

SALTASH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held at The Guildhall on Tuesday 21st September 2010 at 7:30pm

PRESENT: Councillors: M Gee (Chairman), R Austin, P Clements, Mrs S Hooper, A Killeya, M Killeya, W Phillips, C Riches, P Stephens, D Yates.

ALSO PRESENT: Ray Lane – Town Clerk

APOLOGIES: Councillors: D Holley, C Oakes.

88/10/11 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

89/10/11 PRECEPT 2011/2012

- (a) The Mayor requested members give due consideration to the forthcoming precept budget for 2011/12.

The Chairman stated the 6 month statement would be distributed when available.

- (b) The Mayor spoke on the need to change the system of precept origination and for a steering group to be established to guide the process consisting of Chairmen of Committees, Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Clerk.

It was **RESOLVED** that the reports be noted.

90/10/11 CLERK'S REPORT ON DELEGATED AUTHORITY TO SPEND

The Mayor informed members that delegated authority for the Town Clerk to spend from approved budgets, with the constraints that the Mayor and Chairman of Policy and Resources shall be consulted in advance on any item of spending over £250, and may refer these items to the committee in advance and, in any case, these items shall be reported back to Committee afterwards.

It was **RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

91/10/11 GUILDHALL

- (a) The Clerk informed members that the purchase of new tables was ongoing.
- (b) Members considered the report of the Conservation Officer in relation to building repairs whilst considering further reports and quotes for works required to the Guildhall floors and windows.

It was **RESOLVED** that:

- i) The Clerk obtain quotes from surveyors to conduct and produce a comprehensive fully costed survey of the Guildhall.

It was **RECOMMENDED** that:

- i) Full Council constitute a working group consisting of the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Chairman and Vice Chairman of Policy and Resources, Councillors W Phillips and D Yates. The Working Group to report back to Policy and Resources budget meeting in two months and that the Town Clerk be delegated to procure surveys up to a value of £2,500, in consultation and agreement with the working group to be appointed.
- (c) It was **AGREED** the Clerk would progress the service on the hearing loop facility in the chamber.
- (d) The Clerk informed members that the photocopier was due to be installed on Thursday 23rd September.
- (e) There were no further issues.

92/10/11 **CEMETERY EXTENSION**

Councillor B Austin gave an update on works conducted to date and that the scheme was on target. (Copy of work programmed and schedules on file.)

93/10/11 **SALT BINS**

The Clerk informed members about a reply received from the Area Manager (East) Localism stating that the Council's concerns sent to him with regard to Cornwall Council's future proposals for the service had been referred to the Highways Department for a response.

However, he reported that Cornwall Council will continue to service bins during the coming winter, including any that are repositioned, in accordance with the Town Council's desire. The training offered is so that local councils can deploy grit from bins, if desired, during next winter.

In relation to the response document it was stated that this could be submitted after the 30th September 2010.

Members considered the provision of bins for next year if, as proposed, Cornwall Council proceed with their strategy to withdraw the service for the town.

It was **RESOLVED** that:

- i) Training be accepted for one Caretaker and one Councillor (Councillor Yates, subject to availability).

It was **RECOMMENDED** that:

- (i) Cornwall Councillors set up a meeting with the relevant Cornwall Council Officer to replace a missing bin and, if not successful, that the Town Council replace it on this occasion.
- (ii) In principle, the Town Council take over responsibility for the bins next year, for the benefit of community safety.

94/10/11 **TOC H**

The Chairman reported that he had sent a letter to Cornwall Council registering the Town Council's interest in utilising the land and building for community use benefit, should they consider either selling or leasing it in the future.

It was **RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

95/10/11 **CORNWALL'S COMMUNITY GRANTS**

No reports.

96/10/11 **POLICIES**

The Mayor reported that policies would now be the responsibility of the recently established Staffing Committee.

97/10/11 **PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960**

Pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 and having regard to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed it was **RESOLVED** that the press/public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business.

98/10/11 **BANK ACCOUNTS AND FINANCE**

- (i) The Chairman reported to Members on the current situation with regard to VAT.
- (ii) The Chairman reported to Members on the current situation with regard to Elwell Woods.
- (iii) The Chairman reported to Members on the current situation with regard to the cemetery extension.

It was **RESOLVED** that Members note the reports.

99/10/11 **PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSIONS TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960**

It was **RESOLVED** that the public and press be re-admitted to the meeting.

100/10/11 **URGENT MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD BY THE CHAIR**

The Mayor raised the issue of establishing standardised protocols for civic events for consideration by Council.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Clerk work up standardised protocols for civic events.

101/10/11 **PRESS REPORTS**

No press reports.

102/10/11 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 19th October 2010 at 7pm.

Meeting closed 9.10pm

Signed: _____
Chairman

Dated: _____ 7th October 2010