

Minutes of the **POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE** meeting held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Ferryhill, at 7pm on **WEDNESDAY, 6th NOVEMBER 2019.**

PRESENT: Councillor: J. Cansella (Chair)

Councillors: Councillors C. Atkinson, P. Atkinson, D. Farry, N. Jones, J. Makepeace, R. Smith and M Walton

Officials: D. Shingleton, Acting Town Clerk
S. Hewitson, Committees & Civic Administrator

P&R22.19-20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Z Roddam and L Smith.

P&R23.19-20 MEMBERS DISPENSATION

No requests for dispensations had been received in relation to any item of business on the agenda.

P&R24.19-20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

P&R25.19-20 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

P&R26.19-20 MINUTES OF MEETING ON 4th SEPTEMBER 2019

Moved by Councillor R Smith, **Seconded by** Councillor P Atkinson to accept the minutes as a true and accurate record.

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on 4th September 2019 be agreed as a true and accurate record.

P&R27.19-20 BUDGETARY CONTROL TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2019

Members considered a report previously circulated. The Acting Town Clerk advised Members that the budgetary control report actually covers up to 28th October and not 30th September.

Moved by Councillor D Farry, **Seconded by** Councillor J Makepeace to accept the recommendations of the report.

Councillor J Cansella thanked the Acting Town Clerk for a great report.

RESOLVED

That Members note the financial position of Council at 28 October 2019 as indicated in the report and the projected figure for the year 2019/2020.

P&R28.19-20 CHRISTMAS LIGHTING

Members considered the report previously circulated.

Moved by Councillor D Farry, **Seconded by** Councillor J Makepeace to accept the recommendations of the report.

Councillor J Cansella proposed some changes to the Events & Community Engagement Sub-Committee Terms of Reference, namely the Delegated Powers – Finance and Administration Manager be removed from the second paragraph and the word ‘Events’ be added before Grants & Projects Officer in the last paragraph.

RESOLVED

That;

- a) Members agree to hire new Christmas Lights from Festive Lighting, for installation in the Town Centre, with a view to purchasing them at the end of the three year period;
- b) Commando units and timers are installed on 13 lighting columns in the three corridors of Ferryhill Station, Dean Bank and The Broom, to accommodate the Town Council owned existing Christmas Lights;
- c) The Budget for Christmas Lights is reviewed as part of the Budgetary process, with a view to increasing it to £10,000 from next year;
- d) Management of the budget for Christmas Lights is delegated to the Events & Community Engagement Sub-Committee
- e) The amended terms of reference be accepted subject to the above changes

P&R29.19-20 GRANTS

Members considered the report previously circulated.

- 1. Care for Casualties - Raising funds for men and women serving in the armed forces, or retired, who suffer from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)

IT WAS RESOLVED

A donation of £200 be made.

- 2. Approach Too - Request for funding of £200 to purchase 3200 dog poo bags for dispensers around Town.

Members agreed to support the request for funding and it be emphasised that the support from the Town Council be promoted.

Councillor J Makepeace queried if it would be better to order the dog bags rather than donate £200, it was agreed that the Acting Town Clerk look into the best way to make the donation

Councillor J Cansella asked if the Clerk could meet with Glenys Newby to discuss the working partnership agreement with the Council which was previously agreed.

IT WAS RESOLVED

That the request be approved and the Clerk arrange a meeting to discuss the working partnership agreement with the Council.

3. Haswell & District Mencap - Request for financial assistance to help people with learning disabilities and their carers

Whilst Members agreed this was a worthwhile cause they felt they needed clarification as to how many people from Ferryhill the organisation support.

Members asked that the Acting Town Clerk contact Mencap to find out the relevant information. Mr Shingleton advised that he would do this and email the information to Members for a decision on whether the Council should support this request.

IT WAS RESOLVED

That the Acting Town Clerk contact Haswell & District Mencap and report back to Members.

4. Bernicia Homes - Provide Christmas Lunch for Elderly

A request had been received from Bernicia Homes for a donation towards providing Christmas Lunch for local elderly people. The Garth in Ferryhill will be holding a Christmas Fayre to raise funds for this and were asking for donations.

Moved by Councillor D Farry, **Seconded by** Councillor J Makepeace to donate £200 and ask that Ferryhill Town Council's support be promoted.

RESOLVED

That £200 be donated and Bernicia be asked to promote the support received from Ferryhill Town Council.

P&R30.19-20 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Members considered the date of the next meeting which is scheduled for 8th January 2020. The Acting Town Clerk requested if this meeting could be

put back to 15th January 2019 to allow time to prepare papers.

Members agreed.

RESOLVED

That the next Policy & Resources meeting be held on Wednesday 15th January 2020.

P&R31.19-20 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Members are requested to move the following motion:

“That in accordance with the provision of Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, as amended by Section 100 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council do now exclude the public and press for the remaining items on the Agenda by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted since publicity would be prejudicial to public interest.”

RESOLVED

That the press and public be excluded from the next section of the meeting. All members of the public left the meeting.

P&R32.19-20 SPRING AND SUMMER BEDDING & HANGING BASKETS CONTRACT

Members considered a report from the Works Manager

Councillor J Cansella queried if we had a figure for just a 1 year contract, the Acting Town Clerk advised he would find out the figure.

Councillor J Cansella also questioned who decides which plants the Council have and would it not be possible to have a constant stream of flowers rather than plants that all die at the same time. Mr Shingleton advised he would request the information from the Works Manager and email Members.

Moved by Councillor D Farry, **Seconded by** Councillor J Makepeace to accept the recommendations of the report.

Councillor J Cansella asked the Acting Town Clerk if he could ask the Works Manager to provide a list of how much in addition to the bedding plants the Council spend with Thinford Nurseries, excluding watering.

RESOLVED

That a three year contract for the supply of spring and summer bedding plants and hanging baskets be awarded to Durham County Council commencing Summer 2020. The Acting Clerk request the following information from the Works Manager and email the response to Members – a figure for 1 year contract, who decides on plants used and reason for choice, additional spending costs with Thinford Nurseries excluding watering.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 7.45pm

CERTIFIED AS A TRUE RECORD

CHAIR.....

DATE.....