



Newmarket

TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Finance & Policy Committee
held on Monday 1st December 2008 at 7.15 pm at the Memorial Hall, Newmarket

Attendance :

- Councillor J Bailey, Chairman
- Councillor C Turner
- Councillor W Burch
- Councillor R Fletcher
- Councillor W Hirst
- Councillor M Jefferys

Also Present: Isabelle Barrett - Town Clerk, Rosemary Foreman – Minute Assistant, 1 Member of the Public

Minute	Action by
F/08/12/1 <u>APOLOGIES</u> None noted.	
F/08/12/2 <u>DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS & CONSIDER UPDATE OF REGISTER OF INTEREST</u> None noted.	
F/08/12/3 <u>TO CONFIRM THE MEETING HELD ON 17th NOVEMBER 2008</u> Councillor Bailey signed the minutes of the Finance & Policy Committee meeting held on Monday, 17 th November 2008, as a correct record.	
F/08/12/4 <u>MATTERS ARISING</u> None noted.	
F/08/12/5 <u>AN INVITATION TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO PUT QUESTIONS/STATEMENTS OF NOT MORE THAN 3 MINUTES DURATION RELATING TO ITEMS LISTED IN THE PUBLIC PART OF THE AGENDA ONLY</u> None noted.	
F/08/12/6 <u>TO RECEIVE THE INCOME & EXPENDITURE REPORT UP TO 26th NOVEMBER 08</u> The Committee analysed and discussed the Income and Expenditure data up to 26 th November and the following actions were agreed: 4032 Publicity 139.2% - Town Clerk to check figures 4060 Training for Councillors – Town Clerk to review budget for 2009/10 4014/4015 Light & Heat/Gas – Town Clerk to obtain full readings 4037 Cemetery R&M Grounds 203.8% - Town Clerk to check	 Town Clerk Town Clerk Town Clerk Town Clerk

Town Clerk confirmed that total expenditure was on target and also advised that SCC would be replacing and installing the bus shelter in The Avenue.

F/08/12/7 **TO DISCUSS NTCs ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS NBA AWARDS**

Councillor Turner reported that Councillor Hirst had attended an NBA meeting as he had been unable to do so. Councillor Turner had granted £100 from his Mayor's Allowance towards the NBA Awards which would be presented on 12th December but felt that, as the Council contributed to Newmarket College and St Felix Valediction, the £100 should be taken from general funds and budgeted for in the future.

After discussion, the following recommendation was agreed:

F/08/12/7.01 Recommendation

That the sum of £100 be granted from general funds towards the NBA Awards.

The Mayor and Deputy Mayor agreed to attend the occasional NBA Breakfast Meetings when possible, the next one being held on 16th January 09.

Mayor & Deputy
Mayor

F/08/12/8 **RECISSION OF RESOLUTION 08/07/18.06 RELATED TO AUTHORISATION WHEN DEALING WITH STANDING ORDERS, SALARY PAYMENTS, DIRECT DEBITS AND THE PLACING OF TREASURY DEPOSITS**

Councillor Turner outlined the difficulties which the Town Clerk had experienced with the Council's bankers and after discussion the following recommendations were made

F/08/12/8.01 Recommendation

That resolution 08/07/18.06 be rescinded.

F/08/12/8.02 Recommendation

That any correspondence to the Council's bankers should be signed by the Town Clerk and countersigned by two authorised signatories.

Councillor Bailey advised that the Council's bankers had twice refused to pay staff salaries and imposed a £25 charge per transaction, even though requests had been submitted in time. Members agreed that the Town Clerk should write to the bank to address the expenditure incurred when the bank had made late salary transfers.

Town Clerk

F/08/12/9 **TO ASSESS PRELIMINARY PRECEPT FOR 2009/10**

As it was difficult to assess the situation at present, the Committee agreed that each Committee Chairman should discuss their budget with the Town Clerk prior to the January 09 Committee meetings to try and

reduce the budget and each give a report to the next F&P meeting.

Councillor Turner advised that he and Councillor Bailey would be discussing how to inform Newmarket residents of the causes and benefits of any increase in the Precept.

F/08/12/10 **CORRESPONDENCE**
None noted.

F/08/12/11 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**
Monday, 19th January 2009 at 7.15 pm.

F/08/12/12 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS & PUBLIC**
With the vote being unanimous, it was

RESOLVED

That, under section 100a(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public should be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as prescribed in Part 1 of Schedule 12a of the Local Government Act 1972 and indicated against each item *** and, in all circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Meeting closed at 8.03 pm

Signed : _____

Date : _____