

GOOLE TOWN COUNCIL

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Minutes of meeting held on 25th October, 2018 commencing at 7.05 pm.

PRESENT: Councillors Frost (In the Chair), M Boatman, Crawford, Flynn, Harrison, Holbrough, B Jeffreys, D Jeffreys, Marshall, Moore and O'Neil.

OFFICERS: Mr B Robertson (Town Clerk)
Ms A Bentley (Finance Admin Assistant)
Mr C Studdy (Arts & Leisure Manager)
Mrs C Brophy (Admin Assistant)

PR1759 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Blackburn, G Boatman, Head, Huntington, Smith and Walker.

PR1760 **TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND THEIR NATURE**

Councillor Moore, Councillor B Jeffreys and Councillor D Jeffreys declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda item 8 (Memorial Bowling Green).

PR1761 **TO SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE OF 20th SEPTEMBER, 2018 AS APPROVED AT COUNCIL ON 11TH OCTOBER, 2018**

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Policy and Resources meeting held on 20th September, 2018 approved at Full Council on 11th October, 2018 be signed as a true record by the Chair (Councillor Frost).

This was **PROPOSED** by Councillor O'Neil and **SECONDED** by Councillor Holborough.

PR1762 **REPORT OF THE RESPONSIBLE FINANCE OFFICER**

Members were in receipt of the following reports.

a. Monthly Payments – August & September, 2018

Councillor Moore **PROPOSED** that Members approve the schedule of payments for August, 2018.

This was **SECONDED** by Councillor Holborough

It was **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the payments for the month of August, 2018 totalling £124,665.71p

Councillor Moore **PROPOSED** that Members approve the schedule of payments for September, 2018.

This was **SECONDED** by Councillor Holborough

It was **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the payments for the month of September, 2018 totalling £121,348.32p

b. 2018/2019 Income and Expenditure to 31st August, 2018.

Councillor D Jeffreys queried the £99.12 VPG callout, asking whether this would be reimbursed.

The Town Clerk informed Members that we would be reimbursed.

Councillor Moore **PROPOSED** that Members approve the Officer's recommendation.

This was **SECONDED** by Councillor Holborough.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Officer's recommendation.

The Town Clerk expressed a Thank You to Finance Staff, Anne Bentley and Vickie Garner for their hard work during the Responsible Finance Officer's absence.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Moore and **SECONDED** by Councillor Holborough that an Official vote of thanks be given to the Finance staff.

Members agreed Councillor Moore's proposal.

PR1763

REPORT OF THE ARTS AND LEISURE MANAGER (ALM) – ARTS COUNCIL LETTER

Members were in receipt of the above report.

The Arts and Leisure Manager discussed the report with Members. He said that one of the main items commented on is the diversity of the programme of activity. He informed Members that the current system of informing The Arts Council is not working well enough.

He invited Members to suggest ideas for ways of reporting back to The Arts Council.

One suggestion was to hold quarterly meetings of the arts team and create reports for Policy & Resources meetings based on those that provided information on Creative Case progress.

Councillor M Boatman asked whether the Arts and Leisure Manager was talking about diversity.

The Arts and Leisure confirmed that he was talking about diversity. He explained that diversity covers Age, Disability, Ethnicity etc. He said that Goole is unrepresentative of the Country as a whole but we continue to make progress regarding diversity. He stressed the need to keep The Arts Council up to date.

Councillor M Boatman asked if the Town Council could do anything to help?

The Arts and Leisure Manager informed Members that the new Box Office system was providing some demographic data.

Councillor Moore **PROPOSED** to take up the Officer's recommendation of quarterly reports.

This was **SECONDED** by Councillor M Boatman.

It was **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the Officer's recommendation.

The Arts and Leisure Manager left the meeting at this point.

PR1764

REPORT OF THE OPERATIONS MANAGER (AMENITIES) – RECOMMENDATION FROM THE AMENITIES WORKING PARTY OF 11TH OCTOBER 2018 – TREE PLANTING SCHEMES

Members were in receipt of the above report.

Councillor M Boatman informed Members that he had been involved with the Operations Manager (Amenities), looking at various sites. He said that all four on the report had been successful.

He explained that some of the 1,000 trees have been lost through drought conditions, these need replacing.

Discussions took place regarding some of the items on the report.

Councillor M Boatman informed Members that all planting will take place between now and the end of Spring.

Councillor Frost **PROPOSED** that Members **APPROVE** the Officer's recommendations.

This was **SECONDED** by Councillor D Jeffreys.

It was **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the Officer's recommendations

PR1765 **TO SEEK NOMINATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING:-**

(a) East Riding Town Centres, Retail and Leisure Study (Two Representatives)

It was agreed that Councillor M Boatman be one representative and that should another Member wish to attend they inform the Town Clerk.

(b) Celebrating 20 Years – East Riding of Yorkshire Rural Partnership (One Representative)

Councillor Frost asked for any nominations?

Councillor M Boatman informed him that East Riding Members get an invite.

No representative came forward.

(c) Parish Council Emergency Plan Workshop (Open Invitation)

Councillor Frost stated that the Mayor, Councillor Walker and Councillor Crawford would like to attend.

The Town Clerk informed Members that there was a new template/questionnaire.

Councillor Crawford asked for it to be sent out prior to the meeting.

PR1766 **MEMORIAL BOWLING GREEN – ITEM DEFERRED FROM FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF 11TH OCTOBER, 2018**

Councillor Frost explained that this was a deferred item and that Councillor Flynn was speaking on Councillor Head's behalf.

Councillor Flynn explained that when the bowling green was handed back to East Riding of Yorkshire Council due to an inability to maintain it, an existing covenant states that it should always remain a Garden for the Community. Delta Trust would like to turn it into a garden for the Community.

The new side gate onto Bartholomew Avenue means easier access. Councillor Flynn talked about the lovely vista for the Care Home opposite.

Councillor Flynn said that the garden would need maintaining and queried whether what was saved from Staff time no longer required at VPG could be used for this. He said that this could possibly be an extension to the Cenotaph garden and asked about the possibility of the new memorial being sited there.

Councillor Moore informed Members that sometime ago the CEO of Delta Academy met with Councillors to say that another group was interested in the site – Men In Sheds, they help support with isolation, depression and ex armed forces with PTSD. The group has full NHS support. Men In Sheds are currently active in Hull and Beverley.

Councillor Moore has attended meetings with Delta Academy, East Riding of Yorkshire Council and the Humber And Wolds Rural Action Group who are keen on the Men In Sheds project.

Councillor Moore said that the Brain Injury Unit could also potentially benefit from the Men In Sheds project. He said that it is time to move forwards with the Memorial Bowling Green.

Instead of a shed, the substantial brick building at the green already has electricity and could be of great benefit to the Community. He added that the downside of turning both gardens into one is that mature trees would need

felling and the building demolishing.

Councillor Moore informed Members that he thought the benefits to the community from this project were much greater than the proposal from Councillor Head.

Councillor Marshall stated that she would like confirmation on what Councillor Head knows about Men In Sheds.

Councillor Moore informed Members that he had recently spoken with Councillor Head regarding the Men In Sheds project and informed her of the progress. She informed him that she would support this and wished him all the best.

Councillor M Boatman stated that the New Memorial at the Memorial Gardens may not go ahead as there is a funding problem, £30,000 is needed. He also said that Beverley started the Men In Sheds project and he feels that we should support it and match Beverley.

Councillor D Jeffreys informed Members that he had attended a meeting of the Green Team where they expressed an interest in the site. They are interested in helping people get back to work and those with mental health issues.

Councillor B Jeffreys stated that as the Green Team work with people with mental health issues they could possibly work in conjunction combining both projects.

Councillor M Boatman stated that he wouldn't have a problem with the Green Team however he believed that they could not overcome the covenant.

Councillor Moore stated that this was the first he had heard about the Green Team proposal. Although he has had regular meetings with Dave Gibbons it has not been mentioned, they were currently looking at an alternative site.

Councillor Flynn queried the use of the site for the community if the Men In Sheds project went ahead. He asked whether the terms of the lease could be investigated, this was supported by Councillor Marshall.

Councillor Frost stated that we need clarification on this.

The Town Clerk is going to look into this.

Councillor Moore **PROPOSED** that Members support the Men In Sheds project and ask that the Green Team be invited to a future meeting to ascertain whether they could work together with Men In Sheds on the project.

This was **SECONDED** by Councillor Holborough.

Councillor Flynn **PROPOSED** an amendment that the bowling green area be turned into a Community garden.

This was **SECONDED** by Councillor Marshall.

On being put to the vote the amendment was lost.

Members **RESOLVED** to accept Councillor Moore's proposal.

PR1767

FAIRFIELD PLAY AREA

Members were in receipt of the above report

The Town Clerk stated that the report is self explanatory. He stated that the lease was entered into years ago. He informed Members that the Town Council don't get paid for the inspection and maintenance of the play area. He also told Members that the whereabouts of the lease is not known.

Members were asked by the Town Clerk whether we want to extend the lease?

Councillor M Boatman proposed going with option 1, running the original lease down. He also said that we may want to revisit the lease in 5 years as new social housing sites may contribute to the upkeep.

Councillor M Boatman **PROPOSED** going ahead with option 1.

This was **SECONDED** by Councillor O'Neil

It was **RESOLVED** to accept Councillor M Boatman's proposal

PR1768 **CHRISTMAS OPENING HOURS**

Members were in receipt of the above report.

The Town Clerk discussed the report with Members. As Christmas and New Year's Eves fall on Mondays this year and Junction is closing at 1pm it would be sensible to close completely on both days.

Members were being asked to consider this option.

Members agreed and had to decide from options available how Staff would take this leave.

Councillor M Boatman **PROPOSED** that the third bullet point – where Staff Members either take two half days from their annual leave entitlement, or take lieu time.

Councillor O'Neil **SECONDED** this proposal.

It was **RESOLVED** to accept Councillor M Boatman's proposal.

It was **RESOLVED** that the press and public be excluded for the following item under the public bodies (admission to meetings act) 1960 in that it contains personal information as defined under the local government act 1972 schedule act 12a the divulgence of which may be detrimental to the council.

PR1768 **REPORT OF THE RESPONSIBLE FINANCE OFFICER**

11. Monthly Debtors Report – Exempt Item

Members were in receipt of the above report.

Members were informed that there was now only one debtor on the list as others had paid in full. Also, the current debtor is adhering to a monthly payment plan.

It was **RESOLVED** to note the Officer's report.

Meeting concluded 7:50pm

*******END*******