

BARNSTAPLE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of The Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting held on Monday, 25th November 2019 at 7.00pm in The Guildhall, Butchers Row, Barnstaple.

Present: J Phillips (Chairman)
V Monk, J Carter J Wilsher, L York, A Shah, J Slee, V Nel & J Orange.

Also, in attendance: Mr R Ward Town Clerk.

FG045 Apologies

Apologies, as recorded on the attendance sheet were received from V Elkins, I Roome, J Hunt & A Rennles.

FG045 Declarations and Dispensations

Councillors J Phillips, L York & J Orange as members of North Devon Council, declared a dispensation under SO65 to discuss and vote on any item on the agenda unless the item refers to a financial or legal agreement or dispute between the two authorities.

FG046 Minutes

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 14th October 2019 be approved and signed as a correct record.

(NC)

FG047 Financial Reports

a) RESOLVED: That the Budget Variance Report be received and noted.

(NC)

b) RESOLVED: That the Bank Transactions report be received and noted.

(NC)

c) RESOLVED: That the Business Direct Reserve Account and petty cash account for Barum House be received and noted.

(NC)

d) RESOLVED: That the Aged Debtors and Aged Creditors Analysis and Nominal Balances reports be received and noted.

(NC)

e) RESOLVED: That the Direct Debits and Credit Card reports be received and noted.

(NC)

FG048 Civic & Ceremonial Budgets Working Group

RESOLVED: To note the feedback from the working group in particular in relation to setting proposed budgets for Special Events, the Barnstaple Fair and the upgrading of the Councillor Robes, further work is still to be undertaken on this including looking at whether robes could be made locally.

(NC)

FG049 Budget 2020-2021



The Town Council considered options for inclusion in the forthcoming budget proposal.

The Town Clerk explained the timeframe, this being a final decision for the budget and Precept at Full Council on Monday 20th January, with the submission to North Devon Council on Friday 25th January

Councillors discussed the need for support by larger charities in the town that have been impacted by austerity and may need funding in order to continue to operate, it was felt that:

- Clarity is needed on the purpose of the funds
- A business plan would be needed
- Multiple year funding would need to be considered
- Representation by the Town Council may be needed on the charity trustees.

RESOLVED: To include an option for funding for larger charities in the budget for 2020-2021, the sum to be agreed at the next Finance & General Purposes Committee.

(NC)

FG050 Community Governance Review

RESOLVED: To note that North Devon Council has contacted Town and Parish Councils to inform them that there is the option for a Community Governance Review to look at parish and ward boundaries.

(NC)

FG051 Landscape Contract

The Committee noted that a consultant has been appointed to review the current arrangements for open space management by the Town Council, the intention being to report to the next Finance & General Purposes Committee.

(NC)

FG052 Grant request from The Veterans Charity for £2,500 towards VE 75th Anniversary event to be held in May 2020

RESOLVED: To approve the grant request from the Veterans Charity.

(NC)

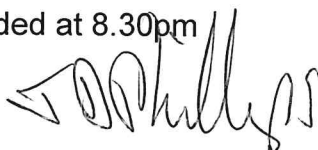
FG053 Operation London Bridge

RESOLVED: To adopt the updated "Policy & Protocol for the Death of the Sovereign or other Senior Royal or National Figure".

(NC)

Meeting ended at 8.30pm

Chairman.



Signed

Dated 13/1/20