

COWES TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the FINANCE COMMITTEE held in the Town Council Office, Denmark Road, Cowes on Monday, 28th November 2011 at 6.50 p.m.

Present: Councillor Walters (Chairman)
Councillors Birch, Jones and Peacey-Wilcox.

376 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Banks, Brown, McGregor, Sanderson, Wells and Wilcox.

377 MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 1st September, 2011 be taken as read, approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

378 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Walters declared a personal and prejudicial interest in agenda item 5 regarding the 70th Anniversary Commemoration of the ORP Blyskawica defence of Cowes on the grounds that he had been co-opted onto the organising committee; on his leaving the room for this item the Finance Committee would not constitute a quorum – therefore, this agenda item could not be considered.

379 PAYROLL SERVICES

The Town Clerk reported that the I.W. Council had given six months notice of their intention to cease to provide payroll services to all outside bodies on 31st March 2012; the Town Clerk had ascertained that A.H. Cross who had been the provider until this year, were willing to resume the task on behalf of the Town Council at a cost no greater than the £200 currently being charged by the I.W. Council.

RECOMMENDED

That the Town Council appoints A.H. Cross as their provider of payroll services with effect from 1st April 2012.

380 PARKING PERMITS

Councillor Walters referred to the difficulties with parking for the Town and Assistant Town Clerks and stated that it would be possible for the Town Council to obtain permits for them to park in the area including Denmark Road (CS2) at a cost of £40 each.

RECOMMENDED

That the Town Council provides CS2 parking permits for the Town and Assistant Town Clerks.

381 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Town Clerk submitted a Financial Statement giving details of income and expenditure against budget for the period to 14th November 2011. He also submitted details of the balances on all of the Town Council's accounts as at 14th November 2011 totalling £200,723; the Town Council had 'ring fenced' £111,505 of this total for specific projects which together with budgeted expenditure to year end of almost £50,000 would leave a year end useable balance of approximately £30,000.

The Town Clerk submitted details of a suggested budget and precept for the financial year 2012/13. This was considered by Members of the Committee and following discussion it was

RECOMMENDED

1). That the Town Council approves the following budget in the sum of £95,500 for the financial year 2012/13:

INCOME

Precept	86,700
From reserves	<u>8,800</u>
	<u>95,500</u>

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Salaries/NIC/Superannuation	24,000
Hire charges for office	6,000
Stationery and office equipment	1,500
Telephone/broadband	600
Postage	200
Travelling and Conference fees	800
Training (including Councillor training)	400
Hire of meeting rooms	500
Subscriptions	400
Insurance	2,500
Audit and Accountancy fees	1,500

MISCELLANEOUS TOWN EXPENDITURE

Town Mayors allowance	1,400
Cowes in Bloom – plants and watering	3,400
Northwood Recreation Ground – skatepark, playpark, toilets	9,000
Dog and litter bin emptying	2,500
CCTV – licence fee	3,000
Newsletter/Website	1,500
Grants to local organisations and charities	5,500
Support for special events	4,000
Elections	4,000
Miscellaneous pre approved annual expenditure and contingencies	4,500

TOWN IMPROVEMENTS

Seat/sign/information boards/finger post maintenance	2,500
Decorative lighting	800
New projects and services	15,000

TOTAL EXPENDITURE ON TOWN AFFAIRS **95,500**

2). That the Town Council make a precept on the Isle of Wight Council in the sum of £86,700; and
 3). That the Town Clerk be authorised to utilise the ‘Miscellaneous pre approved annual expenditure and contingencies’ budget up to a £500 maximum for any one item without prior recourse to the Town Council.

(The proceedings terminated at 7.18p.m.)

