

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AT WELLS TOWN HALL ON THURSDAY 7th MAY 2009

PRESENT: Cllr D Anderson (chairman)
Cllrs C Borastero, N Kennedy, J North
and C Price.

IN ATTENDANCE: The Town Clerk's Assistant

09/021F APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The committee received the apologies from Cllrs Brandon, Parkes and Siggs.

09/022F REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS

- (i) Council properties**
 - (ii) Finance**
 - (iii) Policies**
- See enclosed report

09/023F REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The Committee considered the request received from Wells Twinning and agreed to **recommend** financial support in the sum of £700 for the forthcoming visit from Bad Dürkheim

09/024/F ITEM FOR URGENT INFORMATION

Members noted the problem relating to rubbish blocking the gratings in the High Street which would be reported to Highways.

09/025/F RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE PRESS AND PUBLIC

In order to discuss tenders for works to the Town Hall in confidence it was proposed by the Chairman and unanimously **resolved** that the press and public be excluded by virtue of the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 as amended. See confidential addendum

REPORT FROM WORKING GROUPS

(i) Properties

Negotiations for the lease of 1 Priory Road are proceeding in a constructive manner. A new shorthold tenancy has been executed as agreed by the Council by Mr and Mrs Johnson in respect of 2 Town Hall Buildings.

(ii) Finance

The first two instalments of the non-domestic business rates on the Town Hall have been paid and the necessary legislation is awaited which will enable the increase to be spread over the next two subsequent financial years. All other rate requirements have been met.

(iii) Policies

Arrangements will be made in the coming weeks to ensure that all members acknowledge their agreement to and understanding of the various policies adopted by the Council relating both to employment and to health and safety. In addition to general policies regarding the latter, fire safety and other risk assessments will be brought to the council at the earliest opportunity.