



RYDE

TOWN COUNCIL

FINANCE COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE RYDE TOWN COUNCIL FINANCE COMMITTEE
HELD AT 7PM ON WEDNESDAY 26 JULY 2017 IN THE IN THE COUNCIL MEETING
ROOM, COUNCIL OFFICES, 10 LIND STREET, RYDE, ISLE OF WIGHT.

PRESENT: Councillors Tim Wakeley (Chairman), Henry Adams, Adrian Axford,
Charles Chapman, Jim Moody, Malcolm Ross

IN ATTENDANCE: Gareth Hughes (Responsible Financial Officer), Liz Dutton
(Administration Officer), Cllr Michael Lilley, Ian Jenkins, Mark
Haslam (Waterside Pool Trust), Ray Harrington-Vail (Warmer
Ryde Initiative)

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME: There were no questions from members of the public.

67/17 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllrs Lucioni and Whittle.

68/17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations declared at this stage.

69/17 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

No written requests had been received.

70/17 MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 20 June 2017 be
approved as an accurate record and be signed by the Chairman.

71/17 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

There were no questions from members.

72/17 NOTING OF THE MAYOR'S CHARITY

The Committee noted that the Mayor's charity for the year was Aspire and the Isle of Wight Bus and Coach Museum.

73/17 ANNUAL RENEWAL OF THE TOWN COUNCIL'S INSURANCE WITH ZURICH

With the agreement of the Chairman this item was moved forward on the agenda. The annual renewal of the insurance was noted.

74/17 DIRECT DEBITS FOR 2017/18

With the agreement of the Chairman this item was moved forward on the agenda. Members noted the current list of direct debits that were set up on the bank account.

75/17 WATERSIDE COMMUNITY TRUST, RYDE

A presentation was received from Directors, Ian Jenkins and Mark Haslam who updated the Committee as to the company's activity over the past year and their future plans. These included the re-grouting of the pool, refurbishment of the changing rooms and repairs to the roof. An annual review and summary forecast for 2016/17 were circulated at the meeting. It was noted that staff costs remained the largest expenditure. The meeting was informed that the Company was in the process of converting to a charity which would hopefully allow them to access additional grant funding. The Committee were also informed of the reasons for the recent name change from Waterside Community Trust to Ryde Pool Limited. Mention was made of a water leak resulting in low water pressure at the Splash Park and members requested to be kept informed of the progress of representations that would be made to Isle of Wight Council and Southern Water. Members expressed disappointment at a recent decision taken not to hold further AGM's as they believed this did not further transparency or communication with users. The Directors outlined advice taken and the reasons for the decision. The Chairman thanked Ian Jenkins and Mark Haslam for attending the meeting. The Committee noted the release of the Town Councils funding support for 2017/18 of £30,000.

76/17 THE FOOTPRINT TRUST – WARMER HOMES IN RYDE INITIATIVE

Ray Harrington-Vail from the Footprint Trust attended the meeting and updated members on the progress of the Warmer Homes initiative in Ryde which was nearing the end of its first year.

The scheme involved visiting people in their own homes to give tailored advice on energy bills and in certain circumstances financial help for the purchase of white goods. It was noted that Ryde had a high level of fuel poverty and those

affected were more likely to be outside the usual social networks. Since being set up the scheme has visited and advised 88 people and had funded the purchase of 15 appliances to households. Members asked a number of questions relating to funding and operating costs. Ray Harrington Vail was thanked by the Chairman for the presentation and left the meeting. Consideration was given to the payment of the invoice for home visits and the provision of energy saving measures and members noted previous authorisation from Full Council to approve quarterly invoices.

RESOLVED:

That the invoice for Quarter 1 (April- June 2017) be approved.

77/17 BUDGET MONITOR

The Responsible Financial Officer introduced the budget monitor for the first quarter and sought agreement for the virement funds for some budget headings. It was noted that the general administration budget had not been increased for time but had seen an increase in staff and services. It was requested that the training budget needed to be increased as new members of staff had joined the organisation. The cleaning budget had also risen. Following questions, the RFO agreed to send the budget papers to all members and to go give an explanation to the budget headings for members. The Chairman informed the Committee that following anti-social behaviour in and around the skatepark consideration had been given to the provision of additional security measures costing in the region of £5,000.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That general administration be increased by £5,000, training be increased by £1,000 and cleaning be increased by £2,000 making a total of £8,000 to be met from reserves.
- (ii) That £5,000 from reserves be allocated to the Skatepark to assist with additional security measures.

78/17 COMPLETION REPORTS

The Committee noted the completion reports for Harp on Wight and the Methodist Church, Ryde that had been received following an award of a grant.

79/17 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 items in view of the confidential nature of the business to be discussed.

80/17 CONFIDENTIAL REPORT – IT MAINTENANCE AND WEBSITE SUPORT – ANNUAL AGREEMENT

Consideration was given to the confidential report on IT maintenance and website support, with a view to moving towards a service level agreement in order to meet the growing and future needs of the Town Council.

RESOLVED:

That the annual budget be increased to £5,500 (from reserves) in accordance with the recommendation from the RFO and for a service level agreement to be entered into with the named provider on the terms set out in the confidential report.

81/17 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was noted that no meeting would take place in August. The next meeting of the Finance Committee would be held on Thursday 21 September 2017.

CHAIRMAN

DATE