

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD AT 8PM ON MONDAY 18TH JUNE 2012 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC HALL, POYNTON

PRESENT

Chairman: M Beanland

Cllrs. G Bartos, M C G Sewart, L A Clarke

Also attending under SO51: Cllr P Hoyland (as substitute for Cllr Mrs J Saunders)

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllrs. C Gorst, A Hall, Mrs J Saunders, Alex Smith, G Smith

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Clarke declared a personal and prejudicial interest in item 6 on the agenda, on the grounds that he owns property on Park Lane. He withdrew from the Chamber when that item was considered.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 30th April 2012 be approved, and signed by the Chairman (NC)

4. Payment Schedules for April and May 2012

RESOLVED: That the Payment Schedules for April and May 2012 are received, and signed by the Chairman (NC)

5. Town Council's Capital Programme

The Clerk explained that the Internal Auditor recommended that the Town Council produce a Medium Term Capital Programme to account for the substantial amount held in their Rolling Capital Programme Fund (RCPF). This would provide a better understanding of how the funds in this reserve are expected to be allocated.

The Clerk has done this (see attached), and talked Councillors through the document. He informed the Committee that the Town Council has now assumed responsibility for all tree maintenance on the Inclines. However, over

the last five to six years no regular maintenance work has been carried out by Cheshire East. To remedy this, a special reserve will be created for the work that can be expected in the coming years. Cllr Clarke agreed that this is required on the Inclines and that such tree maintenance tends to be very costly. The Clerk also explained that the PB&H Committee has agreed to fund a tree audit for the Inclines in order to prioritise the work required.

RESOLVED: That the Town Council's Medium Term Capital Programme is received and approved (NC)

6. Poynton Village Revitalisation Scheme Contribution

Cllr Clarke left the meeting the Chamber, having declared a personal and prejudicial interest.

The Clerk explained that document provided to Councillors listed standard items that had been booked to the £100,000 contribution by the Town Council to the Poynton Village Revitalisation Scheme. This does not include forward commitments such as the creation of rear car parks. Such funds have not yet been committed, but are shown as a contingency.

The Chairman asked for clarification about the £3,688 that Cllr Hall had queried at the last F&GP meeting. The Clerk explained that that amount was for expenditure in the last financial year. The current amount shown (£5118.17) also includes other items booked in this current financial year, and brings the detail fully up to date.

RESOLVED: That the booked expenditure to date against the Town Council's £100,000 contribution towards the Village Revitalisation Scheme is noted (NC)

7. Appointment of BDO

The Clerk explained that the Audit Commission is being disbanded in the coming months. Their recent letter informed the Town Council that the accountancy practice BDO has been appointed as the external auditor for the purposes of auditing Poynton Town Council's accounts from 2012/13, for a five year term.

RESOLVED: That the correspondence from the Audit Commission be received (NC)

8. Frederick Mertten's Charity

The Clerk confirmed that this charity has now been wound up, as confirmed by the Charity Commission. He went on to explain that there is still the matter of submitting accounts for 2010/11 and the Clerk has been on the Charity

Commission's website and requested the necessary password. He is awaiting this information. The Clerk assured Cllr Clarke that the return itself is straight forward and that this matter is in hand.

RESOLVED: That the winding up of the Frederick Mertten's Charity and the transfer of funds to the Viscountess Warren Bulkeley Charities is noted, and that the Clerk expedites the 2010/11 final accounts for the Charity Commission (NC)

The meeting concluded at 8.20 pm