

Minutes

of the meeting of the

Yatton Parish Council

Finance, Personnel and Administration Committee

held on

23 November 2009

in Hangstones Pavilion

Meeting Commenced: 7.30 p.m.

Meeting ended: 9.30 p.m.

Present: Councillors: Rosey Knifton (Chairman), David Crossman, Wendy Griggs, Ian Payne, Lucy Perrott, Viv Wathen, Jean Watson

In attendance: Clerk

Public participation

Presentations by grant applicants

Nailsea Festival of Music: Cynthia Dobson spoke. The Festival had been running for four years. It was the only music festival in the locality and teachers and pupils from Yatton and Claverham were involved. The festival hoped to use the new Nailsea School next year. However its main sponsor had just pulled out.

Strawberry Line Café Project: Marina van Vessem spoke. The Project was a Community Interest Company and any profits would be locked in. The intention was to provide employment for adults with learning difficulties and also a community facility. The total cost was £180,000 and funder s had already committed £87,000. The application to the Parish Council was for matched funding for a Department for Transport grant under its Access for All scheme to improve station accessibility.

West of England MS Therapy Centre: Janet Epplestone spoke. There was very little help in the UK for people with MS. The Centre had been in existence for 25 years. At least 13 users lived in Yatton or Claverham. The Centre had a holistic approach, using a variety of therapies, but perhaps most important it was a meeting place for people with MS.

The Chairman thanked all the applicants for their presentations.

MATTERS FOR DECISION

FIN306: Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Graham Humphreys.

FIN307: Declarations of Interest

Wendy Griggs declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the grant application by the West of England MS Therapy Centre as a close friend had MS.

During consideration of the budget Wendy Griggs declared a personal and prejudicial interest in budget provision for Yatton Youth Club as Treasurer of the Youth Club.

FIN308: Minutes of the Meeting held on 12 October 2009

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 October 2009 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

FIN309: Grant applications

Members considered five grant applications.

RESOLVED to award the following grants under the specified powers:

(1) Nailsea Festival of Music: £100 (power to provide entertainment)

(2) Vision North Somerset: £300 (section 137)

(Wendy Griggs, having declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the next application, left the room.)

(3) West of England MS Therapy Centre: £400 (section 137)

(Wendy Griggs returned to the room)

(4) Community Drugs Misuse Forum: £350 (section 137)

(5) Strawberry Line Café Project: £1000 to be committed as an earmarked reserve (section 137)

RESOLVED that the necessary virement be authorised between Section 137 Grants and Other Grants so that there is no overspend or underspend.

FIN310: Budget provision for the Citizens' Advice Bureau

Members considered a letter from North Somerset Citizens Advice Bureau seeking continuation of Parish Council funding.

RESOLVED that the Parish Council provide for a contribution of £6,000 in the 2010/11 budget.

Members asked the Clerk to ask the CAB whether it sought funding from other parish councils and also to ask the CAB to consider increasing its hours.

FIN311: Retirement provision for the Parish Council's staff

Members considered a report from the Clerk (Annex 1).

RESOLVED:

(1) that the Committee in principle supports membership of the Local Government Pension Scheme, with current staff having the option to join or to retain their current expectation of a gratuity;

(2) that Avon Pension Fund be asked to make a presentation to staff and councillors before a final decision is taken;

(3) that the final decision be referred to Full Council;

(4) that any decision take effect from 1 April 2010 to enable budget provision to be made.

Members thanked the Clerk for his comprehensive report on the issue.

FIN312: Registration of title to the Council's land

Members considered a report from the Clerk (Annex 2).

RESOLVED that the Clerk apply to register title to the six properties set out in the report and that the Clerk be authorised to withdraw the title deeds from safe custody in order to submit them with the application.

FIN313: Draft budget for 2010/11

Members considered a draft budget for 2010/11 prepared by the Clerk and Finance Assistant (Annex 3).

Yatton Junior Football Club

Members considered a letter from the Club (Annex 4). Members were concerned at the high estimates for utilities and white liner. Members also asked if the Club was approaching neighbouring parish councils for funding.

RESOLVED that Rosey Knifton and David Crossman meet the Club to discuss members' concerns and report back.

Yatton Youth Club

(Wendy Griggs, having declared a personal and prejudicial interest, left the room.)

RESOLVED that the budget provision for Yatton Youth Club for 2010/11 be £12,000.

(Wendy Griggs returned to the room.)

Grants (Section 137 Grants + Other Grants)

RESOLVED that the total budget provision for grants for 2010/11 be £8,000.

Strawberry Line

RESOLVED that £750 be included in the 2010/11 budget at present, but that the Clerk ask North Somerset Council how the money would be used now that the Project Manager has left, and also which other parish councils are contributing.

FIN314: Membership of the Campaign to Protect Rural England

Members considered an email from the Campaign to Protect Rural England including the latest CPRE report to parish councils (Annex 5).

RESOLVED that the Parish Council renew its membership of the Campaign to Protect Rural England at a cost of £29 (section 137).

MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

FIN315: Summary Income and Expenditure Report (Annex 6)

Noted.

FIN305: Future agenda items

Further consideration of budget, including grant to Yatton Junior Football Club

Chairman

___/___/2009