



# RYDE

## TOWN COUNCIL

### **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE RYDE TOWN COUNCIL FINANCE COMMITTEE  
HELD AT 7PM ON 26<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2016 IN THE COUNCIL MEETING ROOM,  
COUNCIL OFFICES, 10 LIND STREET, RYDE, ISLE OF WIGHT.

PRESENT: Councillors Roi Milburn (Chairman), Henry Adams, Adrian Axford,  
Conrad Gauntlett, Tim Wakeley, David Woodard

IN ATTENDANCE: Gareth Hughes (Responsible Financial Officer) Liz Dutton  
(Administration Officer) Ian Jenkins, Mark Haslam (Ryde Arena)

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME: There were no members of the public present

#### 94/16 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Warren.

#### 95/16 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Gauntlett declared a non-pecuniary interest in minute no. 98/16 as a trustee  
of Ryde Arena.

#### 96/16 MINUTES

##### RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 28 September 2016 be  
approved as an accurate record and be signed by the Chairman.

#### 97/16 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

No questions were asked.

98/16 RYDE ARENA

The Chairman welcomed Ian Jenkins and Mark Haslam to the meeting. He explained that this was in order provide Ryde Arena Limited with an opportunity to put on public record how the Town Council's funding award to the Arena had been used. Ian Jenkins explained to members how the recent grant of £10,000 had been used and gave an update as to the current situation with the lease, recent rent demands and the current condition of the premises. He confirmed that the locks on the building had been changed, the Isle of Wight Council had been informed and clarification through legal channels was being sought. He informed the meeting that staff had been made redundant and an application to windup the business had been made. An update was also given on the action taken by the landlords relating to the chillers and the breaking up of the ice. Members asked a number of questions relating to the lease and rent as well as the condition of the ice and any risk of possible pollution. Members noted that the recent money from the insurance had been paid directly to the landlord. After receiving details of how the grant money had been used to purchase glycol and to replace the circulation system members requested sight of any relevant invoices together with any associated labour costs. Ian confirmed that these could be forwarded to the Town Council. Before leaving, Ian Jenkins and Mark Haslam were thanked for attending the meeting.

99/16 2017/18 LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE SETTLEMENT CONSULTATION PAPER

Consideration was given to the report of the Responsible Financial Officer on the proposals for the application of referendum principles to increases in Council Tax by local parish and town councils. The Committee endorsed the view of Isle of Wight Association of Local Councils (a copy of their letter addressed to the MP was circulated) that the referendum principles should not be extended to parish and town councils. The Committee noted that the Council had incurred significant costs in respect of transferred services that they had already taken on from the Isle of Wight Council prior to the proposed introduction of these proposals.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL:

That a response be sent setting out the views of the Finance Committee in respect of the Local Government Finance Settlement 2017-18 Technical Consultation Paper.

100/16 EXTERNAL AUDIT OF ANNUAL RETURN 2016

Consideration was given to the findings of the External Auditor following the audit of the annual return.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL:

That the report of the External Auditor on the Town Council's 2016 audit be accepted.

101/16

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Finance Committee would be held on Wednesday 30 November 2016.

CHAIRMAN

DATE