

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE & POLICY COMMITTEE OF TRING TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, THE MARKET HOUSE, TRING ON MONDAY 10<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2014 AT 8:08 p.m.**

**Present:** Councillors: H Alison (Chairman)  
B. Batchelor  
S. Hearn  
M. Hicks

**Also present:** Mr M. Curry, Town Clerk

1 member of the public

**17277. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from the following members: Cllrs J. Allan (prior appointment), Ms G Roberts (family circumstances), and Mrs P. Hearn, and from ex officio members Cllr N. Hollinghurst (prior appointment and Cllr Mrs R. Ransley (prior appointment)

**17278. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

**17279. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2014 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**17280. MATTERS OF REPORT FROM THE MINUTES**

**17194 Estimates of Income & Expenditure 2014/15**

The Clerk presented to Council on behalf of the Committee, in the accepted format, a budget for 2014/15 with a planned deficit of £970 as a result of the agreed amendments to income and expenditure. The budget was accepted by Council.

The Clerk has received confirmation from Dacorum Borough Council that the funding requested by the Town Council will be paid on the 11<sup>th</sup> April 2014.

**17281. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS**

There were none.

**17282. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**RESOLVED:** That standing orders be suspended at 8:10 to allow members of the public to speak

Mrs B. Kaiser, a member of Tring in Transition, gave background information to the organisation's grant application being considered under item 7 of the agenda. She confirmed that the grant application applied to expenditure that will be incurred within twelve months.

**RESOLVED:** That standing orders be resumed at 8:13

**17283. GRANT APPLICATIONS:**

The Committee considered the applications received from:

(i) Tring in Transition. The beneficial outcomes of the proposed eco-fair were highlighted. The difficulty for the organisation to raise its own funds was also noted.

(ii) Justice & Peace Group. There was concerned that the proposed leaflet was a duplication of the original organisation's own publicity and there were other publications providing such information e.g. Tring Directory.

**RESOLVED:** To grant Tring in Transition £700 under S.137 of the LGA 1972 and to reject the grant application from the Justice & Peace Group

**ACCOUNTS 2013/14**

The Clerk spoke to the report circulated prior to the meeting. It indicated an improved position, moving closer to the budgeted outcome even with the inclusion of the Market House project.

**RESOLVED:** To note the forecast outturn for the accounts of 2013/14

**17284. ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S FINANCIAL STANDING ORDERS:**

The Committee reviewed the Council's existing Financial Standing Orders.

**RESOLVED:** To accept the Council's existing Financial Standing Orders unchanged.

**17285. REPEAL OF SECTION 150(5) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972:**

The Clerk highlighted the key implications of the proposed changes, which were noted.

**RESOLVED:** In light of the proposed repeal of section 150(5) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Clerk prepare a list of all existing contractual arrangements

**17286. ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S FINANCIAL RISK ASSESSMENT AND HEALTH & SAFETY POLICY**

The Committee reviewed the Council's Financial Risk Assessment and Health & Safety Policy circulated prior to the meeting.

**RESOLVED:** That the existing Financial Risk Assessment and Health & Safety Policy required no changes

**17287. ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE WORK OF THE INTERNAL AUDITOR**

The Committee noted the acceptance of the annual return for 2012/13 without modification, the latest audit report, and that there had been no change in the audit process since the last report of the Audit Working Party.

**RESOLVED:** To recommend to Council that box 6 of the Annual Return be ticked indicating that the Council maintained throughout the year an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the council accounting records and control systems.

**17288. TRING TOWN CRIER 2014**

The Clerk reported that the Town Crier had been printed and delivered to the ATC for distribution to begin that evening.

**17289. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC & PRESS**

**RESOLVED:** To exclude the public and press under section I of the Public Bodies (admission to Meetings) Act 1960 at 8:55 pm

**17290. ANNUAL COMMUNITY AWARD**

There was a discussion of possible nominations for this award

**RESOLVED:** To put three nominations to Council. Members to provide the Clerk with 'pen portraits' to accompany the nominations

The meeting ended at 8:53 p.m.