

NEWBIGGIN-BY-THE-SEA TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Finance Committee held on Wednesday 18 March 2015 at 7.00 pm at The Bungalow Woodhorn Road Newbiggin by-the-Sea.

PRESENT:

Councillors: M Cholerton (Chairperson)

M Boon W Rogers A Thompson S Todd

Officer: D Earl – Town Clerk

Also present: Councillors L Burns and M Peden.

FC12/14 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 15 December 2014 be approved as a true record

FC13/14 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS There were no new disclosures of interests.

FC14/14 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items on the Agenda as they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1 and 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the 1972 Act relating to financial and business affairs.

FC15/14 2014/15 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT AND PROJECTED BALANCES

The Committee considered the current financial position following a review of the income and expenditure for the financial year by the Town Clerk. Details of the anticipated expenditure; balances; earmarked contingencies and scheme commitments from the 2014/15 accounts were circulated and considered by Members.

The Committee considered the level of contingencies and approved the use through virement and carry forward where necessary of all under-spent allocations to support the increases in project expenditure.

RESOLVED: that the report be noted and the virement and carry forward be approved together with the committed balances for the next financial year

FC16/14 ENHANCED LOCAL SERVICES – PARTNERSHIP ARRANGEMENTS FOR 2015/16

Discussions had taken place between Town Councillors Environmental Working Group and the Neighbourhood Services Area Manager and officers the previous day to confirm that Enhanced Services arrangements for 2015/16. Cost to the Town Council would be the same as last year to cover salaries for six months with a small inflation increase to cover the minimal wage award.

It was anticipated that the service would continue from 01 April and make a good start to improvements ahead of the summer season.

RESOLVED that: The Town Council continue the Local Service Enhancement Partnership with the County Council for 2015/16

FC17/14 ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS

Following a number of site meetings with the Environmental Working Group and contractors and Neighbourhood Services Officers the Town Clerk outlined the intended project works for Atlee Park refurbishment and new equipment. The quotations indicated that the existing budget provision and contribution from Portas Town Team was not sufficient owing to the installation costs and additional safety surface works. There was some discussion of this and that additional costs should be met from under spending of current budgets referred to in earlier discussions.

The site would again require sand clearance works and to help reduce further problems it had been agreed with Neighbourhood services to extend the fence to the ridge with the promenade and provide a better barrier. The environmental planting scheme would be carried out to complement the works and remove an unkempt area along the promenade. Overall it made best sense to proceed with all works at this time and complete the park minimising costs of sand clearance and wet pour safety works.

RESOLVED that:

- i) The quotation from Kompan Limited for the full scheme including safety surfaces amounting to £24,576 be accepted and the installation works proceed as soon as possible after the Easter holiday period;**
- ii) The quotation from Morpeth Welding Limited for the fence works amounting to £7,000 be accepted and the works commence on 13 April;**
- iii) The Town Clerk arrange for the Environmental Improvement Scheme to be carried out by Neighbourhood Services in conjunction with the other works;**
- iv) The Environmental Working Group be given delegated powers to make final arrangements for these schemes.**

FC18/14 COLLINGWOOD ROAD OPEN SPACE

A Member raised the ongoing problem of vehicles driving over the open space and a possible solution if the County Council would agree and supply boulders to form a physical barrier with the Town Council meeting transport costs.

RESOLVED: that the Town Clerk seek authority for these works from the County Council prior to local residents being consulted

Signed by the Chairperson:Date:.....