

BUCKFASTLEIGH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the **Finance Committee** meeting held in the Council Chamber on **Wednesday 26th October 2016 at 7.30pm.**

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

Part I (Open to the Public)

16/44. Questions raised by the Public: None

16/45. Apologies: Cllrs Mark Maish and Linus McCloskey

16/46. Declaration of Interests: Cllr Andy Stokes declared an interest in Agenda Item No. 10)

16/47. To approve as a correct record and sign the Minutes of the Meeting held on 28.09.2016:

Signed and approved by Councillor Neil Smith.

16/48. Budget Expenditure Report 01.09.16 - 30.09.16:

Noted

16/49. Bank Payments Report 01.09.16 - 30.09.16:

Noted.

16/50. Grant Applications:

The following grant applications were submitted to the Finance Committee by 30 September 2016 as follows: -

The Friendship Group – awarded £250.00

Devon Mega UK – application rejected as it did not meet the criteria of the Council's small grants policy. Clerk to invite a representative of this organisation to give a presentation on geocaching to the Tourism, Recreation and Economic Development Committee.

Buckfastleigh Pantomime Group – awarded £250.00

Buckfastleigh Christmas Fayre – awarded £250.00

Decision: All grant applications agreed by the Finance Committee as detailed above to be presented at the November Town Council meeting.

16/51. Review of subscriptions and licence payments:

Members reviewed the subscriptions and licence payments for the Council and agreed that membership of the Devon Association of Local Councils (DALC) is currently not good value at £622.47 + VAT for 2016/17.

Action: To recommend to November Town Council to cancel the 2017/18 subscriptions to both DALC and South West Councils.

16/52. Re-decoration of bus shelter at Higher Mill Lane/Furlong Close corner, Buckfast:

The Clerk reported that only one quote had been received for £370.00.

It was suggested that the Dorset, Devon and Cornwall Community Rehabilitation Programme is invited to undertake this work to the bus shelter and to ask as to whether they would be interested in any other suitable projects within the parish that would be of benefit to the community?

The Town Council is supportive of this rehabilitation initiative and believe it was the DDCCRC who recently cleared the Stockabrook leat which has received some positive comments from residents. The Council would like to take this opportunity to thank the group on behalf of the town.

Action: Clerk to submit an online application to nominate the above work as a community project. If this is unsuccessful, it was agreed that the re-decoration work is re-advertised.

16/53. Funding for a prototype e-notice board:

Request from Cllr Andy Stokes to purchase a PC USB for £60.00.

Decision: Agreed as within the spending powers of this Committee.

Cllr Andy Stokes: A 40" electronic notice board would cost £260.00 and could include the events uploaded to the website, information from community organisations, the Neighbourhood Plan etc. It is hoped that the notice board would attract sponsors and possible sites around the town are being looked at.

16/54. Analysis of feedback for the community engagement event- 'Where next for Buckfastleigh?':

Cllr Andy Stokes: The feedback forms from the event have been returned with only one negative comment from a local resident. There was good communication between the members of each group and overall a broad support for projects and a general agreement to increase the precept for 2017/18 to fund some of these projects.

The information on the feedback forms is being collated by Cllr Porter so that the results can be analysed.

It was suggested that the next participatory budget meeting is held in June 2017.

16/55. Budget and Precept 2017/18:

The budget and precept for the new financial year must be agreed at the January Town Council meeting to meet the precept submission deadline to the District Council in early February 2017. It was agreed that all the Town Councillors are invited to the November

Finance Committee to discuss this in detail and that a decision is made at the December full Council meeting following further feedback from the Council stall at the Christmas Fair.

A list of achievable projects need to be identified from all the suggested ideas and included in the new budget.

16/56: Items requiring Urgent Attention: None

Meeting closed at 8.50pm.