

Minutes of the SPECIAL Meeting of the FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE held at the Town Council Offices, Bradbourne Vale Road, Sevenoaks on Monday 19 December 2011 at 7:00pm.

PRESENT

Cllr R L Piper (Chairman)
Cllr A Eyre (Vice Chairman)

Cllr J M Canet	Cllr R J Parry
Cllr G R S Clack	Cllr S G Raikes
Cllr A S Clayton	Cllr P E Towell
Cllr R M C Hogarth	Cllr Mrs P C Walshe
Cllr Mrs M A London (SO 15a iv)	(11)

In Attendance

Town Clerk
Deputy Town Clerk
Responsible Finance Officer

Apologies for Absence

Cllr Mrs M E Crabtree and Mrs A E Dawson
Committee Clerk

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No members of the public were present at the meeting.

288 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following disclosures of interest from Members in respect of items of business included on the agenda were received:-

Cllr R J Parry being a Member of Kent County Council, stated he would reconsider matters to be discussed at this meeting at County level, taking into account all relevant evidence and representations at Kent County Council.

Cllr R J Parry, being a member of Kent & Medway Fire & Rescue, stated that he would reconsider matters to be discussed at this meeting at the Authority, taking into account all relevant evidence and representations at Kent and Medway Fire and Rescue Authority.

Cllrs A Eyre, R M C Hogarth, R L Piper, S G Raikes and P E Towell being Members of Sevenoaks District Council stated that they would reconsider matters to be discussed at this meeting at District level, taking into account all relevant evidence and representations at Sevenoaks District Council.

Cllrs R L Piper, R M C Hogarth and S G Raikes declared a personal interest being members of a Stag Community Arts Centre's user group.

289 MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED that** the minutes of the meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on 7 November 2011 be signed by the Chairman.

290 SEVENOAKS SUMMER FESTIVAL

- a) A report on the 2011 Sevenoaks Summer festival was received and noted. It was agreed to write and thank the Festival organisers for their hard work in making the Festival so successful and the positive effect this had on the town.
- b) The Committee received and considered the application for Grant Aid for the 2012 Sevenoaks Summer Festival.

It was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that:

A grant of £5000 be made to Sevenoaks Summer Festival and discussion be held to establish if the Town Council is able to assist in supporting the 2012 Festival by other non financial means.

291 HSBC

The HSBC resolution for a banking mandate was received.

It was RESOLVED that

The Bank Resolution be adopted subject to the wording being strengthened and job titles being inserted.

292 2012/2013 DRAFT REVENUE ESTIMATES

The previous Finance and General Purposes meeting [Minute 218 (a) ii] Resolved: To reduce the budget by 5 -10% with a view to submitting revised 2012 / 2013 Revenue Estimates at the next Finance and General Purposes meeting to be held on 16th January 2012.

A report had been circulated with the Agenda providing the following papers:-

- i) 2012 / 2013 Budget Review
- ii) Appendix A - Officer recommendations for budget savings
- iii) Appendix B - Additional recommendations for savings
- iv) Appendix C - F&GP Chairman recommendations

Appendix C was considered by the Committee.

It was RESOLVED that

The figures in Option C be taken forward to the next meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee for inclusion in the 2012/13 Revenue Estimates. The Band D Precept for 2012/13 remains unchanged at £77.49 [copies attached].

293 MILL POND

It was noted that the freehold of The Millpond has been offered to the Town Council with a dowry of £6,000. The Chairmen of Open Spaces and Leisure and Finance and General Purposes Committees were given executive authority, together with the Town Clerk, to negotiate on behalf of the Town Council at the meeting of the Open Spaces Committee held on 14 March 2011.

It was RESOLVED that

- i). A report be submitted to the Finance & General Purposes Committee in January 2012 in respect of the liabilities in taking over the freehold of the site and if it were financially viable, the benefits to the local community. Any negotiations would be subject to Kent County Council being responsible for the maintenance of the silt traps.
- ii). A site visit be arranged for Councillors.

294 YOUTH CAFÉ

A report from the Town Clerk regarding the Youth Cafe was received and considered.

It was RESOLVED that

- i). Options 1 [platform lift] and 4 [ramp] contained in the report be taken forward for further consideration.
- ii). Drawings be made available to Councillors in respect of Option 4.
- iii). The Chief Executive, together with Cllr Mrs Dawson, take forward the discussions concerning disability access with the Access Group as soon as possible
- iv). A report be submitted to the next meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee in January 2012
- v) A site meeting for Councillors be arranged.

295 PRESS RELEASE

The grant to the Sevenoaks Summer Festival was considered worthy of a press release.

The meeting closed at 8.24pm

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Chairman's signature

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Date