Buildings and Civic Matters Committee to provide a noticeboard in each of the Town's four wards.

Whilst it was recognised that such facilities would help inform the local community of the Council's activities and events and other useful information, it was indicated that none of the wards had a natural centre of population and that proposed locations should be identified and agreed before any funds were committed to the idea.

It was also felt that the possibility of operating and maintaining such boards in partnership with local community associations should be explored along with the cost of securing any necessary planning consents.

With regard to the proposal discussed by the Promotions and Activities Committee to provide a new temporary cover for appropriate events in the Entertainment's Area in the Triangle, it was acknowledged that whilst this initiative had been identified by that Committee as a potential project for funding from the New Initiatives Budget, the matter required further

investigation before being put forward to the Policy, Resources and Finance Committee and the Town Council for consideration.

Reference was also made to the possibility of service committees making further bids for funding and to any uncommitted funds being carried forward to the next financial year.

RESOLVED:

- (1) that the matter be noted; and
- (2) that Council be advised of this Committee's view that the proposal by the Buildings and Civic Matters Committee to provide a noticeboard in each of the Town's four wards be noted and referred back to that Committee for the idea to be worked up in detail and to be resubmitted having regard to the above-identified issues.

7/280 COUNCIL TAX REFERENDUMS

The Committee considered the report of the Town Clerk (Agenda item 8 refers).

RESOLVED

that the matter be noted and further developments be awaited.

7/281 FINANCE WORKING GROUP

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

RESOLVED

that the matter be noted.

7/282 INTERNAL AUDIT

The Committee considered the report of the Town Clerk (Agenda item 10 refers).

RESOLVED

that the successful completion of the 2009/10 Internal Audit be noted and welcomed.

7/283 AUDIT OF ANNUAL RETURN – 2009/10

The Committee considered the report of the Town Clerk (Agenda item 11 refers).

RESOLVED

that the successful completion of the 2009/10 External Audit be noted and welcomed.

7/284 **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – JUNE/JULY 2010**

The Committee considered the report of the Finance Administrator (Agenda item 12 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.

7/285 **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.

7/286 **STAFFING ISSUES**

The Committee considered the confidential report of the Town Clerk (Agenda item 13 refers).

RESOLVED

- (1) that approval be given to the application referred to in Agenda item 13(a) being considered and determined during October 2010;
- (2) that a Sub-Committee be established for this purpose, and the following Members be appointed to serve thereon:

Pat Martin
Wes Read
David Recardo
- (3) that the following Members be appointed to serve on the Panel referred to at Agenda item 13(a):

Philip Chandler
Bridget Dollard
Tony Lock
- (4) that approval be given to the recommendations set out in Agenda item 13(b); and
- (5) that the Committee's congratulations be conveyed to the member of staff referred to in Agenda item 13(c) on her successful achievement.