

GOOLE TOWN COUNCIL

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Minutes of meeting held on 24th January, 2019 commencing at 7.13 pm.

PRESENT: Councillors Frost (In the Chair) G Boatman, M Boatman, Flynn, Head, Holbrough, Huntington, B Jeffreys, D Jeffreys, O'Neil and Walker.

OFFICERS: Mr B Robertson (Town Clerk)
Ms S Howard (Responsible Finance Officer)
Mrs C Brophy (Admin Assistant)

PR1785 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Blackburn, Crawford, Harrison, Marshall, Moore and Smith.

PR1786 **TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND THEIR NATURE**

No declarations of interest were received.

PR1787 **TO SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE OF 20th DECEMBER, 2018 AS APPROVED AT COUNCIL ON 10th JANUARY, 2019**

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Policy and Resources meeting held on 20th December, 2018 approved at Full Council on 10th January, 2019 be signed as a true record by the Chair (Councillor Frost).

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

PR1788 **REPORT OF THE RESPONSIBLE FINANCE OFFICER**

Members were in receipt of the following reports.

a. **Monthly Payments – December, 2018**

Councillor D Jeffreys queried the £2,854.80p expenditure paid to City of Bradford Council for repairs to Christmas lights.

The Responsible Finance Officer (RFO) explained that the Christmas lights had been repaired with money from the reserves.

Councillor Huntington queried the purchase ledger payment to D Ibbotson. He asked the purpose of the payment.

The RFO undertook to inform Councillor Huntington of the details of the purchase.

Councillor M Boatman **PROPOSED** that Members approve the schedule of payments for December, 2018.

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

It was **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the payments for the month of December, 2018 totalling £151,141.07.

b. **Monthly Income & Expenditure – To 31st December, 2018**

Councillor Huntington **PROPOSED** that Members **NOTE** the Officer's report

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

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

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

PR1789 **MONTHLY DEBTORS REPORT**

Members were in receipt of the above report.

The RFO informed Members that Real Aid had not made a payment in December and they have since paid £400.00.

Councillor Head stated that Goole AFC had queried the cost of electricity and once resolved this would have an impact on the debt.

A discussion took place regarding issues with the debt for Food For U.

The Town Clerk informed Members that he understood that there was a minor dispute with the use of electricity by the Green Team but this would only have a negligible impact on the debt.

Councillor Head asked whether there was a dispute regarding the payment?

Councillor O'Neil asked the RFO if their Project Manager had been in touch about the invoice.

The RFO replied that no-one had been in touch.

The RFO informed Members that the invoices had been sent out in line with normal procedure and if not paid within 30 days a reminder would be sent.

Councillor O'Neil assured Members that the debt would be paid.

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

PR1790 **BANK COMPARISONS**

Members were in receipt of the above report.

The Responsible Finance Officer informed Members that our current discounted service charge rate expires on 31st March 2019. She explained that the only bank offering free banking is the HSBC.

Members discussed Staff safety when banking cash and the close proximity of the HSBC.

Councillor M Boatman **PROPOSED** moving to the HSBC.

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

It was **RESOLVED** to move the Council's Banking to the HSBC.

PR1791 **WEST PARK CAFÉ – DRAFT LICENCE**

Members were in receipt of the above report.

The Town Clerk informed Members that the Draft Catering Contract Agreement differs in two places from the previous contract. The payment by Goole Town Council of £100 per month towards toilet cleaning has

been removed. The part where the Council is responsible for the maintenance of equipment has also been removed. The new operator would be responsible for maintaining and replacing equipment.

Councillor Head stated that she agreed with the changes and thought it was a fair contract. She had concerns that as we are unsure of the condition of the equipment it is unfair and possibly embarrassing for the Council if the new operator faces a repair bill straight away.

A discussion took place regarding the equipment remaining in the Café.

Councillor Head **PROPOSED** that the draft contract be agreed subject to the Council having responsibility for the maintenance of its equipment during the first 6 months of the contract. This would not include the replacement of equipment. Responsibility for this would rest with the operator.

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

It was **RESOLVED** to accept Councillor Head's proposal.

The Town Clerk informed Members that the advert would be in the Goole Times next week. He suggested shortlisting 2 or 3 candidates to present their business plan.

Councillor Head stated that she would like Members of the Council to see all the applications. The process needs to be completely transparent.

Councillor O'Neil asked the RFO if their Project Manager had been in touch about the invoice.

The RFO replied that no-one had been in touch.

Councillor O'Neil requested that the advert state 'social enterprise preferable'.

Councillor Flynn asked whether there was still a six-month termination clause in the licence and whether the previous operator gave six months' notice.

The Town Clerk said that the previous operator had not given six months' notice, however nothing would have been gained by pursuing action against the operator.

A discussion took place regarding whether the café had to be run by a Social enterprise or Community interest company or could possibly be privately run.

The Town Clerk informed Members that the café could be run as a commercial interest but the new operator would have to adhere to the same conditions with regard to accepting placements and offering training.

Councillor Huntington asked whether all applicants would be seen.

The Town Clerk said that Members could have a copy of all applications and a list of criteria could be drawn up and everyone could be involved in the scoring. The top 3 or 4 could then be shortlisted.

Councillor M Boatman suggested that a special meeting could be convened at 6:00pm to interview applicants.

The Town Clerk explained that this would necessitate the signatures of 9 Members to convene such a meeting.

Meeting concluded at 7.44pm

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

