

THRAPSTON TOWN COUNCIL

Mayor: Cllr. Val Carter

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015-012/013

FINANCE AND STRATEGY COMMITTEE

Minutes of meeting held on 12 June 2012

Present: Cllr. V Carter (ex-officio), Cllr. P Baden, Cllr. S Haynes, Cllr. R Jakeman, Cllr. K Fouhy, Cllr. P Pike and Cllr. A Winter ex officio.

In attendance: Jeanne Pike, Clerk

01 Election of Chairman:

Cllr. V Carter took the Chair and asked for nominations for Chairman. Cllr. K Fouhy proposed that Cllr. P Baden be elected Chairman, seconded by Cllr. R Jakeman with **all in favour**. Cllr. Baden then took the Chair.

02 Election of Vice- Chairman:

Cllr. R Jakeman proposed that Cllr. K Fouhy be elected Vice-Chairman, seconded by Cllr. A Winter with **all in favour**.

Cllr. Fouhy accepted the position and asked that tribute be paid to Eric Franklin, who had recently resigned from the Town Council, for his years of office as Finance Chairman and the amount of work he had put into the finances to ensure as far as possible that the Council has a stable financial future. **All agreed**

03 Apologies:

There were no apologies

04 Declaration of Interest in items on the agenda:

None

05 Public Participation:

There were no members of the public present.

06 May Finance Statement:

The Clerk presented the May Finance Statement

Proposal: That the finance statement for May 2012 be accepted and passed to Full Council for ratification and the approvals passed for payment, proposed by Cllr. R Jakeman and seconded by Cllr. S Haynes with **all in favour**

Pass to Full Council for ratification

All correspondence to The Clerk to the Council

07 Groundsman's Contract:

The Groundsman is currently working his way through the Tree Survey carried out by EM Pell and will do any work he is capable of before passing it back for any other work that requires more skilled attention. Any work Mr Bosworth carries out will incur a cost as this is extra to the contract specification.

08 Code of Conduct:

The Monitoring Officer at East Northamptonshire Council has prepared a Document that lists the Code of Conduct that Members are expected to sign up to. This document has been amended to be suitable for all town and parish councillors and the NCALC Chief Executive has recommended that wherever possible all towns and parishes use the one issued by their principle council.

Cllr. R Jakeman proposed that Full Council be recommended to accept and sign up to the suggested Code of Conduct produced by ENC, seconded by Cllr. K Fouhy with **all in favour. Pass to Full Council**

09 Annual Report – Financial Information:

The figures have already been sent to the District Council via the Annual Report. The only matter remaining is the consideration of the recommendation by the Auditor to look at the reserves held in only one bank. He asked if the Council would consider using another Bank for a Deposit account to ensure that the reserves were spread around between different banks to avoid loss of investment should one of the banks have problems.

Cllr. Baden proposed that recommendation should go to Full Council that two other banks be used to spread some of the amount currently held in one bank on deposit. **All in favour pass to Full Council.** In the meantime the Clerk will search for 'reliable' deposit accounts with which to invest. **Action Clerk**

10 Diamond Jubilee – further costs:

The Clerk reported that following receipt today of an invoice covering various small payments for Party in the Park activities there was unlikely to be further costs for this particular event. It was felt that two personnel in particular should be thanked for their exceptional work involved in making the Party the huge success that it was.

Full Council to agree to send a letter of thanks and the Clerk is currently attempting to obtain clarification on the giving of gifts from Council funds. **Action Clerk**

11 Future Training – en block:

NCALC is currently offering to hold training sessions at Council's own premises, based on 'Off to a Flying Start'. Cost of this training is a maximum of £250

Members felt that this would be a very useful course to lay on and it was agreed that September would be a good time for this training. The Clerk will contact NCALC for further information. **Action Clerk**

12 Clerk's Report:

1) The Nene Valley Swimming has sent a letter of thanks for their recent grant given towards their Diamond Jubilee celebrations. They will be holding a swimming gala at the Nene Centre on 01 July 2012 from 5pm to 8pm and invite all councillors to attend.

They require numbers to help with the catering so all councillors who wish to attend should let the Clerk know as soon as possible.

2) In the past Eric Franklin attended business lunches that are held once a month in the town. Cllr. R Jakeman has agreed to take Mr Franklin's place and it was noted that there is a cost involved of £10 per session. In future this will be paid by the Council.

3) A Cemetery Legal Compliance course is being held in Leicestershire by SLCC on Tuesday 17 July 2012. The Clerk has already attended two of these courses but it was agreed that two members of the Cemetery Committee, Cllrs. Baden and Pike, would attend.

13 Items for Future Agendas:

1) Welcome packs distribution of areas and building of packs – **Full Council**

There being no other relevant business the meeting closed at 7.59pm.