

DRAFT MINUTES

At a future meeting the council will consider the accuracy of these minutes, so they may be subject to change. Please check the minutes to that meeting to confirm whether or not they have been amended.

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF FOWEY TOWN COUNCIL FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON 12th OCTOBER 2017 AT FOWEY TOWN HALL

Present Cllr J Berryman (Chairman), Cllr Mrs R Finlay (Mayor, *ex officio*), Cllr G Asker,
Cllr D Willmore,

In attendance The Town Clerk, Sally Vincent

17/13 Apologies Cllr C Stansfield

17/14 Declaration of Interests

- a. Pecuniary – Cllr Willmore declared a pecuniary interest in any matters relating to Parking Permits at Webb Street/Market Street/Caffa Mill
- b. Non Registerable – Cllr Asker declared a non registerable interest in any matters relating to SFCC.
- c. Dispensations - None

17/15 Public Questions

None

17/16 Minutes of Meeting of 5th July 2017

Proposed Cllr Willmore, seconded Cllr Asker and RESOLVED that the minutes be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

17/17 Matters Arising (for report only)

None

17/18 Review 2017/2018 Income/Expenditure against Budget

Members reviewed the up to date figures provided by the Town Clerk and noted nothing of particular concern apart from the diminishing town hall rental income. Cllr Asker suggested that it would be helpful to have more sophisticated month by month breakdowns income/expenditure against budget. The Chairman explained that an accounting package had been tried in the past but had proved to be unhelpful. However, using a different system could not be ruled out in the future as FTC's turnover continued to increase. Cllr Finlay highlighted the significant financial drain of keeping the Caffa Mill toilets operational and suggested the site could possibly be used in a similar way to the old toilet block at Readymoney, with a lease granted for a retail outlet on the condition that a public toilet facility was maintained by the lessee. Cllr Berryman agreed to investigate this possibility and report back to a future meeting. The Town Clerk noted that if this approach was considered at this – or any other – site that given the new guidance she would benefit from some training in procurement/tendering.

17/19 Squires Field

1. Cllr Finlay proposed, Cllr Willmore seconded and it was RESOLVED that the quote Playground Solutions to supply and install a 2.4m high single swing frame with a TFH Teen model seat, together with 14 sq. metres grass mat c/v mesh underlay should be accepted.
2. Members discussed the options relating to the new permit parking spaces at Squires Field and it was agreed that charging was essential, given that the annual running costs of the Squires Field complex were in the region of £10K Cllr Asker proposed, Cllr Finlay seconded and it was RESOLVED that the cost of the new permit parking spaces should be £1 per day plus vat, which was less than the hourly rate elsewhere in the town. Cllr Asker further proposed, Cllr Finlay seconded and it was RESOLVED that priority for spaces must be for businesses in the parish and private individuals on the electoral roll.
3. Members expressed concern about the grass cutting on both the playing field and the play park as it had been left very long throughout the summer. Cllr Berryman noted that Cormac's contract specified a cutting regime, which had probably been adhered to but the wet summer weather had been unhelpful. Cllr Asker agreed to produce a specification in line with FTC's expectations in time for the November meeting.

17/20 St Catherines Castle Lights

Cllr Berryman confirmed that the new batteries had been purchased but that Chris Biggs now had to purchase new lamps as the current ones were draining the batteries too quickly.

17/21 Town Quay

Cllr Finlay noted that the Town Quay should be a very special place, given that it was the heart of the town but that it was looking untidy and unloved. It was suggested that the appearance could be improved with bunting, lighting, new waste bins, hanging baskets etc. and it was agreed that it would be helpful to set up a meeting of quay users to discuss the options. The Town Clerk confirmed that SW Water had confirmed that they were now prepared to lease the surface of the outer quay to FTC and would subsidise FTC's legal costs to a maximum of £600. Cllr Berryman proposed, Cllr Willmore seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Town Clerk should instruct Stephens & Scown to progress the lease on this basis.

17/22 Reports from Members

The Town Clerk reported that the Chairman of SFCC had written requesting FTC to consider a grant towards their improvements. She confirmed that she would put this on the agenda for the full council meeting on the 18th October but the Finance Committee may like to take a preliminary view.

Cllr Asker declared an interest and left the room.

The remaining members recorded praise for the SFCC committee and recognized the outstanding work they had already done to improve the facility. However, they noted the significant maintenance costs of running the Squires Field complex, that both SFCC and the Youth Football Club enjoyed rent-free use of their buildings and the significant loss of town hall rental income since SFCC had opened. The general feeling was that FTC must invest in improvements to its own building – the Town Hall – rather than further subsidizing SFCC. Cllr Asker rejoined the meeting

Cllr Willmore reported that the TH internet was now running properly but that, while reception was good in the office it was very patchy in the Hall itself. Consequently the TH Committee would be purchasing a Booster, which would cost £60.00,

Meeting Closed 4.02pm

Date of Next Meeting to be confirmed