

THRAPSTON TOWN COUNCIL

Mayor: Cllr. Val Carter

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032-012/013

FINANCE AND STRATEGY COMMITTEE

Minutes of meeting held on 10 July 2012

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

In attendance: Jeanne Pike, Clerk

01 Apologies:

Cllr. K Fouhy and Cllr. R Jakeman tendered their apologies which were accepted.

02 Declaration of Interest in items on the agenda:

None

03 Public Participation:

There were no members of the public present.

04 June Finance Statement:

The Clerk presented the June Finance Statement

Proposal: That the finance statement for June 2012 be accepted and passed to Full Council for ratification and the approvals passed for payment, proposed by Cllr. A Winter and seconded by Cllr. P Pike with **all in favour**

Pass to Full Council for ratification

A quote for new lights in the toilets at the Plaza has been received - £580. The Plaza Management Committee recommends that the quote is accepted.

Cllr. A Winter proposed that the quote be accepted, seconded by Cllr. S Haynes with **all in favour**

05 Groundsman's Contract:

There were no issues to report.

06 First Quarter Budget v Actual:

Budget v Actual for the first quarter of the year April – June 2012 showed that the Council were well within the Budget set for the year. Members agreed that the figures were satisfactory. (see appendix one)

07 Grant Aid:

The July round of Grant Aid applications is due for consideration and applicants are:
Behavioural Support North East Northants – application form completed
Vitalise who care for the disabled – application form completed
Victim Support – letter only

Cllr. S Haynes proposed that £300 be given to Vitalise and £300 to Victim Support with £500 to Behavioural Support; seconded by Cllr. P Pike with **all in favour**.

Cllr. Winter to attend a meeting to learn more about the work of this group.

08 Reserves at Bank:

Members considered various options open to them with the agreed necessity to transfer some of the reserves into other banks to minimise the risk of loss.

Although not paramount rates are a consideration and there are limitations on Councils due to the lack of internet banking facilities allowed them.

Various banks and building societies were considered and it was agreed to proceed with Scottish Widows as a trial and to put £150,000 into a community account; proposed by Cllr. A Winter and seconded by Cllr. S Haynes with **all in favour**.

As this account will not be used for everyday banking it was agreed that a maximum of four signatories would be sufficient. **Pass to Full Council for ratification**

09 Domain Names:

Neil Busby has asked if the Council wish to make a decision on the 'old' domain names they are currently still paying for. The cost could be reduced even if the names are kept and Neil would be happy to explain the current situation if the Council wish.

It was agreed to invite Neil Busby to the next meeting and in the meantime Cllr. Winter would also investigate the situation. **Action Cllr. Winter**

10 Summer Ball – Update and Financial Report:

Attendance at the Summer Ball was exceptionally good with 88 tickets sold. The raffle raised over £1,000 (final figure to be confirmed later) and will be given to the Stroke Association, represented by Dean and Rosemary Crisp, at **July Full Council**.

There were a few hiccups but overall the event was a success with only about £100 deficit making it an almost total self-financing event.

11 Clerk's Report:

1) The Local Boundary Commission has published its Draft Recommendations for the electoral arrangements for Northampton County Council. They would welcome comments by 13 August 2012. Documents issued to all councillors.

2) NALC has issued its training calendar for the next six months July to December.

3) The SLCC 38th National Conference is to be held in Bristol from Friday 12th October to Sunday 14th October 2012. The theme will be "Delivering Localism in the Community" and the cost for member delegates is £385. Other options are available.

4) A response from the Police has been received following a letter sent asking for a Police presence at Full Council meetings and a report on the incidents in the High Street recently. Inspector V Clarke feels that the Police are in control of the situation and attend meetings whenever their duties permit.

12 Items for Future Agendas:

There were no items for future Agendas but the Clerk asked all councillors to put an entry in their diaries for training when Bill Robinson will take them through a Councillors and Clerks session. This training will be held at the Town Council office and is costing £250 so it is important that the Council obtain as much from it as possible with all councillors attending.

It will be held at **7pm on Tuesday 16th October 2012.**

There being no other relevant business the meeting closed at 8.20pm.