

OPEN SESSION: There were no members of the public present.

MINUTES OF THE POLICY & FINANCE COMMITTEE

Held on 20th January 2010 at 7.35pm

PRESENT: Cllr J D Heron (Chairman)
Cllr W S Rippon-Swaine (Vice Chairman)
Cllr N R G Clarke
Cllr L C Ford
Cllr B Woodfield

IN ATTENDANCE: Terry Simpson, Town Clerk
Martin Townsend, Finance Manager
Claire Perrens, Meetings Administrator
Simon Hookins, Student Advisor
Cassie Ware, Student Advisor

F/4519 APOLOGIES

The Town Clerk reported that apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Brian Terry, Cllr Chard and Cllr Urwin.

F/4520 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

F/4521 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 16th December 2009, having been circulated, be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

F/4522 MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS

Members considered the Monthly Financial Reports attached to these minutes as *Annex 'A'*. Following a question from Cllr Woodfield, it was noted that the Town Mayor had herself kindly part funded an official badge for the Mayor's Consort (£325.73 of the net cost of £425.73 recharged to the Town Mayor as shown in *Annex 'A' Item 4 a*).

RESOLVED:

- 1) That the list of cheque payments on the Imprest account be authorised. Cllrs Heron and Rippon-Swaine signed the report.
- 2) That the list of Petty Cash payments be authorised. Cllrs Heron and Rippon-Swaine signed the report.
- 3) That the Statement of Town Council Balances be received and noted.
- 4) That the Inter Account Transfer be authorised. Cllrs Heron and Rippon-Swaine signed the report.
- 5) That the Finance Manager's report and Summary Budget Reports be received and noted.

ACTION Martin Townsend

F/4523
RINGWOOD FESTIVAL

Members considered the minutes of the meeting of the Ringwood Festival Steering Committee attached as *Annex 'B'*. It was noted that the Rock Concert would be postponed until 2011, in order to allow time for fundraising, and to provide a main focus in the year when there was no Pedal Car Grand Prix. All funds raised would be accounted for and held by the Town Council in the interim.

Members noted that a wedding had been booked at the parish Church of St Peter and St Paul, in the Market Place, on the normal date of the Festival (second weekend in July) for 2012. It would be preferable in future if priority could be given to ensure this weekend is kept clear for the Festival, but in this case the Chairman suggested that the Festival could be scheduled for the third weekend in July 2012.

RESOLVED:

- 1) That the minutes of the Ringwood Festival Steering Committee held on 11th January 2010, and the proposals therein, be approved; and
- 2) That the Festival Committee consider scheduling the 2012 Festival for the third weekend in July, due to the booking of a wedding for the second weekend.

ACTION Sue Godwin

F/4524
GRANT AID

Members considered applications for Grant Aid from Victim Support South Western Division requesting £300 and New Forest North Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) requesting £1,000. The Finance Manager pointed out that only £513 was available in the budget. It would not be possible to provide the same level of grants given in previous years within budget. However, further funds could be made available by means of a virement from other under spent budget items. Members debated the merits of each organisation, but the majority concluded that New Forest North Citizens CAB, which had clearly indicated that it helped over 400 Ringwood residents, should receive a higher level of support.

RESOLVED:

- 1) That a virement of £437 from under spent budget items to the Grant Aid budget be approved;
- 2) That, under section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, a grant of £750 be awarded to New Forest North Citizens Advice Bureau;
- 3) That, under section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, a grant of £200 be awarded to Victim Support South Western Division; and
- 4) That all applicants from this date be advised that there were no funds available for Grant Aid until the new financial year 1st April 2010.

ACTION Alyson Greenfield

F/4525
CYCLE ROUTE PROPOSALS

Members considered a Recommendation from the Planning, Town & Environment Committee suggesting that it might be appropriate if the need for cycle parking in the Market Place could be taken up by the Jubilee Lamp Working Party.

That further to Recommendation P/4729 CYCLE ROUTE PROPOSALS made by the Planning, Town & Environment Committee on 8th January 2010, it be

RESOLVED: That the issue of cycle parking in the Market Place be added to the remit of the Jubilee Lamp Working Party.

ACTION Terry Simpson / Jubilee Lamp Working Party
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F/4526

LAND BETWEEN CASTLEMAN TRAIL AND THE MILLSTREAM

Members considered a Recommendation from the Recreation, Leisure & Open Space Committee regarding a project to create access to land between Castleman Trail and the Millstream. The Town Clerk reported that the meeting held between the interested parties on this project had been very successful and that the family of the late Raymond Brown were actively considering a name for the land in question.

That further to Recommendation OS/5170 LAND BETWEEN CASTLEMAN TRAIL AND THE MILLSTREAM made by the Recreation, Leisure & Open Spaces Committee on 13th January 2010, it be

RESOLVED:

- 1) That proposals to create access from the south of Castleman Trail to the triangular area of land in the Council's ownership be approved; and
- 2) That in the event of the scheme proceeding, the family of the late Raymond Brown select an appropriate name for the site.

ACTION Terry Simpson

F/4527

OFFICIAL CALENDAR FOR RINGWOOD TOWN COUNCIL 2011

Members considered commissioning Local Authority Publishing to produce an official calendar for 2011. This could be delivered free of charge to every household within the town, due to the sales of advertising space within it. Members felt that this was an excellent idea. The Chairman had access to some good photographs, but was concerned that priority should be given to Ringwood companies and traders when advertising spaces were sold.

RESOLVED:

- 1) That production of an official calendar for Ringwood, free of charge, be approved; and
- 2) That further information be obtained regarding terms and conditions for the sale of advertising space in the calendar in order to ensure Ringwood businesses are given priority.

ACTION Terry Simpson

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.15pm.

Note: The text in the Action Boxes above does not form part of these minutes.

RECEIVED & ADOPTED
24th February 2010

TOWN MAYOR

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN