

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE & POLICY COMMITTEE OF TRING
TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, THE MARKET HOUSE, TRING
ON MONDAY 12th NOVEMBER 2012 AT 8.33 p.m.**

Present: Councillors: H. Alison (Chairman)
J. Allan
Mrs G Haynes
Mrs P Hearn
N. Hollinghurst (ex officio)
M Hicks
Mrs R Ransley (ex officio)

Also present: Mrs S. Johnson (Acting Town Clerk)

No members of the public

16585. **APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies for absence.

16586. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Declarations of personal interest were made by Councillor Allan (member of the Steering Group of Tring in Transition and Deputy Poppy Appeal Organiser for Tring); Councillor Mrs Hearn (Trustee of Tring Youth Project); and Councillor Hollinghurst (Trustee of Tring Youth Project). Councillor Mrs Hearn also declared a disclosable pecuniary interest (with regard to the item on Estimates 2013/14) in Tring Market Auctions as a tenant of the Council.

16587. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 16th July 2012 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

16588. **MATTERS OF REPORT FROM THE MINUTES**

There were none.

16589. **CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS**

There were none.

16590. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No members of the public were present.

16591. **GRANTS 2012/13**

A letter of thanks had been received from the Tring Youth Project for the grant awarded in 2011/12.

Under the Powers specified against each item the Council **RESOLVED** to confirm the following grants already specifically identified in the Estimates of Income & Expenditure:

- (i) To the T&DLH&MS £2,000 annual endowment *S145(1)(d) of the LGA 1972(paid 3.9.12)*
- (ii) To the Tring Youth Town Council £250 for general expenses *S137 of the LGA 1972 (paid 3.9.12)*
- (iii) To Tring Together Ltd £5,000 towards the salary of the Project Officer *S137 of the LGA 1972(paid 24.4.12)*
- (iv) To Tring Together Ltd £1,000 towards the Tring Christmas Festival *S145 of the LGA 1972 (Confirmed at B&A Committee 8.10.12 Paid 24.9.12)*
- (v) To Tring Youth Project £5,000 towards the Temperance Hall Project *S137 of the LGA 1972*

16591. **GRANTS 2012/13/Contd.**

Under S137 of the Local Government Act 1972 the Council **RESOLVED** to make the following grants:

- (i) To the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal, £25 for wreath and donation
- (ii) To Age UK Dacorum, £250 towards the Handyperson Scheme
- (iii) To the Wendover Arm Trust, £50 for a plaque
- (iv) To Tring in Transition, £450 for a gazebo and insurance
- (v) To the Chilterns Conservation Board, £100 towards its conservation work

It was decided not to contribute to Magpas, the Emergency Medical Charity.

16592. **ACCOUNTS 2011/12**

- (i) The Committee received and noted the report of the Internal Auditor – Final.
- (ii) The Committee noted the report of the Audit Working Group of August 2012.

16593. **ACCOUNTS 2012/13**

- (i) The Committee noted the Budget v. Actual report to 31st October 2012.
- (ii) The Committee received and noted the report of the Internal Auditor – Interim.

16594. **SUBSCRIPTIONS TO OUTSIDE BODIES**

The Clerk had circulated a report with the agenda listing all the organisations to which the Council subscribed and the probable amounts this year. The Committee agreed to maintain the current memberships and to not add to the list unless specific circumstances arose. Councillor Hollinghurst agreed to investigate how *Action for Market Towns* could help the Council with its market offering.

16595. **INFORMATION OFFICER'S REPORT**

The Committee thanked the Information Officer for her report; and congratulated her and her assistants on their work.

16596. **TOWN WARDEN'S REPORT**

The Committee thanked the Town Warden for his comprehensive report and congratulated him on his work.

16597. **TRING TOWN CRIER 2013**

The Clerk had circulated a draft timetable for production the *Town Crier 2013*, which the Committee accepted and noted. The Editor would be the Clerk in association with the Information Officer; and the advertisement compiler would be Councillor Hollinghurst. It was also decided to ask the ATC to deliver the copies in return for a donation to the organisation.

16598. **ESTIMATES OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE 2013/14**

The Chairman referred to the draft Estimates for 2013/14 circulated with the agenda. Following discussion various additions and amendments were made. The Clerk would reissue the revised Estimates in due course; and the figures would be circulated prior to the F&P Committee due to be held on 14th January 2013 when the recommendation for the Precept would be made to Council to be held on 21st January 2013.

16599. **EXCLUSION OF PRESS & PUBLIC**

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Mrs Ransley, **SECONDED** by Councillor Mrs Hearn and **RESOLVED:** That under Section I of the Public Bodies (admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the public and press be excluded during the Items in Part II of the agenda for this meeting, because it was likely that publicity would prejudice the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business or for other special reasons arising from the nature of the business or proceedings.

16600. **ESTIMATES OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE 2013/14: RESIDUAL MATTERS**
There were no matters outstanding from the open session, save to note that the Clerk had calculated the cost of staff salaries to take into account new appointments.

16601. **THE COUNCIL'S RETAINED PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS**
It was **RESOLVED** to note the revised report concerning the retention of the Council's advisors and contractors for 2012/13, and to approve the levels of remuneration. It was noted that the rate chargeable by the Council's Solicitor was still awaited.

The meeting ended at 9.49 p.m.

Chairman