

Minutes of the Okehampton Town Council Policy and Resource Committee
held on Monday 16 March 2015 in the Council Chamber,
Town Hall, Okehampton at 7.00 pm

Committee Members Present: Councillor Mrs M McDonald (Chairman)
Councillor C Letchford
Councillor K Ball
Councillor T Cummings - until 7.50 pm
Councillor Mrs C Marsh
Councillor B Stephens - until 8.00 pm
Councillor B Tolley
Councillor Mrs J Yelland
Councillor P Vachon (Town Mayor)
Councillor Mrs J Goffey (Chairman, Property)
Councillor A Leech (Chairman, Planning)

In Attendance: P R Snell (Town Clerk)

| | Action |
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| 579. <u>Apologies for Absence</u> - None. | |
| 580. <u>Deferment of Business</u> - There were no members of the public present. | |
| 581. <u>Members' Questions</u> - None presented. | |
| 582. <u>Minutes</u> - The minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee held on Monday 16 February 2015 were approved and signed by the Chairman on the proposition of Councillor Yelland, seconded by Councillor Leech and agreed. | |
| 583. <u>Matters Arising</u> - Investments - the Clerk reported that the war bonds had now been repaid and that the Nationwide Business Account 6 month had been reinvested in the one year account to give a total of £20,359.10 invested. Committee noted. | |
| 584. <u>Grant Applications</u> - | |
| 584.1 <u>Okehampton Duke of Edinburgh Award</u> - Councillor Marsh declared a personal interest. The Committee considered a request for £430 to enable the purchase of 6 rucksacks. After discussion, and on the basis that this equipment was not to be treated as personal equipment, the award was proposed by Councillor Goffey, seconded Councillor Ball and agreed. | |
| 584.2 <u>Okehampton & District Community Transport Group</u> - Councillor Ball declared a personal interest. The Committee considered a request of a grant for £500 to assist in the purchase of a second office computer for the booking system during busy periods. After consideration, it was agreed to provide £500 as a section 137 grant on the proposition of Councillor Goffey, seconded by Councillor Stephens and agreed. | |
| 584.3 <u>Turning Tides Project</u> - The Clerk reported that this application had been withdrawn and would be resubmitted at a later stage. | |

- 585. Grant Acknowledgements, Feedback Forms and Unclaimed Grants** - The Clerk reported that acknowledgements had been received from the Citizens Advice Bureau, Okehampton Fairtrade Group and Okehampton United Ecclesiastical Charity.
- 586. Finances** - The Committee considered, agreed and adopted the management accounts for the month ended 28 February 2015 on the proposition of Councillor Ball, seconded Councillor Goffey.
- 587. Co-option to Casual Vacancies** - The Chairman introduced the draft package of information for the co-option of casual vacancies. After discussion, some minor amendments to the initial draft were agreed and it was agreed to resubmit the resulting package to the next P & R Committee for recommendation to the full Council.
- 588. Insurance Matters** -
- 588.1 Renewal and Extension of Long-term Agreement** - The Clerk reported on discussion with the brokers on renewal premium and the reduction in premium which could be achieved (£890.89) if the Council agreed an extension of the current 3 year long-term agreement to 5 years. The Committee agreed the extension of the long-term agreement on the proposal of Councillor McDonald, seconded Councillor Yelland.
- 588.2 Optional Cover** - The Committee agreed that the optional extension cover (including terrorism) be not taken up on the proposal of Councillor Stephens, seconded Councillor Goffey.
- 589. Members' Reports and Agenda Items** -
- (i) Chamber of Trade - Councillor Marsh reported that the gold rabbit trail hunt had been established again for this year after the success of the previous year. A Food and Folk Festival was scheduled for 4 July. There had been discussion on a replacement programme for tourist notice boards.
 - (ii) CAB - Nothing new to report.
 - (iii) Fairtrade - Councillor Goffey reported that there had been a successful coffee morning and Fairtrade Fortnight. Thanks to the Council's grant, there had been a presentation by a tea planter/grower at the College during Fairtrade Fortnight.
 - (iv) Okehampton Carnival Committee - No meeting.
 - (v) Okehampton College Community Forum - Councillor Leech reported on progress towards arranging a meeting of the trustees to work on the new primary curriculum. The Head of Okehampton College was now chairing the Devon County Co-operatives Association. The College was supporting other secondary schools in its approach to become a teaching school.
 - (vi) Okehampton & District Community Transport Group - No meeting.
 - (vii) DALC - The Clerk attended the recent Larger Councils Committee and reported on discussion about Locality Lead Officers - Okehampton currently being a notified vacancy.

- (viii) Dartmoor National Park Authority Workshop - Councillor Leech reported that he had attended the recent workshop where the following matters had been discussed: a report on the state of the National Park by the Chief Executive, snow wardens and road wardens scheme, discussion on public rights of way and emphasising adherence to its core planning policies in preference to current ministerial statement regarding section 106 agreement.

Action

PART TWO ITEMS

It was resolved that under section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 that the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item as it involves the likely disclosure of sensitive and confidential information. Proposed by Councillor Ball, seconded Councillor Goffey and agreed.

590. Staff Matters

591. Civic Dinner

592. Long-term Debtor

Action

The meeting was closed at 8.15 pm.

Councillor Mrs M McDonald
Chairman