

# THRAPSTON TOWN COUNCIL

Mayor: Cllr. Eddie Sewell

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234-011/012

## FINANCE AND STRATEGY COMMITTEE

### Minutes of meeting held on 10 January 2012

**Present:** Cllr. E Franklin, Cllr. P Baden, Cllr. K Fouhy, Cllr. E Sewell,  
Cllr. R Dodds, Cllr. R Jakeman and Cllr. A Winter  
**In attendance:** Jeanne Pike, Clerk

**01. Apologies:**

There were no apologies.

**02. Declaration of Interest in items on the agenda:**

None

**03. Public Participation:**

There were no members of the public present.

**04. December Finance Statement:**

The Clerk presented the December Finance Statement

It was also noted that a payment of cash from First Kicks said to have been posted through the door of the offices has not been received. Members agreed that the sum should be written off but that First Kicks be asked not to pay in this way in the future.

**Action Clerk**

Proposal: That the finance statement for December 2011 be accepted and passed to Full Council for ratification and the approvals passed for payment, proposed by Cllr. K Fouhy and seconded by Cllr. P Baden with **all in favour**

**Pass to Full Council for ratification**

**05. Groundsman's Contract- Financial Implications:**

There were no matters concerning finance this month but an invoice for the Christmas tree is still outstanding.

A quote has been received for the railings around the churchyard, Oundle Road side. Four panels would cost the Council £948.00. Members agreed this work should be done as soon as possible. **Clerk to contact contractor**

**06. Public Conveniences:**

The Clerk reported that due to the addition of a second building now belonging to the Council the small business rates relief had been lost. This means that the Council Rates have increased considerably: the increase is around £2/3 K. Clerk to write to Chief Executive with complaint re this hidden cost. **Action Clerk**

**07 Standing Orders:**

It is necessary to review Standing Orders annually to ensure that the Council has a document that covers all the legislation that has been implemented during the past year. Members were asked to study the present Standing Orders in the light of the Localism Bill and bring any suggestions or observations to the February meeting.

**Pass to February F & S**

**08 Civic Awards:**

There were no nominations forthcoming at this time.

**09 Entrance Signs:**

The Clerk has contacted NCC for a quote for the manufacture and installation of four new signs. The latest response provided a suggestion for the signs and it seems that new posts will be required due to the more square nature and increased surface of the sign. Members agreed the suggested design sent by Highways but without the message 'please drive slowly'. Clerk to contact Highways with agreement and request a quote. **Action Clerk**

**10 Grant Aid Applications:**

Two applications for grants have been received:

1) Thrapston Opera - £500 for set construction, additional lighting and staging hire. Cllr. Fouhy proposed that £500 be granted to the Thrapston Opera to be paid in two stages, one for the hire of the Plaza with the balance by cheque to the organisation. This was seconded by Cllr. P Baden with **all agreed**.

2) Youth Committee - £300 for cost of hiring the Plaza once a week for a Youth Club, this would allow a weekly session until the end of June 2012.

Cllr. Baden proposed that a maximum of £300 be held to pay for the cost of hiring the Plaza for this 13 week pilot scheme, seconded by Cllr. R Dodds with **all in favour**.

**11 Clerk's Report:**

1) The Clerk requested items for the Agenda for the next SMT meeting due to be held on Monday 16 January 2012.

2) A request has been received for reservation of plots in the Cemetery, the Clerk pointed out that to reserve plots can be a problem and will mean that the availability will be restricted.

3) The David Wilson site at Oakleas Rise has now been passed to the Solicitor for transfer.

4) Inspector Vaughan Clarke is urging the community to write to their MP to support the PCSO and their role in the community.

**12 Items for Future Agendas:**

There were no further items for future Agendas.

There being no other relevant business the meeting closed at 8.00 pm.

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