

## COWES TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the FINANCE COMMITTEE held in the Town Council Office, Denmark Road, Cowes on Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> January, 2011 at 6.20 p.m.

Present: Councillor Birch (Chairman)  
Councillors Banks, Jones, McGregor, Sanderson, Walters and Wells.

In attendance: (non voting) Councillors Matthews, Robinson and Thwaites.

### 351 MINUTES

#### RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2011 be taken as read, approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### 352 BUDGET AND PRECEPT 2011/12

The Assistant Town Clerk reported on the IW Council meeting with Town & Parish Councils regarding a wide range of proposals which set out the future shape and direction for the authority; she stated that there were very few specific details regarding their proposals although libraries and toilets were under threat. There was also a question mark surrounding the Tourist Information Centres; the IW Council would like to see other providers such as Wightlink assume that responsibility.

The Assistant Town Clerk also reported that on top of 2011/12 cuts of £17million there would be further £8million of cuts in 2012/13 which could impact on Councils parks.

It remained difficult for the Committee to make any specific decisions concerning the areas under threat without more financial information and this included areas covering the Northwood House Estate.

It was therefore decided that a figure be included in the budget for 2011/12 under the heading 'New Projects and Services' that could be utilised for the delivery of any of these services at the local level.

Following much further discussion it was

#### RECOMMENDED

1). That the following budget for the financial year 2011/12 in the sum of £99,800 be approved:

#### TOWN CLERK

Salary of Town Clerk/ Employer NI	22,000	
Town Clerks Gratuity Fund/Superannuation	2,000	
Town Clerks attendance at National Conference	500	24,500

#### GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Telephone (Line rental/calls/broadband)	600	
Postages	200	
Travelling	400	
Training (including councillor training)	400	
Office/hire of meeting rooms/stationery and Office equipment	9,000	10,600

<b>SUBSCRIPTIONS - General subscriptions</b>	400	<b>400</b>
<b>HIRE OF HALLS</b>	700	<b>700</b>
<b>INSURANCE</b>	2,500	<b>2,500</b>
<b>AUDIT AND ACCOUNTANCY FEES</b>	1,200	<b>1,200</b>
<b>TOWN MAYORS ALLOWANCE</b>	1,200	<b>1,200</b>
<b>COWES IN BLOOM</b>		
<b>Plants and equipment</b>	1,500	
<b>Watering</b>	1,900	
<b>Competition prizes/engraving of trophies</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,400</b>
<b>SKATE PARK &amp; PLAYPARK</b>		
Cost of cleaner	2,900	
Annual Safety Inspection	100	
Floodlight electricity costs	150	
Maintenance and repair	3,000	
Dog/litter bin emptying, new playpark, Northwood Rec.	1,000	<b>7,150</b>
<b>GRANTS TO LOCAL ORGANISATIONS</b>	5,500	<b>5,500</b>
<b>SPECIAL EVENTS</b>	5,500	<b>5,500</b>
<b>TOWN IMPROVEMENTS</b>		
Christmas trees	1,750	
Clock maintenance	200	
Seat and benches maintenance/ )		
Cowes signs, information boards and fingerposts maintenance )	2,500	
Decorative lighting maintenance/electricity	800	
New projects and other services	24,000	<b>29,250</b>
<b>NEWSLETTER AND WEB SITE</b>	1,500	<b>1,500</b>
<b>CCTV</b>		
Licence Fee	4,400	<b>4,400</b>
<b>ELECTION EXPENSES</b>	1,000	<b>1,000</b>
<b>GENERAL CONTINGENCIES</b>	1,000	<b>1,000</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE ON TOWN AFFAIRS</b>		<b>99,800</b>
<b>LESS</b>		
<b>From Reserves</b>		<b>13,100</b>
<b>TOTAL PRECEPT</b>		<b><u>86,700</u></b>

2). That the Town Council make a precept on the Isle of Wight Council in the sum of £86,700.

(The proceedings terminated at 7.00p.m.)

**CHAIRMAN**