

St. Anne's on the Sea Town Council

Minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee held on 29th October 2013, 2pm at West Lodge, 5 St Georges Road, St. Anne's on the Sea, Lancashire FY8 2AE.

Present: Councillors E Nash Chairman
T Ford
A Jacques (part)
C Lanyon
C Little
V Settle

Officers S Taylor Town Clerk

Representatives from the Friends of Hope Street Park
I Roberts
P Curtis

334/13 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Willder

335/13 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Settle declared a personal interest in agenda item 11 – Hope Street Park Pavilion, in that the application for funding was within their Ward.

Councillor Little declared a personal interest in agenda item 11 – Hope Street Park Pavilion, in that they were part of Fylde Borough Council's cabinet. Councillor Little did not partake in the decision making process for this agenda item.

336/13 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED That the minutes of the meeting held on 10th September 2013 be approved.

337/13 SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES

RESOLVED That the minutes of the Public Rights of Way Sub-Committee of 14th October 2013 be noted.

338/13 HOPE STREET PARK PAVILION

Councillor Settle gave an update on the friends of Hope Street Park progress to date in the future development of Hope Street Park Pavilion. This included:

- Lancashire County Council assisted in the Architects designs, free of charge
- The artists impression
- The initial project costings of £79,000

Councillors Nash and Settle had met with Fylde Borough Council Officers to discuss alternative options for the Pavilion. A new build would cost £220,000 and in the current economic climate this amount of funding was not available. Fylde Borough Council officers considered the refurbishment the best option available.

- In response to questions from the Committee, the Hope Street Representatives confirmed the following:
- That the building would include sustainable building design features, such as a heat pump, insulation to current Building Regulations, double glazing and the provision of water butts
- The many expressions of interests from community groups that would be using the facility. These included SureStart and Age UK
- The building would be fully compliant with the Disability Discrimination Act 1995
- That subject to funding, refurbishment work would commence from April 2014
- That Fylde Borough Council would undertake the management of bookings for the Pavilion

The Hope Street Park Representatives stated the management of the building should be undertaken by whoever best represented the community. They added that currently the total of funding at £79,000 was only an estimate. The project had not been put out to tender, so actual costs were not confirmed. Even though in principle the group had raised sufficient funding, not all of this had been confirmed and there was currently no project contingency.

It was agreed that Councillors Nash and Settle would meet with Fylde Borough Council officers to discuss the Town Council's involvement in the Pavilion project.

- RESOLVED**
- a) That the Town Council support, in principle the friends of Hope Street Park refurbishment of the Pavilion.
 - b) That further discussion is undertaken between the Town Council and Borough Council regarding the future management involvement of the Pavilion.

Councillor Jacques joined the meeting during discussion of this agenda item

339/13 BUDGETARY REPORT

- RESOLVED** To approve the report of income and expenditure up to 30th September 2013.

340/13 BUDGET PLANNING 2014 - 2015

The Committee agreed that as part of the budget planning process, a meeting be arranged between the Council Chairmen and the Town Clerk.

- RESOLVED** That the Town Clerk arrange a budget meeting with the Council Chairmen to discuss the 2014-2015 Council budget.

341/13 APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITOR

The Town Clerk requested that the existing Internal Auditor be appointed to undertake the Council's internal Audit for year ending 31st March 2014.

RESOLVED To appoint Mr IT Cropper as the Internal Auditor for year ending 31st March 2014.

342/13 DOG BAGS

The Town Clerk reported that cost of dog bags provided by the Town Council would exceed the allocated budget for 2013/2014.

The Committee agreed that they wished to continue with the provision of dog bags because there was evidence that these help reduce dog fouling.

RESOLVED

- a) That the Town Clerk be allowed to overspend for dog bag provision under the existing budget heading.**
- b) That the Town Clerk write a letter for publication in the local press, requesting that people stop taking dog bags unnecessarily.**
- c) That the Town Council was committed to ensuring a cleaner environment, including adequate provision of dog bags.**
- d) That the Town Council look at ways to solve the problem of people taking a large number of bags at one time.**

343/13 STUDY DAY

Councillor Nash informed the Committee that he had in conjunction with Councillor Settle and the Town Clerk, undertaken some preparation for the study day. The Committee discussed the most effective process for the day and requested that it be an afternoon session.

RESOLVED

- a) That the study day be referred to as the Town Council Planning Day.**
- b) That Councillors Nash and Settle with the Town Clerk, prepare the programme for the Planning Day.**
- c) That the Town Clerk arrange this event to take place in late November or early December 2013.**

344/13 PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY SUB-COMMITTEE

Councillor Settle reported that the first project for the Sub-Committee was taking place on the morning of Wednesday 30th October 2013. This was an overgrown footpath that was located near to Wildings Lane. Due to financial restrictions Lancashire County Council could only provide £80 towards the cost of clearing the footpath.

Lancashire County Council would only provide signage where a footpath or bridleway left an adopted road. Additional network signage would have to be provided and funded by the Town Council.

RESOLVED **To support the Public Right of Way Sub-Committees first project, the clearing and enhancement of the footpath near Wildings Lane.**

345/13 REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES 2013

The Committee considered the review of polling districts and polling places.

Councillor Ford requested that the boundary of Ashton Ward be realigned around the Headroomgate Gate/Oxford Road/Grange Road area so that Headroomgate and St Annes Road East form the boundary. These were clearly defined major roads and provided a more logical break than the current arrangement involving parts of three roads. If this took place then the Parish Rooms currently used for the BA polling district would then be in the Ward the building serves - currently it wasn't.

Councillor Lanyon advised that Mayfield County Primary School was in Ashton Ward. The school was closed for elections despite the Scout hut being empty on the same site. At the last election however, the Polling Station was moved to St. Anne's Cricket Club which was in St. Leonards Ward. This had caused much confusion to local residents.

Councillor Lanyon stated that the area of St. Leonards Ward that was often overlooked included, Squires Gate, Hornsey Avenue, St. Martin's, Lemon Tree Court, Lindsay Court, that had no permanent venue. There was a mobile unit located on Westgate Road on the waste land (now used as a car park) that was previously occupied by Blackpool Council. The size of St. Leonards Ward and the location of the polling station would need to be addressed when the new development on the former Pontin's site was completed. This development had already started. This development would increase the number of additional residents in this Ward by approximately 400.

RESOLVED **That the Town Clerk write to Fylde Borough Council Electoral Services Manager with the Town Council's proposals under the Polling Districts and Polling Places Review 2013.**

346/13 FYLDE HIGH STREET INNOVATION FUND – OUTCOME OF BIDS

Councillor Form updated the outcome of the two bids to the Fylde High Street Innovation Fund. He advised that the lamppost banner bid for £3000 had been successful. This bid was to provide lamppost banners for the lighting columns within the town centre, with some previously agreed additional funding from the Town Council. Advertisement consent was required at a cost of £385.

The Committee were notified that the town centre manager bid had not been successful. This was despite substantially amending the original bid, as requested by the panel.

It was noted that St. Anne's Christmas lights required substantial investment due to their age and future aspirations for the development and provision of the lights. It was agreed that a bid be submitted for consideration at the next round of the Fylde High Street Innovation Fund.

- RESOLVED**
- a) To accept the £3000 towards provision of banners in the Town Centre, from the Fylde High Street Innovation Fund.**
 - b) To make provision for any required additional funding.**
 - c) To submit a Fylde High Street Innovation Fund bid for the future development of the Town Centre Christmas Lights.**

347/13 WORK PLAN

The Committee considered the Work Plan and updated as required.

The Town Clerk read a letter to the Committee from Mr A Oldfield, Chief Executive of Fylde Borough Council, in response to the Town Council's offer for the Public Offices only. The letter stated that after consideration the Borough Council would not accept the Council's offer for the Public Offices; they were only considering other expressions of interest for the whole site.

- RESOLVED**
- a) To consider the updated Work Plan at the next meeting and to note the following:**
 - b) That under item number 4.1, a formal meeting had not been held to discuss the Open Space Transfer**
 - c) That under item number 8.1, the Chief Executive, Fylde Borough Council had not yet confirmed the amount of the Council Tax Support Grant.**

348/13 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

It was noted that the next meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee would be held at West Lodge, 5 St. George's Road, St. Anne's on the Sea, Lancashire FY8 2AE on **Tuesday 3rd December at 2.00 pm.**

349/13 MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED IN PRIVATE SESSION

- RESOLVED**
- That, under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, the public be excluded on the grounds of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted which involves the likely disclosure of exempt information. The public and press to withdraw from the meeting during consideration of detailed discussion regarding:**

350/13 CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

The Chairman informed the Committee that after the 3rd December 2013 meeting, it was his intention to step down as the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee.

The meeting ended at 4.30 pm.

Signed.....

Chairman
3rd December 2013