



RYDE

TOWN COUNCIL

FINANCE COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE RYDE TOWN COUNCIL FINANCE COMMITTEE
HELD AT 7PM ON 25 JANUARY 2017 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, Malcolm Ross, Tim Wakeley, Phil Warren, David Woodward

IN ATTENDANCE: Gareth Hughes (Responsible Financial Officer) Liz Dutton (Administration Officer), Mr Monaghan, Mrs Newberry

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME: Mrs Newberry asked a question concerning grant applications and Mr Monaghan asked questions regarding the grant application process and a previous grant application that he had submitted.

1/17 APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

2/17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Adams declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute No.5/17 as he was a member of Ryde Rowing Club

Mrs Dutton declared a pecuniary interest in minute no 5/17 as she held the position of Clerk to the Trustees of the Phoenix Project

3/17 MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 30 November 2016 be approved as an accurate record and be signed by the Chairman.

4/17 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

Cllr Gauntlett asked if the town council had grown large enough to consider having a scrutiny panel. The Chairman answered that this may be a matter for the incoming council to consider following the elections in May.

5/17 WARD ALLOCATIONS

Consideration was given to the following ward allocations:

Cllrs Axford, Woodward and J Moore jointly requested that their ward allocation be split equally between The Isle of Wight Street Pastors, Ryde Alzheimer's Café and the Phoenix Project. Cllrs Milburn and Adams requested £250 and £50 respectively be given to the Isle of Wight Music Dance and Drama Festival. Cllr Warren requested his ward allocation be split equally between Haylands Farm and (SONUS) Residential Home for the Deaf. Cllr D Moore requested his ward allocation go to Ryde Rowing Club.

RESOLVED:

That the following ward allocations be granted:

The Isle of Wight Street Pastors	£250
Ryde Alzheimer's Café	£250
Phoenix Project	£250
IW Music Dance and Drama Festival	£300
Haylands Farm	£125
SONUS Residential Home for the Deaf	£125
Ryde Rowing Club	£250

6/17 TIMETABLE FOR MARKETING GRANTS 2016-2017

The Committee noted the timetable for the second round of marketing grants for 2016/17.

7/17 REPORT FROM THE FOOTPRINT TRUST - WARMER HOMES INITIATIVE

Consideration was given to the report and invoice received from the Footprint Trust regarding home visits and provision of energy saving measures. The Responsible Financial Officer confirmed that accounts had been received from the Footprint Trust and were satisfactory.

RESOLVED:

THAT the report be noted and the invoice be approved.

8/17 BANK RECONCILIATION

The bank reconciliation for the period 1 April 2016 to 31 December 2016 was received and noted.

9/17 BUDGET & PRECEPT UPDATE 2017-2018

The Responsible Financial Officer introduced the report setting out a budget based on current levels of services and precept for the 2017/18 financial year. Members received the report and noted the previously agreed increases in park services to include bin emptying. Members were reminded that the Town Council was committed to delivering a youth service in Ryde from April 2017 and budgetary provision would need to be provided. Members noted the proposed increases in the budget for parks equipment to reflect a possible reduction in funding from IWC. Members also noted the level of reserves that were required to be maintained.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL:

- (a) That the net precept (after deduction of Council Tax Support Grant) for 2017/18 be set at £740,188 representing a Band D Council Tax of £93.82.
- (b) That the approved minimum level of the Town Council's financial reserves be set at £120,000.
- (c) That the budget allocated to parks services be increased by £11,000 to £47,800 to allow for additional bin emptying by the Isle of Wight Council in the town's principal parks and community gardens.
- (d) That the budget allocated for the repair or replacement playground equipment be increased from £7,000 to £24,000 to reflect that matched capital funding from the Isle of Wight Council may no longer be available for this purpose

10/17 ONLINE BANKING ARRANGEMENTS

Consideration was given to the report which set out current on line banking arrangements. The Responsible Financial Officer outlined proposed changes in moving to a free services called 'Light Bankline' which would give additional members of staff a view only access to bank transactions.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL:

That the Town Council approve the use of the National Westminster Bank's Light Bankline service.

11/17 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED:

THAT in accordance with Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 s1 (2) and Standing Order no.80, the public and press

be temporarily excluded for the following item in view of the confidential nature of the business to be discussed.

12/17 CONFIDENTIAL REPORT – CONTRACT FOR CLEANING BEACHES

Consideration was given to the confidential report of the Procurement Adviser concerning the cleaning of beaches.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL:

That recommendations 1 and 2 as set out in the confidential report be approved.

13/17 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Finance Committee would be held on Wednesday 15 February 2017.

CHAIRMAN

DATE