

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

21 September 2009

Committee Members Present: Cllrs J Tucker (Chairman), Mrs S Boakes, Mrs B Brown,
D Keeley, Miss A Moloney, L Withey

Council Members Present: Cllr J Atkins, Mrs D Crook, Mrs B Keeley
Mrs S Hunter (Town Clerk)

Members of the Public Present: Mr Hickmott, Mr O'Connell, Mr Laverty, Mr Misy

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs C Block, B Garlick.

2. Declaration of Interest

Cllr Miss A Moloney – Community Association.

Cllr Mrs D Crook – Community Association.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Meeting held on 27 July 2009

3.1 Item 4.1 – Parking problems at the Holborough development – A reply had been received from TMBC, but nothing had been received from Berkeley Homes. The Clerk to contact them.

3.2 4.3 – Disabled access to Nevill Park – Valley of Visions was including Nevill Park in its cycle route so Council needs to discuss with them before proceeding.

4. Questions from the public

4.1 Mr O'Connell attended to hear about his application for assistance.

5. Financial Review

The Clerk presented the financial review.

General Reserve £ 38960.61

Capital Reserve £ 88122.00

Total Funds £127082.61

A copy of the full report is in the Office for perusal.

Cllr Miss Moloney pointed out that the water rates for the Museum appeared to be very high for the amount of use. The Clerk to look into the possibility of having a water meter fitted. The Clerk to also look into the amount the Town Hall used and see if a meter would be better there.

6. Audit Trail – Report from Cllr Miss Moloney

Cllr Miss Moloney carried out the audit trail, and inspected two payments, and found the accompanying paperwork to be in order.

7. Requests for Donations under Section 137

7.1 Snodland Cricket Club – A request had been received for assistance with the cricket square as it needs treatment at a cost of £569.00.

RECOMMENDED to purchase the treatment needed on behalf of the Cricket Club under sec 137.

7.2 Mr O'Connell requested a donation for the purchase of three items of equipment for the new gym at a cost of £859.97.

The Chairman suspended Standing Orders to allow Mr O'Connell to take part.

Mr O'Connell explained that although he had applied for specific equipment he has since been in contact with a prison which is selling off some equipment which will be stronger than he could get for the same money.

The Chairman reinstated Standing Orders.

Following a discussion and various questions

The Chairman suspended Standing Orders to allow Mr O'Connell to answer the questions.

The Gym is a non-profit making club and not a business.

The Chairman called for a show of hands in agreement – four agreed to the funding and three were against.

RECOMMENDED – to give Mr O'Connell on behalf of the gym the money to purchase the equipment required, up to the amount asked for of £859.97, but Mr O'Connell would need to supply receipts etc.

8. To Consider and if Agreed, Approve the Meeting Dates for 2010

The Clerk had circulated the proposed list of meeting dates for 2010.

RECOMMENDED – to accept the list of meeting dates for 2010.

9. To Consider the NALC Recommended Disciplinary and Grievance Procedure and if Approved, Accept as Part of the Policy of Snodland Town Council

Cllr Miss Moloney explained the situation and proposed that the Council accept the procedure.

RECOMMENDED – to accept the NALC Recommended Disciplinary and Grievance Procedure as part of the policy of Snodland Town Council.

10. To Consider Proposals for the Procedure to be Adopted by STC for the Co-option of a Councillor to fill a casual vacancy – (Best Practice Recommendations)

Cllr Miss Moloney explained that this appears to be standard procedure for most councils.

RECOMMENDED – Snodland Town Council adopt the procedure for the co-option of a councillor to fill a casual vacancy as Best Practice recommendations – advertise for 28 days and hold a Special Full Council meeting on Monday 26 October 2009 at 7.30 pm, providing applicants can attend. If no applications received, then this vacancy to be re-advertised.

11. Budget 2010/11 – To Agree a Working Party to Prepare, With the Clerk, Initial Proposals

Cllr Tucker would arrange a date to suit all members. The working party to consist of Cllrs Tucker, Mrs B Brown, Miss Moloney, D Keeley and C Block. The Clerk to ask Mrs Comber to attend if she can.

12. Boxing Club – To Consider the Proposal to Install an Outside Light Over the Entrance Door

The Clerk is waiting for a quotation from Mr Eves with reference to one set on a timer switch.

13. To Lay on the Table the Recommended NALC Standing Orders for Consideration at the Next Full Council Meeting

Cllr Miss Moloney explained the difference between the NALC standing orders and the Council's. This to lay on the table until the next Full Council.

14. Correspondence

14.1 A letter had been received from the Chess Club requesting that Mr Hickey be allowed to hold a key to the Cricket Pavilion.

RECOMMENDED – to allow Mr Hickey to hold a key to the Cricket Pavilion on behalf of the Chess Club, subject to no objections from Mrs Pearce.

14.2 The Clerk had received three quotations for a new notice board at the Cemetery:

- 1) Ray-dor Signs – £284.00 + vat
- 2) Greenbarnes – £569.08 + vat
- 3) British Legion – £62.80 + vat (no posts)

RECOMMENDED – to accept the quotation from Ray-Dor to supply a new notice board for Snodland Cemetery at a cost of £284.00. The wording to be agreed at Full Council and two options will be supplied for the meeting.

14.3 A quotation of £1,250.00 had been received from Mr Ray Clark, a local builder, for the re-pointing work which needs to be carried out at the Town Hall and the Cemetery.

RECOMMENDED – to accept the quotation of £1,250.00 from Ray Clark.

14.4 The mowing contract is due for renewal. This item to be deferred as not all the information has been received.

14.5 TMBC annual allocation for Snodland 2010/11. There is very little change.

14.6 TMBC business rate deferral scheme 2009/10 – does not apply to this Council.

14.7 Section 38 agreement further payment required to finalise the agreement – the Clerk explained the present situation regarding the Catts Alley area with reference to registering at the Land Registry. Cllr Atkins referred to a possible error with the original paperwork. The Clerk to liaise with Cllr Atkins on this.

15. Any other items which the Chairman has decided are urgent owing to special circumstances

The Chairman moved that the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.