Minutes of Okehampton Town Council Policy and Resources Committee held on Monday 26 September 2016 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Okehampton at 7.00 pm

Committee Members Present: Councillor B Stephens (Chairman)

Councillor Mrs J Yelland (Vice Chairman)

Councillor Mrs V Cushing Councillor Mrs C Marsh Councillor P Vachon

Councillor Mrs J Goffey (Town Mayor)
Councillor T Leech (Chairman, Planning)
Councillor D Weekes (Chairman, Property)

Other Members Present: Councillor Mrs J Carpenter

Councillor Miss C Holt

In Attendance: P R Snell (Town Clerk)

Action

- 227. <u>Urgent Items</u> The Mayor brought to the attention of the Committee information concerning the proposed loss of inpatient beds at Okehampton Community Hospital. A letter had been drafted and a Facebook page set up (<u>www.facebook.com/okeybeds</u>). The Clinical Commissioning Group board meeting was scheduled for 28 September. This would be a public meeting.
- **228.** <u>Apologies for Absence</u> Apologies for absence were presented on behalf of Councillor Tolley.
- **229. Deferment of Business** No public presence.
- **230.** Members' Questions None.
- **Minutes** The minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee meeting held on 15 August 2016 were approved and signed by the Chairman on the proposition of Councillor Yelland, seconded by Councillor Vachon.
- 232. Matters Arising Nil.
- **233. Grant Applications** The Committee considered the following application for a Town Council grant:
- 233.1 Okehampton Street Pastors Councillor Yelland declared a personal interest. After discussion, it was agreed to award a grant of £500 (Section 137) to equip volunteers with the 'Street Materials' pack essential to the task of the Street Pastors on the proposition of Councillor Marsh, seconded Councillor Leech.

- 234. Feedback and Acknowledgements from Grants Awarded:
- 234.1 2443 Squadron (Okehampton) Air Cadets A feedback form, final invoice and photograph copies were received.
- **234.2** Okehampton Community Archive Councillors Marsh and Stephens declared a personal interest. Completed feedback form and copy final invoice submitted.
- 234.3 Okehampton District Community Transport Group Feedback form submitted.
- 235. Finances - The Committee considered the management accounts for the month ended 31 August 2016 and, after seeking clarification on some points, agreed the accounts on the proposition of Councillor Yelland, seconded Councillor Goffey. The Clerk updated the Committee on the long-term debtor situation.
- <u>Consultation Paper</u> The Clerk outlined the relevant provisions 236. contained in the technical consultation paper "The 2017/18 Local Government Finance Settlement" and the implications of capping and application of referendum principles contained therein. Councillor Stephens agreed to study the paper and bring a consultation response to the next meeting. [Clerk's note: consultation closes 28 October | Cllr Stephens 2016.]

237. **Training** - The Committee noted the Clerk's training course and opportunities for Councillor training available during October and November. It was agreed at the meeting that Councillor Cushing be booked onto the Precept & Budget and Planning sessions on 26 and 27 October respectively. Members wishing to attend training sessions for Councillors should contact the Clerk in the first instance.

238. Members' Reports and Requests for Agenda Items -

- Chamber of Trade (Councillor Marsh) A meeting was held on Thursday 22 September at which Angela Welch gave a presentation on possible Devon County Council support for The meeting attracted new members of the businesses. Chamber. Councillor Marsh reported that the Christmas trees would be put up on the last Sunday of November.
- Citizens Advice (Councillor Leech) New initiatives were in the (ii) process of being implemented, one with Doctors in Devon and another for financial advice through West Devon Borough Council. A business plan had been presented to West Devon Borough Council, who had agreed to commit support for a further three years.

Action

- (iii) DALC County Committee (Councillor Marsh) No meeting of the committee but a reminder for the Annual General Meeting of DALC on 11 October at Newton Abbot.
- (iv) DALC Larger Councils Sub-Committee Next meeting scheduled for 10 November. Clerk to attend, Councillor Stephens had presented his apologies.
- (v) Okehampton Fairtrade Group (Councillor Cushing) A meeting was scheduled for Wednesday 28 September. Councillor Cushing sought an accurate figure for the population of the Okehampton community and was referred to the Devon County Council website.
- (vi) Okehampton Carnival Committee (Councillor Yelland) Meeting scheduled for Tuesday 27 September.
- (vii) Okehampton and District Community Transport Group (Councillor Leech) - The group had succeeded in being listed by the Co-operative Store as one of three charities it would be supporting for the coming period.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.30 pm.

Councillor B Stephens Chairman