

WELLS CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, WELLS TOWN HALL, ON THURSDAY 11TH OCTOBER 2018 AT 7.00PM

PRESENT: Cllrs: J Osman (Deputy Mayor; Vice-Chairman), C Price, T Robbins (Chairman)

IN ATTENDANCE: Town Clerk: F White; RFO: S Luck
Cllr. J North
4 members of the public

18/92F APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
Cllrs: M Brandon, H Siggs, D Swain, C Wride (Mayor)

18/93F DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
To receive Councillors' Declarations of Interests, made under the Council's Code of Conduct adopted 26th July 2012
None declared.

18/94F MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER 2018
Minutes of the previous meeting were proposed, seconded, approved and signed.

18/95F MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

1. Representatives presented community funding applications re: **18/97F** and answered questions from Councillors.
 - i. Society for Disabled Artists
 - ii. Wells City Football Club
2. Cllr North:
 - i. Question on the financial reports - answer supplied
 - ii. Suggestion for the budget process - referred to the next meeting
 - iii. Query on car parking space – answered by the Chairman
 - iv. Drew members' attention to papers on Town Twinning ref.**18/98F**

18/96F FINANCE REPORT
To receive the financial reports for September 2018:

- i. The bank statements and accounts had been checked prior to the meeting. The accounts for September 2018 were proposed, seconded and approved.
- ii. The RFO reminded members the draft budget will be prepared for the next meeting; please contact him with any items for inclusion.
- iii. All salaries will be placed under one budget heading; this will transfer more clearly into the audit report process: agreed.
- iv. Approval was sought to open a corporate credit card account; staff increasingly have to make small online purchases on personal cards, on behalf of the Council, in the interest of best value.
A corporate card is allowed for in the Council's Financial Regulations. Risks have been assessed and controls will be in place:
 - RFO and TC use only
 - £1,000 maximum
 - Credit not debit card gives Council better protection
 - Card with existing current account provider
 - Paid off monthly
 - Reported in the accounting statements

APPROVED

18/97F

COMMUNITY FUNDING APPLICATIONS

Members gave careful consideration to each application.

- i. Society for Disabled Artists
Proposed, seconded and agreed: £350.
- ii. Wells City Football Club
Proposed, seconded and agreed: £350.

18/98F

HOSPITALITY FUNDING APPLICATION

Wells Twinning Association, town-twinning visit November 2018:

Information and a budget for the event had been provided by the Wells Twinning Association; Cllr North was present as representative and answered questions.

Proposed, seconded and agreed: £589.

18/99F

MATTERS OF URGENT REPORT

- i. Cllr Price gave an up-date on the 67 bus route: there had been two meetings and three amendments to the route including the addition of a stop at Wells Market Place.
There appears to be some S.106 funding from the Bovis Homes development in St Cuthbert Out parish.
Cllr Price asked for a budget allocation and was asked to bring a specific proposal to the next meeting.
- ii. Cross-street wires
The Chairman reported there has been further damaged to the wires across the High Street and to the front of properties, due to mis-use by third parties putting up advertising banners.
The City Council is looking into the costs to public money of the necessary repairs and will discuss a way forward to support the community events to put up their banners safely.

18/100F

PROPERTIES

- i. Post Office lease:
Post Office Ltd has asked for a further lease extension of three months. After consideration, it was agreed to suggest that a longer extension might be preferred, as there are legal costs to every renewal, at public expense.
- ii. The Council has completed repairs to damage at the Post Office due to water seepage.

18/101F

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 7pm Thursday 8th November 2018