

## **YEOVIL TOWN COUNCIL**

**MINUTES** of a meeting of the **POLICY, RESOURCES AND FINANCE COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, Town House, 19 Union Street, Yeovil on **Tuesday 28 July 2015**

(7.00pm – 8.30pm)

### **Present:**

Tony Lock – Chairman	David Recardo
Kris Castle	Manny Roper
Mike Lock	Darren Shutler
Pauline Lock	Rob Stickland

### **Also Present:**

Sally Freemantle	Acting Town Clerk
Neil Gage	Finance Administrator

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Martin Bailey addressed the Committee regarding Shopmobility, explaining that he felt the facility was fantastic and should receive ongoing support from the Town Council. He listed the other supporters of Shopmobility and appealed to the Committee to continue the Town Council's financial involvement.

In response it was explained that the Town Council's original funding was to financially support the initiation of the project and that longer term contributions would always be considered based on the situation and information presented at that time.

### 9/16 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 23 June 2015, copies of which had been circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### 9/17 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Peter Gubbins, Terry Ledlie, Graham Oakes and Wes Read. Phil Chandler also gave his apologies although he is not a member of the Committee.

### 9/18 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

### 9/19 **CORRESPONDENCE**

There were no items of correspondence.

### 9/20 **APPLICATIONS FOR GRANT AID**

(a) Westfield Academy Trust

During the ensuing discussion, Members considered the merits of the application and raised concerns on certain aspects of the proposed bus bays and requested further details on the following points;

- Has Somerset County Highways been informed on the proposed creation of a bus bay on the school site?
- Has Westfield Academy applied for planning permission?
- Has the Academy been in contact with their County Councillor with regard to the small improvement grant scheme?
- Has there been any consultation with the Police Authority?

**RESOLVED** that the grant application be deferred to the next meeting of the Policy, Resources and Finance Committee pending clarification of the above-identified matters by the applicant.

(b) Octagon Theatre (SSDC)

During the ensuing discussion, Members considered the merits of the application and, in line with the grants policy, a number of matters were proposed for inclusion in a Service Level Agreement with the Council.

**RESOLVED** that a grant of £1,000 be awarded towards the running costs of the Annual Theatre Summer School (S.1 of the Localism Act 2011 – General Power of Competence) subject to the following;

- The Manager agrees to attend a future meeting of the Policy, Resources and Finance Committee and give a report on the achievements of the Theatre Summer School.

(c) Yeovil Live

During the ensuing discussion, Members considered the merits of the application and, in line with the grants policy, a number of conditions on the granting of funds were agreed;

- The applicant seeks grant assistance from other sources
- Two more competitive quotes for the equipment are obtained
- Details of where the equipment will be stored are submitted
- In the event of the dissolution of the association, the equipment is to be returned to the Town Council

**RESOLVED** that a grant of £400 be awarded towards the purchase of amplification equipment. (S.1 of the Localism Act 2011 – General Power of Competence).

9/21 **RESPONSE FROM SHOPMOBILITY**

The Committee considered the response from Shopmobility to the letter sent by the Town Clerk following the last meeting of the Policy Resources and Finance Committee (Agenda item 6 refers) and it was agreed that no further action be taken.

**RESOLVED**

that the matter be noted.

9/22 **CAPITAL FUND**

The Committee considered the report of the Town Clerk (Agenda item 7 refers).

**RESOLVED**

- (1) that the position concerning the Capital Fund and the General Reserve be noted; and
- (2) that the current position regarding the rolling programme of play area improvements be noted.

9/23 **BEST VALUE**

The Committee considered the report of the Acting Town Clerk (Agenda item 8 refers).

**RESOLVED**

- (1) that the matter be noted; and
- (2) that the Committee notes this year's achievements and sets similar targets for next year's performance.

9/24 **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – APRIL/MAY 2015**

The Committee considered the report of the Finance Administrator (Agenda item 9 refers).

**RESOLVED**

that the Financial Statements and payments therein for the above months be approved.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Martin Bailey reiterated his comments regarding financial support for Shopmobility, quoting from the letter attached to the agenda (Agenda item 6 refers).

9/25 **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED**

that the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting in accordance with Section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

9/26 **ALLOTMENTS**

The Committee considered the confidential report by the Acting Town Clerk, and the Chairman of the Grounds and General Maintenance Committee made Members aware of advice he had received from the Royal Horticultural Society.

**RESOLVED**

that the matters be noted

9/27 **STAFFING ISSUES**

The Committee considered the confidential report by the Acting Town Clerk (agenda item 12 refers).

**RESOLVED**

that approval be given to the recommendations set out in the report.

9/28 **TOWN COUNCIL POLICY**

The Committee considered the confidential report circulated at the meeting.

**RESOLVED**

(1) that the matters be noted; and

(2) that the report be circulated to all Councillors for reference.

Chairman

SF  
10/08/15