

FINANCE AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE.

Wednesday 14th August 2019

The Old Courthouse, Burgage, Southwell

Present: Cllrs Handley (Chairman), M Stott, Thompstone, Blaney
In attendance: T Broughton – Clerk to the Town Council

There was one minute silence in memory of Roger Dobson. Chairman explained he was an outstanding member of the Southwell Town Council and a past Chairman and an active and lively person. Very sad that he passed away so suddenly.

1 Apologies for absence

Cllrs P Harris (Personal), Cllr Brock (Personal), Prentice (Personal)

2 Questions from members of the Public

None.

3 To Receive any declarations of interest

Members are hereby reminded that, under the provisions of sections 26-34 and Schedule 4 of the Localism Act 2011, a member with a Disclosable pecuniary interest of which they are aware in a matter who attends a meeting of the council at which the matter is considered must disclose to that meeting the existence and nature of that interest at the commencement of that consideration, or when the interest becomes apparent.

No declarations of interest were made.

4. Chairman's announcements

None.

5 To approve previous minutes dated Wednesday 24th April 2019

AGREED

Proposed Cllr Handley, Seconded Cllr Thompstone

Minutes dated 24th April 2019 were approved as a true record of those members present.

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Tracey Broughton PSLCC Clerk to the Town Council

Unanimous

6 Finance Matters

Clerk explained that the tree budget may go over budget due to the unhealthy Lime Trees on the War Memorial Ground that need extensive work and the number of other trees within the town that may need work in the future.

AGREED **Proposed Cllr Handley, Cllr Blaney**
Noted
Unanimous

- 6.2 Reserves Position – previously circulated and noted
- 6.3 Budget Review – as previously discussed and noted
- 6.4 Payments
- 6.5 Late Payments

AGREED **Proposed Cllr Handley, Cllr Stott**
To accept the payments and late payments as tabled.
Unanimous

7 Review of the Way Forward Steering Group Project Plan July 2019 and discussion on inclusion of projects in 2010/21 precept calculations

Chairman congratulated the group who put the document together and noted that it was a superb working document for future use. It was suggested that the items in red be evaluated in order to assess the level of the precept required. It was suggested that it would be a good idea to get some estimates for the most urgent work to be done together. To request that the Way Forward Steering Group to prioritise the order of the tasks. It was stated that the precept has increased by 52% over the last six years. Chairman stated that a community meeting was held last year and was well attended by the public. A public meeting has been arranged for 30th October 2019 to invite the public to review the budget 2010/21. Various ideas were further discussed and will be included in the budget process. It was suggested to research the District Council plans for their increases in charging in particular for car parks.

AGREED **Proposed Cllr Handley, Seconded Cllr Thompstone**
To review the Project Plan Working paper and bring the issues and projects with costings to the first Budget Working Group meeting.
Unanimous

AGREED **Proposed Cllr Handley, Seconded Cllr Blaney**
To recommend to Full Council that the document is used as a key working document. Items to be assessed and prioritised within

the Budget Working Group time frame by the Way Forward Steering Group.

Unanimous

8. Review of Financial Regulation and banking arrangements – proposal to set up a Working Group

It was agreed to form a Working Group consisting of Cllr Handley, Blaney and Stott and Clerk will inform the whole committee of the meeting dates.

9. Review of Fees and Charges to include Long Stay Car Park

Chairman wished to review charges policy for the public car parks and open spaces and also consider whether the council wishes to charge within the policy on a specific basis and general basis. Members discussed proposal by Cllr P Harris and proposals submitted by Cllr P Handley.

Chairman explained that the process for allowing contractors to use our public spaces should be made more formal. Chairman has drawn up a draft policy and this has been tabled. It was agreed to amend item 11 to allow the any two of the stated councillors depending on the subject of the request and the committees they represented to be consulted in an emergency.

AGREED

Proposed Cllr Blaney, Seconded Cllr Thompstone

In view of the fact that the Clerk notified all members of the council of the intention and in the absence of any negative responses and in view of the urgency that was presented to the Clerk that it was correct for the Clerk to agree that Whitehouse can use 6 spaces in the Long Stay Car Park for Flood Mitigation Scheme work. This is also taken in light of the absence of a formal policy.

Unanimous

AGREED

Proposed Cllr Blaney, Seconded Cllr Handley

To approve the draft policy tabled by Cllr Handley with the amendment to 11 as stated above. To recommend to Full Council charges for the future as stated.

Unanimous

AGREED

Proposed Cllr Handley, Seconded Cllr Stott

To note that the council are providing benefits in kind and in some cases a nightly charge will be £35 per night.

Unanimous

10. Items for communication – None

11. Date of next meeting – Monday 7th October 2019

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Tracey Broughton PSLCC Clerk to the Town Council

- 12. Items for discussion at the next meeting**
CIL and future sums to Southwell Town Council
Six month accounts

The meeting closed at 19.56

Signed:..... Date:.....