FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

27th July 2021 at 6.30 pm – Council Chamber

Minutes

PRESENT: Cllr Brooks (late arrival), Cllr Coakley, Cllr Gold, Cllr Long, Cllr Moore, Cllr Morgan, Cllr Stentiford (late arrival), Cllr Tolman, Cllr Tagg (Portreeve) & Cllr Watson

Members of the Public: 1

Officers: Town Clerk

1. RATIFY ELECTION OF CHAIR

There had been one nomination for the Chair of the Committee for the municipal year 2021/2022, being Cllr Tagg, as proposed by Cllr Tolman and seconded by Cllr Coakley.

A vote was taken to regularize the election and it was agreed unanimously to appoint Cllr Tagg as Chair of the Committee for the municipal year 2021/2022.

2. RATIFY ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR

There had been one nomination for the Vice Chair of the Committee for the municipal year 2021/2022, being Cllr Tolman, as proposed by Cllr Coakley and seconded by Cllr Tagg.

A vote was taken to regularize the election and it was agreed unanimously to appoint Cllr Tolman as Vice Chair of the Committee for the municipal year 2021/2022.

3. APOLOGIES

CLLRS SMITH & POUND

4. MINUTES

Approval of the minutes of 15th June 2021.

Resolved. It was proposed by Cllr Moore seconded by Cllr Gold and agreed unanimously to approve the minutes.

5. MATTERS ARISING

None.

6. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

To receive any disclosure(s) of interest by a Councillor or an officer in matters to be considered at this meeting, in accordance with provisions of Sections 94 or 117 of the Local Government Act 1972 or the National Code of Local Government Conduct.

Item 13 for Cllrs Coakley and Moore being members of the Town Forum.

7. DISPENSATIONS – To consider any requests for dispensations.

None.

8. APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS

To approve the payments as circulated prior to the meeting.

Resolved. It was proposed by Cllr Tolman seconded by Cllr Gold and agreed unanimously to approve the payments as listed;

Payments for approval 27th July 2021

FGP	12466	Graeme Ash	Picnic In Park - Entertainer	145.00	-	145.00
OS	12467	EDF	Workshop & Toilets	50.16	2.51	52.67
FGP	12468	Helen Dowdall	Defib Supplies - replace chq 12527	72.00	14.40	86.40
OS	12469	George Du Plessis	Sun Cream for Outside Services Staff	8.98		8.98
All	12470	HMRC	July PAYE & NI	3,712.97		3,712.97
				-		-
				3989.11	**16.91**	**4006.02**

Cllr Stentiford arrived.

9. FOR DECISION – To discuss the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations.

Cllr Tagg had recently attended a meeting about the plans for these Celebrations; being a four day event next year. He explained the proposed time table and which organizations could be involved at each stage, such as the church service and 'Picnic at the Palace'.

A letter has been prepared by the Portreeve (and he will circulate to fellow Cllrs for information) and will be sent out to the various groups and organizations within the community. A meeting in the Town Hall has been proposed for Friday 3rd September at 7pm inviting interested parties to attend.

In the meantime, the town hall complex, portaloos and parks have been booked for the four day period.

On Sunday 8th August 2021 the Town Forum will be hosting a community 'Picnic in the Park' which will be a blueprint for such events next year. It will also be a valuable exercise in determining an appropriate budget; which will form part of the considerations when setting the precept for next year.

10. FOR DECISION – to discuss the amalgamation of the Town Hall and Premises utilities to one, greener, company.

Prior to the meeting the Chair had circulated information about this matter, with a proposal to give the Town Clerk, RFO and Chair power to act.

Cllr Watson asked for costings on the rates of commission, what contracts could be entered by the agent on our behalf and would there be any penalties with existing contracts. **Noted.**

Cllr Tagg agreed to receive further questioning about specifics outside of the meeting, but asked that the matter be moved forward.

Cllr Long also spoke about the power of the broker and the need for this to be given due consideration, and also requested that ethical questions were answered appropriately. Saving monies at <u>all</u> costs is dangerous and all factors should be taken into consideration not solely financial ones.

Cllr Brooks arrived.

Cllr Tagg reminded the committee of the initial brief, being to find a green company, reduce costs and to bring all supplies under the one umbrella, which has been achieved.

Cllr Watson put forward an amendment to proposal, that the decision is advised to Councillors with what choice and reasoning, before entering into a contract. There was no seconder.

Resolved. It was proposed by Cllr Tagg seconded by Cllr Moore and agreed that the Town Clerk, RFO and Cllr Tagg are given power to act and proceed with getting the job done. (9 Support, 0 Against, 1 Abstention, Cllr Watson).

11. ANY OTHER <u>URGENT</u> BUSINESS

None.

It was proposed by Cllr Gold seconded by Cllr Long and agreed to move to a Part Two Meeting