

MINUTES of a meeting of the FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE held at 8.08pm on Wednesday 7th March 2018 in the Council Offices, 72 Chapel Hill, Stansted Mountfitchet, Essex

PRESENT Cllr P Jones (Chairman), Cllrs M Jessup, J O'Brien, F Richards, J Salmon and G Sell

ATTENDING - None

452 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllrs M Caton and D Wallace-Jarvis, Ruth Clifford - Clerk to the Council and Emma Philbrick - Admin Assistant.

453 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Item 9 - Cllr Sell advised he would not be voting on the FHS grant request due to his association with the school.

454 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 6th December 2017 were approved

455 MATTERS ARISING

Church Road - The lighting contractor gave various options but has been instructed to fit a standard replacement part as it is the cheapest option and will match the other lights.

Woodfields - No further update

Lights outside D C Poultons and The Kings Arms are now working.

Youth Centre documentation is progressing

Quote from Inspire Insurance has been accepted

456 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - Nothing to report

457 FINANCE

(a) INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT TO 31ST DECEMBER 2017

Cllr Jones said it contained no surprises and there were no questions from the Committee

(b) VAT RETURN TO 31ST DECEMBER 2017

VAT return has been done to 31st December 2017

(c) PAYMENTS FOR AUTHORISATION - Approved

458 LIGHTING

The new light in Lower Street would be an LED fitting at a cost of £249. Conversion of the lights in the Memorial Gardens to LED would be £175 each but there would be an additional charge of £350 for an access platform.

UKPN are still not budging on reconnecting this light and are insisting on a £1,500 reconnection fee.

Cllr Jones proposed the following:

RESOLUTION subject to the Clerk confirming that no other routes are available to persuade UKPN to reconnect the light at a cheaper cost, we instruct UKPN to go ahead at a cost of £1,500.

This was seconded by Cllr O'Brien and unanimously agreed.

459 PURCHASE OF PART OF THE PUBLIC OPEN SPACE IN FIVE ACRES

The land had been judged by Mullucks as having no value.
Cllr Jones proposed the following:

RECOMMENDATION to sell the land to Mr Morgan for £1.00 providing that the existing rights of all parties are maintained and that all costs incurred are met by Mr Morgan.

This was seconded by Cllr Richards and unanimously agreed

460 TO CONSIDER GRANT APPLICATIONS

Grant applications were received from SSE (as they prepare to defend against the passenger numbers increase at Stansted Airport), Support4Sight, CAB and FHS who are looking for funding for a laser cutter and CNC router.

After some discussion Cllr Jones suggested that the SSE request needed to go before Full Council as it is a political issue but that we should remember that the Parish Council policy is to oppose the expansion of Stansted Airport. Agreed that this should be discussed at Full Council.

Cllr Richards proposed the following:

RESOLVED that grants be given to CAB for £1,000, FHS for £1,000 and Support4Sight for £600.

This was seconded by Cllr O'Brien. Cllr Sell abstained by the remainder agreed.

461 REVIEW COUNCIL'S POLICY ON FINANCIAL RESERVES

Cllr Jones proposed the following:

RESOLVED to adopt the draft policy on Parish Council Reserves

This was seconded by Cllr Richards and unanimously agreed

462 TO CONSIDER NOTES OF PERSONNEL WORKING GROUP

General staff matters will now be a standard item on every F&GP agenda. Matters relating to individual member of staff will be dealt with by the Personnel Working Group, the meeting notes of which are confidential.

463 WINDMILL

Cllr O'Brien reported that there was a split in one of the stocks and this was being addressed.

464 YOUTH CENTRE - Nothing to report

Meeting closed at 8.52pm

Minutes of the meeting were taken by Cllr Jessup