

COWES TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the FINANCE COMMITTEE held in the Town Council Office, Denmark Road, Cowes on Wednesday, 22nd February 2012 at 7.20 p.m.

Present: Councillor Walters (Chairman)

Councillors Banks, Birch, Brown, McGregor, Sanderson and Wells.

In attendance: (non voting) Councillor Matthews

387 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Jones and Peacey-Wilcox

388 MINUTES

RESOLVED

That subject to Councillor Banks being added to the list of apologies under minute no. 383, the Minutes of the Meeting held on 9th January, 2012 be taken as read, approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

389 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Town Clerk submitted a Financial Statement giving details of income and expenditure against budget for the period to 10th February 2012. He also submitted details of the balances on all of the Town Council's accounts as at 10th February 2012 totalling £186,938; the Town Council had 'ring fenced' £118,509 of this total for specific projects which together with expected expenditure to year end of up to £20,000 would leave a year end useable balance of approximately £48,000.

390 DOG/LITTER BINS, NORTHWOOD PARK

The Town Council had been requested to consider either renewing their contract with Urbaser for dog and litter bin emptying in Northwood Park for the financial year 2012/13 based on the existing service or buying and installing 7 new combined dog/litter waste bins which could reduce the long term maintenance charges. The current contract had cost the Town Council approximately £2,700 plus VAT for the current financial year.

RECOMMENDED

- 1). That the Town Council renews their contract with Urbaser for dog/litter bin emptying in Northwood Park for the financial year 2012/13 based on the existing schedule for emptyings; and
- 2). That the Northwood House Trustees submit a formal grant application at the earliest opportunity for new combined dog/litter waste bins for Northwood Park for installation immediately prior to the commencement of a new contract in April 2013.

391 APPLICATIONS FOR GRANT

The Town Clerk reported that £2,200 remained unallocated in the budget to enable small grants to be made to local organisations; the following applications for grant had been received which included copies of each organisations latest sets of accounts.

a) Northwood House Trustees

i). **Toilets** – To fund the summer opening of the toilets adjacent to the tennis courts.

ii). **Community Hall** – To undertake maintenance works and cover the shortfall in letting fees.

iii). **Childrens Play Area** – To renew the see-saw.

b). Cowes Town Regatta Committee

Towards the Regatta which is held during AAM Cowes Week.

(Councillor Sanderson declared a personal interest in this item on the grounds he was a member of the Regatta Committee)

c). The Apex Church

To provide catering equipment for Drop-in a facility for the lonely and elderly and for children's equipment for Noah's Arc a facility for carers with their toddlers.

(Councillors McGregor and Wells declared personal interests in this item on the grounds that they knew many of the Trustees at the Church)

RECOMMENDED

- 1). That subject to proof of purchase, £1,500 be made available to the Northwood House Trustees during the financial year 2012/13 for funding towards the replacement of the see-saw in the children's play area of Northwood Park;
- 2). That a grant of £200 be made to the Cowes Town Regatta Committee;
- 3). That a grant of £500 be made to the Apex Church Group; and
- 4). That no grant be made to the Northwood House Trustees in respect of their applications for the toilets and the community hall.

392 PREPARATION OF ACCOUNTS

The Town Clerk requested authority to invite Bright Brown, Chartered Accountants to undertake the preparation of the final accounts for the financial year 2011/12.

RECOMMENDED

That Bright Brown, Chartered Accountants be appointed to undertake the preparation of the Town Council's accounts for the financial year 2011/12.

(The proceedings terminated at 8.10p.m.)

CHAIRMAN

