



**Minutes of a Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting held remotely by Zoom on.
Wednesday 28TH October 2020 at 5.00pm**

Present: Cllr. Allen, Cllr. Heaven, Cllr. Tallon, Cllr. Parker, Cllr. Thomas, Cllr. Shepherd & Cllr. Hutchings

In Attendance: Town Clerk (TC)
Assistant to The Town Clerk (ATTC)

1202. Apologises for absence.
Cllr. Johns

1203. Declaration of Interest
Cllr. Allen asked Councillors to declare any relevant interests as they arose. As this meeting is being held by Zoom the ATTC will mark in the DOI Book and Cllrs will need to attend the office to sign.

1204. Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting Minutes
Cllr. Parker proposed that the minutes of the Meeting held on 29th July 2020 be signed as a true and accurate record. This was seconded by Cllr. Shepherd and agreed. (Vote; 6 For, 0 Against, 1 Abstention.)

1205. Matters Arising.
No matters.

1206. Accounts due for Payment and Budget Review
The TC went through the Accounts due for Payment.
Cllr. Parker proposed the accounts be paid. This was seconded by Cllr. Heaven and agreed. (Vote; 7 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstentions).
The TC went through the Budget Sheet and confirmed the current expenditure including that on the WW2 Memorial Tree Carving.
The Market income is still much lower than expected due to the enforced closure. Weekly income has raised slightly, but not to the normal amount expected at this time of year. The income from the hire of the Market Hall at present has ceased due to Covid 19.

1207. To discuss photocopying charges for outside organisations
During the previous lockdown it was difficult to obtain photocopying services within the town. The Council was therefore asked several times to photocopy documents for outside organisations and businesses and charged 20p for a A3 Colour. This covered the cost of time, lease of the machine etc.
Cllr. Shepherd suggested that if anyone wanted to get any A4 printing done he will do this for nothing.
Cllr. Hutchings explained that he obtained some printing for his business from the Council as no other place was open and he had paid for this.
After discussion, it was agreed to trial a photocopying service for three months on application, but this is not to be published on social media.

Cllr. Allen proposed a three month trial photocopying service for the community. This was seconded by Cllr. Parker and agreed. (Vote; 6 For, 0 Against, 1 Abstentions).

1208.
Some of the Council's funds are currently held in a Deposit Bond. After discussion it was agreed that the sum should be reinvested for up to a further year at the best prevailing rate.

Cllr. Allen proposed that the Council's funds currently held in a Deposit Bond be reinvested for up to a further year at the best prevailing rate. This was seconded by Cllr. Thomas and agreed. (Vote 7 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstentions).

1209. To discuss the draft Budget for 2020/2021 and suggested projects.

It was explained that this is the first draft of the budget for members to consider and that it would be discussed again the next Full Council on 4th November and in December before the final budget and precept is set in January 2021.

Regarding the list of projects it was highlighted that some of the projects to be considered are those that were originally proposed for 2019/2020 but didn't happen due to the Covid 19 restrictions and members may wish to consider these before any additional projects are agreed.

New projects discussed included Community Gardens; a positive project not only helping people with mental health issues but could also help the Council in entering Britain in Bloom. Other projects discussed and agreed to be brought forward were a Youth Shelter near the Skateboard Park, assisting the Cricket Club towards the cost of an artificial Wicket, and improved lighting and disabled access to Badock Gardens.

1210. Town Clerk's Report – to receive a report from the TC for information only.

Various conversations have taken place of late in relation to overgrown trees on the footpath leading behind the College to the corner of Sanctuary Road.

It has now been confirmed by DCC that the land on which the trees stand belong to the College, some of the trees are affected by Ash Die Back and are of concern. DCC would like these inspected but they remain the landowner's responsibility however and a survey is required by the College.

Cllr. Tallon confirmed that the streetlight outside the Kings Arms is still not working. This has been reported.

Cllr. Allen proposed that in view of the special or confidential nature of the following business to be transacted, it is advisable, in the public interest, that the public and press temporarily be excluded and they will be instructed to withdraw. This was seconded by Cllr. Heaven and agreed (Vote 7 For, 0 Against, 0 Absentations).

1211. To discuss and select the Contractor for the works at Penrose Terrace.

The three quotes received for the works required to be completed at Penrose Terrace were discussed.

Cllr. Allen proposed that all the works at Penrose Terrace be completed by Matthew Nute, but with a further breakdown of any additional works required before acceptance. This was seconded by Cllr. Parker and agreed. (Vote 4 For, 0 Against, 3 Abstentions).

1212. To discuss and agree that grant applications for the financial year 2020/2021

Cllr. Allen declared an Interest in the Mens Shed grant application and left the Zoom Meeting when this application was being discussed.

After discussion and agreement that some of the grant budget not be spent because funds might be required to assist with COVID 19 efforts, the following grants were awarded.

Holsworthy Community College Headphones £150

new Cllr. Hutchings proposed that the Community College be granted £150 towards the cost of Headphones. Cllr. Allen seconded the proposal which was carried. (Vote 6 For, 0 Against, 1 Abstention)

Holsworthy Community College Music £150

new Cllr. Hutchings proposed that the Community College be granted £150 towards the cost of Drums. Cllr. Allen seconded the proposal which was carried. (Vote 6 For, 0 Against, 1 Abstention)

Friends of Holsworthy Library £200

Cllr. Hutchings proposed that the Friends of the Holsworthy Library be granted £200. Cllr. Allen seconded the proposal which was carried. (Vote 7 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstention)

Holsworthy Netball Club £50

Cllr. Hutchings proposed that Holsworthy Netball Club be granted £50. Cllr. Shepherd seconded the proposal which was carried. (Vote 7 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstention)

Citizens Advice Bureau £200

Cllr. Parker proposed that the Citizens Advice Bureau be granted £200. Cllr. Heaven seconded the proposal which was carried. (Vote 7 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstention)

Mens Shed £350

Cllr. Shepherd proposed that the Mens Shed be granted £350 towards the cost of a greenhouse to be sited in Badock Gardens. Cllr. Tallon seconded the proposal which was carried. (Vote 6 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstention)

Cllr. Allen returned to the meeting.

Cllr. Hutchings suggested that if all the Grant budget was not awarded in 2019/2020 that the remainder be put into the existing Earmarked Reserve for Grants at the end of the 2019/20 financial year. The TC confirmed that this had been the case with previously unspent Grants funds, and this would be put to members when deciding the funds to be brought forward into Reserves at the end of 2019/20.

1213. Close

Cllr. Allen closed the meeting at 6.04pm

Signed.....

Date