

WELLS CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, WELLS TOWN HALL, ON THURSDAY 10TH MARCH 2016 AT 7.00PM

PRESENT: Cllrs: M Brandon; C Briton; J North; C Price(Vice-Chairman); T Robbins (Chairman); H Siggs; D Swain

IN ATTENDANCE: Town Clerk: F White
RFO: S Luck
2 members of the public

16/21F APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr G Wilson (the Mayor)

It was agreed to vary the order on the agenda taking confidential matters at the end of the meeting.

16/22F DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive Councillors' Declarations of Interests, made under the Council's Code of Conduct adopted 26th July 2012.

Cllrs North declared a personal interest as Trustee, in Wells Recreation Ground Trust; see 16/31F.

16/23F MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 11TH FEBRUARY 2016

Minutes of the previous meeting were proposed, seconded, approved and signed.

16/24F MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Representative of Wells Chess Club presented the community grant application. (Cllr Siggs arrived)

16/25F FINANCE REPORT

i. To receive the financial reports for February 2016:

The bank statements and accounts had been checked prior to the meeting. The accounts for February 2016 were proposed, seconded and approved.

ii. Future Audit provision: Following a report from the RFO

a. It was proposed, seconded and agreed to opt in to the future Somerset Association of Local Councils external Audit scheme.

b. It was proposed, seconded and agreed to continue to appoint Probusiness as the City Council's Internal Audit provider.

iii. Visitor Information Website project The Town Clerk reported that grant funding from Mendip Tourism Ltd for the visitor information website project has been refused. It was agreed to place £5,000 in ear-marked reserves to the new financial year, for set-up costs to enable the project to go ahead. The Town Clerk to check the Council minutes to see what decision was recorded on this project.

iv. Housing Needs Survey quotes and funding application: After consideration of financial regulations, the committee instructed the Town Clerk to approach a second provider and to bring two itemised comparative quotes to the committee before submitting funding applications.

16/26F COMMUNITY GRANT APPLICATION

Wells Chess Club £500 (LGA s.137 payment)

Proposed, seconded and approved.

Members were in agreement that the expenditure would be commensurate with

the benefit to parishioners.

16/27F

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE REVIEWS

To approve new criteria for allocation of Discretionary grants: **RESOLVED**

16/28F

PROPERTIES up-date

- i. Toilets
- ii. Post Office

The Town Clerk provided a verbal report; progress was approved.

16/29F

MATTERS OF URGENT REPORT

No further matters

16/30F

EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Due to the confidential nature of information to be received, it was proposed by the Chairman that a resolution be passed under the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 as amended, excluding the press and public: **RESOLVED**

16/31F

WELLS RECREATION GROUND TRUST Up-date

Cllrs North and Siggs each declared a personal interest as trustees in Wells Recreation Ground Trust and left the meeting.

The Town Clerk and RFO gave a report. It was resolved to pursue discussions along the lines of working with the existing Trust (Mendip District Council)

16/32F

DATE OF NEXT MEETING : 7pm Thursday 14th April 2016