



RYDE

TOWN COUNCIL

FINANCE COMMITTEE

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE RYDE TOWN COUNCIL FINANCE COMMITTEE
HELD AT 7PM ON WEDNESDAY 22 NOVEMBER 2017 IN THE IN THE COUNCIL
MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL OFFICES, 10 LIND STREET, RYDE, ISLE OF WIGHT.**

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Gareth Hughes (Responsible Financial Officer), Liz Dutton (Administration Officer), 5 members of the public

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

111/17 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Adams, Jordan, Lucioni and Whittle.

112/17 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Moody declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 9, Ryde Arts Festival as also in Ryde Carnival Association, as the appointed Ryde Town Council representative and Ryde Rotary Club.

Councillor Chapman declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 9, Red Squirrel Trust.

Councillor Ross declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 9, as a member of Ryde Carnival Association

113/17 **REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS**

No written requests had been received.

114/17 **MINUTES**

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 17 October 2017 be approved as an accurate record and be signed by the Chairman.

115/17 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

There were none.

116/17 MAYORS CHARITY 2016

The Committee noted that the Mayor had recently presented a cheque for £850 to Haylands Farm, his charity for the previous year.

117/17 BANK RECONCILIATION

Members received and noted the bank reconciliation for the period 1 April to 30 September 2017.

118/17 WARD ALLOCATIONS

Consideration was given to Councillor Whittle request for a ward allocation to the Vernon Square Trust in order to continue looking after the Square.

RESOLVED:

That a ward allocation of £250 be granted to the Vernon Square Trust.

119/17 MARKETING GRANTS

(a) Friends of Appley Park

Consideration was given to an application for a grant to increase the number of community events in Ryde outside of the main summer season.

RESOLVED:

That a grant of £400 be awarded.

(b) Ryde Rowing Club

An application was received for the annual rowing regatta from Ryde Rowing Club.

RESOLVED:

That a grant of £750 be awarded.

(c) Ryde Business Association

An application had been received for a grant for the Shop Local Promotion. Members recognised that although the promotion was likely to encourage people to visit the town, the view was expressed that as the promotion was purely commercial in nature it fell outside the criteria of the marketing strategy and therefore the application was declined.

RESOLVED:

That a grant be declined

(d) Ancient & Honourable Guild of Town Criers

Consideration was given to the application from the Town Crier for a Town Criers Competition. Members noted that some of the questions on the form had not been completed and there was a lack of evidence of how the event would market Ryde as a destination and therefore did not satisfy the criteria set out in the marketing strategy.

RESOLVED:

That a grant be declined.

(e) Charity Classic Car Extravaganza

Members considered the grant application to hold a 2-day event (one day in Ryde and the other in Newport) for classic cars and motorcycles. Members noted that although part of the event was scheduled to take place in Newport no evidence of any partnership funding from Newport Parish Council had been supplied.

RESOLVED:

That a grant of £1450 be awarded.

(f) Wight Squirrel Project (IOW Red Squirrel Trust)

Consideration was given to a grant for the 25th anniversary celebrations of the Wight Squirrel project. Members recognised the high profile of the organisation but believed that as the interest and activities were Island wide it would be good to see funding from other parish and town councils being applied for.

RESOLVED:

That a grant of £500 be awarded.

(g) Isle of Wight Webcams

Consideration was given an application for a grant to install a live webcam overlooking Appley Beach. Members supported the marketing project but had concerns over privacy. The applicant was present at the meeting and at the discretion of the Chairman was invited to clarify the technical details. The applicant confirmed that the camera would be set to a fixed position with no sound and would be live and not recorded.

RESOLVED:

That a grant of £1500 be awarded.

(h) Rotary Club of Ryde

Members considered an application for Party on the Green 2018. Members noted that the event had been very successful in previous years.

RESOLVED:

That a grant of £1500 be awarded.

(i) Ryde Arts Festival

Consideration was given to the application from Ryde Arts Festival for their event 'Threads' in 2018.

RESOLVED:

That a grant of £1500 be awarded.

(j) World Village Project Ltd

Members considered the application from World Village Project Ltd who planned to hold a series of five multi arts events at Aspire in Ryde.

RESOLVED:

That a grant of £1000 be awarded.

(k) Isle of Wight Pride

Consideration was given to the Isle of Wight Pride (UK Pride 2018) weekend of events to be held in July 2018 around the Island with a strong focus in Ryde.

RECOMMENDATION TO FULL COUNCIL:

That a marketing grant of £2,000 be awarded.

(l) Harp on Wight

Members considered an application for the Harp on Wight event to be held next year. Members noted that not all the costs applied for related to marketing of the event.

RESOLVED:

That a grant of £1500 be awarded.

(m) The New Carnival Company

Members considered the application from the New Carnival Company for the Mardi Gras 2018 with a theme entitled 'Global Biospheres'.

RESOLVED:

That a grant of £1500 be awarded.

(n) Ryde Carnival Association

Consideration was given to the marketing grant application received from Ryde Carnival Association for Ryde Carnival Week. Members were supportive of the event but noted that not all costs listed were connected with marketing.

RECOMMENDATION TO FULL COUNCIL:

That a marketing grant of £2,000 be awarded.

120/17

BEACH SAFETY AND FIRST AID CONTRACT

Members were informed that the Council currently had in place a contract for the organisation and delivery of beach safety (lifeguards) and first aid service following the Isle of Wight Council's withdrawal of a lifeguard service in 2010. The service was provided during the Whitsun half term and then again from July through to the beginning of September.

Members were advised that in order to continue this service a procurement process was required to be undertaken. The value of the existing contracts was above the delegated authority of the Clerk to the Council and therefore approval was required so that a contract could be in place by the end of March 2018 with a service in place by the end of May 2018. It was also recommended that in order to achieve best value the length of contract would be for a period of 4 years with the potential

to extend by a further year. Members were informed that due to the expected total value of the contracts would exceed £75,000, a full tendering process would need to be commenced.

Members were reminded that there was currently budget provision for this service contained within the 2017 – 2018 budget of the Council and that Council was about to commence its budget and precept setting process for 2018-19.

RECOMMENDATION TO FULL COUNCIL:

- (i) That the existing specification for the beach safety and first aid service be retained and that a procurement process be commenced in accordance with the Councils approved contract standing orders so that new contract arrangements could be put in place to enable the continuance of this service.
- (ii) That the contract be awarded for a period of 4 years, with a potential maximum of one-year extension to be agreed by the Council, to maximise contractor interest in the service, enable economy of scale to be achieved and give best value to the Council.

121/17

TOILET CLEANING CONTRACT

Consideration was given to the options for the future cleansing and minor maintenance of the four public conveniences located within the Ryde area. Members were advised that the transfer of the freehold titles to Ryde Town Council for Appley Park, Eastern Esplanade and St Johns Road had been completed on 30 October 2017, with the Leasehold title to Western Esplanade being completed on the same date.

Members were reminded that the Council had agreed to enter into an initial 12-month Call-Off Contract with Top Mops Contract Cleaning Ltd to undertake public convenience cleaning and minor maintenance works and that approval had been given to extend the Call-Off contract by a further 12 months as allowed for within the Framework Agreement. There was no provision to further extend the contract which was due to end on 31 March 2018.

To enable a new contract to be in place with a private sector provider it would be necessary to commence a procurement procedure. Details were given in the report of the annual value and length of the contract. As the value was above the Clerks delegated authority approval needed to be obtained before a procurement process could commence.

Members considered that taking the service in house would have significant costs (including staffing) along with other implications as detailed in the report and therefore was not a viable option. Members requested confirmation that the contractor awarded the contract would

meet at least the minimum standards in relation to employment rights and protection.

RECOMMENDATION TO FULL COUNCIL:

That Option 2 as detailed in the attached report be approved as the best value and most economic option.

122/17 COMPLETION REPORT

The Committee noted the completion reports from Ryde Saints Football Club and Ryde Carnival Association that had been received following an award of a grant.

123/17 LETTER OF THANKS

Members noted a letter of thanks that had been received following a ward allocation.

124/17 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Finance Committee would be held on Wednesday 24 January 2017.

CHAIRMAN

DATE