

Minutes of the Meeting of the Resources Committee, St Ives Town Council held in the Committee Room, The Guildhall, St Ives on Thursday 11 February 2010 at 7.00 pm

PRESENT

Chairman – Councillor A P Mitchell
Vice Chairman - Councillor R Tulley

COUNCILLORS

Andrewes T
Nicholls C C

Watson Mrs Y

OFFICERS

Town Clerk

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – were received from Councillors Fry B, Isaacs H R G, Symons Mrs J H, Tanner Mrs J and Tonkin G E T.

R.62 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

RESOLVED – that the Chairman signs as a true and correct record the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 19 November 2009.

R.63 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBER / OFFICER INTERESTS

None.

R.64 ACTIVE PARTNERSHIPS – UPDATE

An update from the Community Network Manager regarding Guildhall bookings, revenue and pricing, liabilities and property matters was reported.

During discussion it was noted that a key factor in considering the future of the Guildhall was the need to ensure investment in the building for it to be a sustainable and well-used facility for the community. There was some concern at the length of time for active partnering discussions to progress, and it was also stressed that care must be taken before the town council accepts any additional liabilities.

It was noted that Cornwall Council procedures were expected to be made clear in the near future, at which time discussions could continue.

It was noted that a meeting with Cornwall Councillor Lance Kennedy (responsible for the localism agenda) would be held on 16 March.

R.65 REVIEW OF RESERVES – GENERAL AND EARMARKED

With the Chairman's agreement, this item was deferred to the next meeting.

R.66 FINANCIAL UPDATE REPORT

The financial update report had been circulated prior to the meeting. After consideration, the report was noted.

R.67 COMMUNICATIONS – UPDATE ON PROGRESS WITH NOTICEBOARD

The Clerk reported that a draft lease had been received and that as the agreement was underway the lease agreement would be progressed and the order for the noticeboard would be placed.

This update was noted.

R.68 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED – that in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 (as extended by s.100 of the Local Government Act 1972), the press and public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following matters on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by virtue of the paragraph specified.

R.69 TRAFFIC CONTROL OFFICER (Paragraph 3)

A report setting out the aims and potential benefit of the town council employing a Traffic Control Officer had been circulated prior to the meeting. The Clerk also circulated indicative costings to demonstrate the viability of the proposal. During discussion it was stressed that should the scheme proceed, it should be on the basis of minimising town centre traffic, maintaining traffic flow (particularly at the Porthminster junction and Library Corner) and improving the experience of residents and visitors to the town.

The traffic control powers could be conferred on the town council if successful in being registered as an approved employer, in line with paragraph 8B of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002. The town council could employ the officer using powers conferred by section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, being in the interests of the area and conferring a benefit commensurate with the expenditure incurred.

RECOMMENDED to Council – that the town council employ, on a part-time basis, a Traffic Control Officer as a pilot for the 2010/2011 summer season, subject to approval of job specification and conditions of employment.

R.70 APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITOR (Paragraph 3)

In accordance with the requirement to appoint an internal auditor and also in accordance with the need to ensure best value for the council, a proposal to seek quotes for the auditing service for 2009/2010 financial year was considered.

RESOLVED – that the four audit service providers named at the meeting be provided with details of the town council's audit requirements and invited to give a quote for the works needed.

R.71 STAFF APPRAISAL / PAY REVIEW (Paragraph 1 & 3)

Following consideration of the written report circulated prior to the meeting, it was

RESOLVED – that the staff appraisal and pay review be carried out in the near future, with the panel to be: Town Mayor, Deputy Town Mayor, Chairman of Resources Committee and Vice-Chairman of Resources Committee, with the Town Clerk.

R.72 MARKET HOUSE UPDATE (Paragraph 3)

An update was given on an ongoing matter with regard to Shops 3&4. This interim report was noted, with the matter due to be considered by Council on 11 March 2010.

A request from the tenant of Shop 1 was considered

RESOLVED – that an offer be made to the tenant of Shop 1 for the town council to submit the Listed Building Application, if the tenant is willing to carry out the subsequent works.

R.73 UPDATE ON INSURANCE CLAIMS AGAINST THE TOWN COUNCIL (Paragraph 3)

The Clerk reported on two unrelated insurance claims which had been submitted to the Council, and steps which had been taken to reduce the risk of similar claims in the future.

Following discussion, the report was noted.

Meeting closed at 8.25 pm

Chairman