

COWES TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the FINANCE COMMITTEE held in the Town Council Office, Northwood House, Cowes on Thursday 29 January 2015 at 6.15pm.

Present: Councillors Banks, Corby & Jones.
In attendance: (non-voting) Councillors Hammond & Wardrop (6.25pm).

532 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED

That Councillor Jones be elected as Chairman of the Finance Committee for the remainder of the municipal year 2014 / 2015.

533 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Brown & Ellis.

534 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Town Clerk declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute No 538 – Update / upgrade of IT systems in the Council Office.

535 MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 4 November 2014 be taken as read, approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

536 PREPARATION OF ACCOUNTS

The Town Clerk required authority to invite Bright Brown Chartered Accountants to undertake the preparation of the final accounts for the financial year 2014 / 2015.

RECOMMENDED

That Bright Brown Chartered Accountants be appointed to undertake the preparation of the Town Council's accounts for the financial year 2014 / 2015.

537 APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS

The Town Clerk reported that £2,450 remained unallocated in the budget to enable small grants to be made to local organisations.

The Town Council has been asked to consider the following applications for grant:

- a) **Armed Forces Day (I.O.W)** - £200 towards the cost of Armed Forces Day on 20/6/15.
- b) **Cowes Good Companions Club** - £450 towards the cost of Cowes Active Networks Club.
- c) **Lanesend Primary School** - £15,000 towards the cost of a sensory and environmental science classroom.
- d) **Northwood & Gurnard WW1 Memorial Group** - £100 towards the cost of production of website and book.
- e) **Panto Players** - £1000 towards the cost of a stage.
- f) **Storeroom 2010** - £500 towards the cost of advertising.

RECOMMENDED

1. That grants be made to the following organisations in accordance with the amounts shown:

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|--------------------------------------|------|
| a) Armed Forces Day (I.O.W) | £100 |
| b) Cowes Good Companions Club | £450 |
| e) Panto Players | £250 |

2. That Cowes Town Council will not award grants to the following organisations for the reasons stated:

- c) **Lanesend Primary School** – Support for this capital project is not within the remit of the Town Council's small grants scheme.

d) Northwood & Gurnard WW1 Memorial Group – This group is outside of the Cowes area and the Town Council are already investing in WW1 war memorials in the Cowes area.

f) Storeroom 2010 – The Town Council feel that this application cannot be supported as this is a robust organisation and the Town Council's limited funds must go to those groups with the greatest need.

3. That the balance in the budget of £1,650 be kept in reserve pending further applications which may be received.

538 UPDATE / UPGRADE OF IT SYSTEMS IN THE COUNCIL OFFICE

Three quotations for the replacement of the IT systems in the Council Office had been obtained. Councillors acknowledged the need to replace the system but due to the complexity of the requirements it was agreed to seek an additional quotation and discuss the matter further at the next Finance Committee meeting.

(The proceedings terminated at 7.17pm)

CHAIRMAN