

SALTASH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held at The Guildhall on Tuesday 5th May 2009 at 7:00pm

PRESENT:- Councillors M Gee (Chairman), R Austin, N Challen, P Clements, D Holley, Mrs S Hooper MBE, A Killeya, Mrs Merryn Killeya, Mrs F Knight, C Riches, D Yates,

ALSO PRESENT:- Mrs M Small (Town Clerk)

APOLOGIES: Councillors R Bickford, G Ellison, P Stephens ISM, B Reid

16/09/10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Austin declared a personal interest in Minute Nos. 25/09/10 and 26/09/10 as a Director of the Gateway Community Interest Company and Councillors Killeya, Mrs Merryn Killeya, Yates and Clements declared a personal interest in the same Minute Nos. as they are Members of the Gateway Community Interest Company.

17/09/10 CEMETERY EXTENSION

Councillor Austin reported that there are about 75 plots left at the cemetery which will mean about 18 months. He is waiting for a guesstimate of costs for the project. It was **AGREED** that:-

- (a) Councillor Austin tries to obtain the costs by the next Council meeting and checks if Cornwall Council will manage the project.
- (b) The Clerk follows up the progress of purchase of land with the Solicitor.

18/09/10 LOAN TO SALTASH UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB

The Clerk still has to follow up the repayment of the loan with the Football Club.

19/09/10 ST GEORGE'S DAY FLAG

Councillor Holley reported that he had been asked if the Town Council could fly the St George's flag next year. It was **AGREED** by 8 in favour with 2 abstentions (Councillors Gee and Riches) that a flag be purchased and flown in future.

20/09/10 PROVISION OF E-MAIL ADDRESSES AND BUSINESS CARDS FOR COUNCILLORS

The Clerk showed two possible layouts for business cards. It was **AGREED** that a further sample is circulated based on the card used by the District Council with the name, telephone number in larger letters, Guildhall address smaller and a minimum font 12 to be used.

21/09/10 **COUNCIL'S DISCIPLINARY AND GRIEVANCE POLICY**

The policies had been previously circulated. The Clerk reported changes that were required and it was **AGREED** to consider at the next meeting.

22/09/10 **CHAIRS OF COMMITTEES**

Councillor Holley asked if the Council would review the roles of Committee Chairmen after they are elected at the first meeting of each Committee. It was **AGREED** that the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Committee Chairman, Councillor Holley and the Clerk meet.

23/09/10 **AUDIT**

A copy of the Annual Governance Statement was circulated, together with the internal audit report, the statement of accounts and the trial balance for the year ending 31st March, 2009. It was noted that VAT for 2 years has to be claimed and the Clerk is making arrangements for this. The asset register has to be completed and this is being pursued. The Clerk drew Councillors' attention to the fact that when setting the precept for the current year in November, £11,000 had been estimated as interest. However, in the current climate it was unlikely to reach this sum, although there had been a large deposit on the last day of the financial year from the S 106 money and this may provide the estimated interest.

It was **RECOMMENDED** that:-

- (a) the Annual Governance Statement is signed by the Chairman and submitted to audit.
- (b) the Clerk reclaims the VAT as soon as possible and that the asset register is completed
- (c) the information relating to possible interest is noted.

24/09/10 **EMPLOYERS SUPERANNUATION CONTRIBUTIONS**

The Clerk reported that consideration should be given to the superannuation contribution rates by employees. The employer's contribution rate had gone down as recommended by the Actuary by 0.1% to 19.6% from 1st April 2009. It was **RECOMMENDED** that the percentage paid by employees remains the same as last year, based on the full-time salary equivalents.

25/09/10 **TOWN SEALS ON CIC LEAFLET**

It was **AGREED** that permission is granted for the Town Seals to be used on the leaflet being prepared by Saltash Gateway Community Interest Company

26/09/10 **INSURANCE OF TURNER PAINTING**

The Clerk reported that Gateway Community Interest Company had asked if the Council will insurance the Turner Painting on the waterfront, the new mosaic on the seat base in Fore Street and the banner poles in Victoria Gardens.

It was **AGREED** that consideration is deferred to obtain confirmation of who is to own these and the Clerk obtains a cost of insurance.

27/09/10 **CONFIDENTIAL PART II**

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to move into Confidential Part II to receive a report on the Toc H building.

28/09/10 **TOC H BUILDING**

In confidential Part II, the Clerk gave a report on the Toc H building following which it was **RESOLVED** to move back into Part I of the meeting.

29/09/10 **SEAGULLS**

Councillor Killeya stated that there had been a few calls regarding the nuisance caused by Herring Gulls and one person asked if Councillors could go on the roof to take down a nest. The District Council used to have a Vermin Control Officer but this is no longer the case. It is also not permitted to kill Gulls unless it is proven to be a danger to life and limb and they attack a person. The recommended approach is that a home owner employs someone to knock down any nesting material. Once eggs have been laid they have a right of protection. There should be no source of nearby food to encourage the Gulls.

It was **AGREED** that whilst the Town Council sympathise with the issue, it has no powers to deal with this and it is the responsibility of the home owner to employ someone.

30/09/10 **PRESS REPORTS**

It was **AGREED** that no press reports were required.

31/09/10 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 2nd June 2009 at 7:00pm
Agenda item: Tables

Signed: _____
Chairman

Dated: 21st May 2009