

MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD ON 4TH JUNE, 2019

Present: Councillors Miss L Willis (Chair)
Mrs B E Allen, R Arthur, Mrs K Brace,
S P Colborn, S Cudlip,
Mrs V Cummings, Ms R M Gratton,
G N Hepworth, Mrs S Pratt, T Shepherd,
B Taylor, R Whitehead.

Apologies: Councillors E Bell, Mrs J A Bell,
Mrs G Bleasdale, D Cummings,
Mrs S Forster, Mrs L Kennedy,.

Officers: P Fletcher (Deputy Town Clerk)
Mrs J Knight (Finance Officer)
Miss A Rountree (Minute Taker).

Prior to commencement of the meeting the Chair advised members of this Committee and members of the public that in line with the amendment to 'the public bodies (admission to meetings) act 1960', which came into force in August, 2014, parts of this meeting may be recorded by photographic, video and audio means.

F43/19 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Members were reminded prior to the start of the meeting of the need to disclose any interests, prejudicial or personal, in accordance with the Code of Conduct. Such interests must be submitted to the Town Clerk prior to the meeting.

F44/19 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR OF FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE FOR THE ENSUING YEAR

There were two nominations for Chair of the Finance and General Purposes Committee namely Councillors Miss Linda Willis and Stan Cudlip. A vote then took place:

Councillor Miss Linda Willis – 10 votes
Councillor Stan Cudlip – 3 votes

RECOMMENDED that Councillor Miss Linda Willis is elected as the Chair of Finance and General Purposes Committee for the ensuing year.

(Councillor Miss Linda Willis then took the Chair)

F45/19 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR OF FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE FOR THE ENSUING YEAR

There were two nominations for Vice-Chair of the Finance and General Purposes Committee namely Councillors Mrs B E Allen and Mrs S Forster. A vote then took place:

Councillor Mrs B E Allen – 10 votes
Councillor Mrs S Forster – 3 votes

RECOMMENDED that Councillor Mrs B E Allen is elected as the Vice-Chair of Finance and General Purposes Committee for the ensuing year.

F46/19 **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 30th APRIL, 2019**

RECOMMENDED the Minutes of this meeting, a copy of which had been previously printed and circulated to each Member, be approved and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

F47/19 **PAYSHEET NUMBER 2 – MAY 2019/20**

a) Expenditure – May 2019

RECOMMENDED:

- (i) that all payments in Paysheet Number 2 – 2019/20 be approved, it being noted that the direct debits, Bacs, Online and Debit Card payments including Imprest expenditure amount to £171,456.75 being the total sum authorised under this Paysheet;
- (ii) that the BACS authorisation sheet be signed by three Members and the credit transfers be actioned immediately; and
- (iii) there were no transactions made this month from the Clerks Imprest Account.

b) Income – May 2019

RECOMMENDED the summary sheet showing the range of income received by the Council during the current month be accepted.

c) Bank Balances – May 2019

RECOMMENDED the report of the Finance Officer a copy of which was circulated, be approved.

F48/19 **APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS**

a) Caring for Craig

Pursuant to a previous meeting where discussions had taken place Members agreed to award a donation of £1000 towards the costs for ground floor accommodation and washroom.

RECOMMENDED that a £1000 donation be awarded to Caring for Craig.

b) Eastlea Community Centre

Members discussed the grant application from Eastlea Community Centre and agreed to award a grant of £1000 towards the cost of renewing 80 chairs in the centre.

RECOMMENDED that a grant of £1000 be awarded to Eastlea Community Centre.

c) Michael Wilson

Members discussed a grant application that was received from Mr Michael Wilson for £200 towards the cost of competing in the British Universities World Championships.

RECOMMENDED that a grant of £200 be awarded to Mr Michael Wilson to enable him to compete in the British Universities World Championships.

d) Seaham Red Star United

Members discussed the grant application that was received from Seaham Red Star United for £300 towards the cost of setting up a new under 18s team.

RECOMMENDED that a grant of £300 be awarded to Seaham Red Star United for the setting up of a new under 18s team.

F49/19 REVIEW OF FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

RECOMMENDED that the review of the financial regulations undertaken by the Town Clerk and Finance Officer be approved and a colour booklet of these should be forwarded to all Members.

F50/19 PHOTOCOPIER

The Finance Officer stated that she was looking into the pricing for both lease and purchasing costs and was waiting for some further quotations. These would be available for Members consideration at the next available meeting.

RECOMMENDED that Members note the information.

F51/19 MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN

RECOMMENDED that Members approve the updated Medium Term Financial Plan.

F52/19 PRESS OPPORTUNITIES

RECOMMENDED that there are no press opportunities from this meeting.