

# BUCKFASTLEIGH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the **Finance Committee** meeting held in the Council Chamber on **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2016 at 7.30pm.**

**Present:** Councillors:- Neil Smith (Chair), Pam Barrett, Fanny Jackson, Mark Maish, Linus McCloskey, Andy Stokes and Judith Hart (Town Clerk/RFO)

## **Part I (Open to the Public)**

**16/36. Questions raised by the Public:** None

**16/37. Apologies:** None

**16/38. Declaration of Interests:** None

**16/39. To approve as a correct record and sign the Minutes of the Meeting held on 27.07.2016:**

Signed and approved by Councillor Neil Smith.

**Action:** Clerk to review the subscriptions and licences budget as agreed at the July meeting and to advertise the Elector Fund on the Council website.

**16/40. Budget Expenditure Reports 01.07.16 - 31.07.16 and 01.08.16 – 31.08.16:**

Noted

**16/41. Bank Payments Report 01.07.16 - 31.07.16 and 01.08.16 – 31.08.16:**

Noted.

**16/42. Revised Draft Financial Regulations for resolution at full Council:**

The Clerk explained that although the Council's Financial Regulations were satisfactory and had been reviewed annually, the Independent Auditor had recommended that the template provided by the National Association of Local Councils should be followed to ensure that up to date legislation is included and it was noted that the tender threshold should be increased to £25,000.

Members agreed that the Clerk should amend point 5.2 under Banking Arrangements and Authorisation of Payments so it more applicable to the day to day workings of the Council. It was also noted that the provision for a three year forecast under point 3.1 of Annual Estimates and Forward Planning would be useful in future budget planning.

**Action:** To recommend to October full Council to ratify the revised Financial Regulations subject to one amendment by the Clerk as detailed above.

**16/43. Items requiring Urgent Attention:** One item

A budget discussion took place in preparation for the community engagement event in October. It was agreed that key projects to be put to the community will include the proposals for a Town Ranger, a new CAB service, retaining and supporting Victoria Park and the swimming pool and youth provision. It was acknowledged that many local residents are not aware that the District Council is no longer responsible for the park which includes the play area and skate park and that this area is now dependent upon fund raising and grant streams.

Cllr Pam Barrett: The Council needs to examine the issues surrounding child poverty in Buckfastleigh with Teignbridge District Council to see what, if any measures and strategies are in place to alleviate this.

**Action:** Referred to November full Council as an agenda item.

Meeting closed at 8.02pm.