

Minutes of the Okehampton Town Council Policy and Resources Committee held on Monday 19 December 2016 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Okehampton at 7.00 pm

Committee Members Present: Councillor B Stephens (Chairman)
 Councillor Mrs J Yelland
 Councillor Mrs V Cushing
 Councillor Mrs C Marsh
 Councillor B Tolley
 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
 Councillor Dr M Ireland
 Councillor R Rush

In Attendance: P R Snell (Town Clerk)

	Action
399 <u>Apologies for Absence</u> - All Committee Members were present.	
400 <u>Deferment of Business</u> - No public presence.	
401 <u>Members' Questions</u> - None.	
402 <u>Minutes</u> - The minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee meetings held on 14 & 28 November 2016 were approved and signed by the Chairman on the proposition of Cllr Leech, seconded by Cllr Yelland.	
403 <u>Matters Arising</u> - The Chairman reported that the Policies Working Group had met to consider policy revisions and comments were currently being assessed with a view to the revised policies coming to the February meeting.	
404 <u>Grant Applications</u> - The Committee considered the following applications for Town Council grants:	
404.1 <u>North Dartmoor Search & Rescue Team</u> - Cllr Vachon declared a personal interest. The Committee considered an application for £500 to contribute to the cost of purchasing hi vis jackets and collection boxes. A grant of £500 (LGA 1972, s.137) was agreed on the proposition of Cllr Goffey, seconded Cllr Leech.	

- 404.2 Okehampton Skate Park Group** - The Committee considered and agreed a grant of £500 to fund a steel cap to the spine at the skate park on the proposition of Cllr Goffey, seconded Cllr Marsh. (Authority: LGA 1972, s.137)
- 405 Feedback** - The Committee noted that letters of appreciation and feedback form had been received from the Royal British Legion (Poppy Appeal), Okehampton Men's Hockey Club, Okement Rivers Improvement Group, Okehampton Fairtrade Group and the Ockment Centre.
- 406 Finances** - The Committee considered and agreed the management accounts for the month ended 30 November 2016 on the proposition of Cllr Weekes, seconded Cllr Vachon.
- 407 Budget 2017-18** - The Chairman reported that the budget was being prepared by the Clerk and that the Chairman, Cllr Yelland and the Clerk had met to discuss the outcomes from the budget meetings. The meeting noted the effects of reducing council tax support grant, increases in public sector pay and employer pension contributions and the need to ensure that the town council was financially resilient. The draft budget and precept would be presented at the January meeting for consideration and recommendation. The Committee noted the summary of grants made in the current financial year.
- 408 Increase in Caretaking Hours** - It was agreed to discuss this in Part Two.
- 409 Income Generation Project** - Cllr Stephens introduced a paper on the possibility of creating a crazy golf course at the location of the present putting green. Initial contact had been made with the Putting Club. After discussion, it was agreed that the project had merit and should be researched further. It was agreed to bring this item to the next agenda.
- 410 New Pensions Regulations** - The Clerk reported that he was in the process of completing the registration with the Pensions Regulator for the changes that had been introduced, although there was no effect to staff or to the budget.
- 411 Members' Reports and Requests for Agenda Items** -
- (i) Chamber of Trade - Cllr Marsh. No meeting.
 - (ii) CAB - Cllr Leech. Nothing to report. Local meetings were now scheduled to be held in Barnstaple.
 - (iii) DALC County Committee - Cllr Marsh. Minutes had been circulated.

Cllr Stephens

- (iv) DALC Larger Councils Sub-Committee - Cllr Stephens & the Clerk. No meeting.
- (v) Okehampton Fairtrade Group - Cllr Cushing. Next meeting scheduled for January.
- (vi) Okehampton Carnival Committee - Cllr Yelland reported that the 'washup' meeting identified that the event had balanced income and expenditure and that the Prince and Princess float would need to be refurbished or renewed. Bingo and Coffee morning activities were scheduled for later in December.
- (vii) Okehampton and District Community Transport Group - Cllr Leech. No meeting.

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 Cllr Leech, seconded by Councillor Yelland.

Action

412 Debts Outstanding for more than 3 Months

408 Increase in Caretaker Hours

On the proposition of Cllr Marsh, seconded Cllr Weekes, it was agreed to exit Part Two and ratify decisions made.

The meeting was closed at 8.00 pm.

Councillor B Stephens
Chairman