

## BARNSTAPLE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE meeting held on MONDAY, 15<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2018 at 7.00pm in The Guildhall, Butchers Row, Barnstaple.

Present: Councillor S Upcott (Chairman)  
Councillor Mrs V Monk, Mr B Vernon, Mr A Windsor, Mr I Roome (Mayor Ex Officio), Mrs J Hunt, Cllr J Phillips, Mr J Carter, Mrs J Wilsher, Ms N Haywood, Mr M Kennaugh, Mr G Langford and Mrs L York.

Also in attendance: Mr R Ward Town Clerk.

### FG33 APOLOGIES

Apologies, as recorded on the attendance sheet were received from Cllr Mr J Williams, Mrs S Haywood and Mr A Rennles.

### FG34 DECLARATIONS AND DISPENSATIONS

Cllr Mrs J Hunt and Mr I Roome 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. Cllr J Phillips and Cllr J Hunt declared a dispensation under SO65 to discuss and vote on item 38 as they are members of the Barnstaple Athenaeum.

### FG35 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> September 2018 be approved and signed as a correct record.

(13:1abs)

### FG36 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)

FG37 ANNUAL RETURN

The Clerk presented the Annual Return including the report of the External Auditor. The report had not highlighted any matters of concern.

RESOLVED: That the report of the External Auditor be received and approved, and that the fee for the audit be approved for payment. (NC)

FG38 NORTH DEVON RECORDS OFFICE

The Town Clerk informed the meeting that he had met with the South West Heritage Trust on two occasions since the last meeting, on one of the occasions it was with representatives from Fremington Parish Council, he also attended the open day on 2<sup>nd</sup> October.

The South West Heritage Trust are reaching out to more Town & Parish Councils across the North Devon and Torridge District areas and will be attending the North Devon Parish Forum in November and is trying to do the same in the Torridge area.

There is currently a commitment from 3 councils beyond the current financial year with a total of £4,650PA committed.

Councillors engaged in a discussion about the way forward, asking the following

- How many Town & Parish Councils are there in the area? (post meeting note, there are 55 in North Devon and 57 in the Torridge district areas)
- Could a direct approach be made to the public?
- I was felt that it is the SWHT responsibility to undertake this sort of fundraising, if the Town Council is making a significant contribution.
- It makes sense that Barnstaple Town Council makes the largest contribution with the Records Office being in the town, but the contribution should be no more than £15,000.
- How long should the Town Council wait before it decides whether to continue to fund?
- The Town Clerk responded by suggesting that it probably needs to be by December in order to fit in with the budget cycle.

(NC)

Meeting ended at 7.20pm

Chairman.

Signed .....

Dated .....