

GOOLE TOWN COUNCIL

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Minutes of meeting held on 22nd April, 2021 commencing at 7.24pm.

PRESENT: Councillors Flynn (In the Chair), Bailey, Boatman, Harrison, B Jeffreys, D Jeffreys, Moiser, Moore, Raspin, Turner, and Walker.

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

PR2027 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Bottomley, Marshall, Penn, Vause and Whitehead.

PR2028 TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND THEIR NATURE

Councillor Raspin declared an interest in item PR2031. The benches for West Park are going to be provided by Kennings. Councillor Raspin's Brother is employed by Kennings.

PR2029 MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Policy and Resources Meeting held on 18th March, 2021 approved at Council on 8th April, 2021 be signed as a true record by the Chair (Councillor Flynn).

This was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Turner and **SECONDED** by Councillor Moore.

PR2030 REPORT OF THE RESPONSIBLE FINANCE OFFICER

Members were in receipt of the following reports.

(a) Monthly Payments – March, 2021

Councillor Flynn queried the two payments of 24,000 for the South Park M.U.G.A..

The RFO informed Members that this is the Multi Use Games Area which cost £80,000 and was paid in stages.

Councillor Raspin Queried the two payment to Helm and Ransome.

The RFO informed Members that this is payment for the South Park toilet block works. The second payment covers extra work deemed necessary following the original quote for issues such as damp and anti-vandal units.

Councillor D Jeffreys **PROPOSED** that Members **APPROVE** the schedule of payments for March, 2021.

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

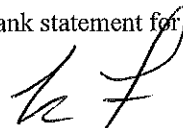
It was **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the schedule of payments for March, 2021 totaling £419,447.78.

(b) Monthly bank reconciliation & Bank statement – March, 2021.

Councillor B Jeffreys **PROPOSED** that Members **APPROVE** the bank reconciliation & bank statement for March, 2021.

This was **SECONDED** by Councillor Moiser.

It was **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the bank reconciliation & bank statement for March, 2021.



(c) Year End Transfers to & from Reserves

Councillor D Jeffreys asked about the £1000 transferred from reserves for the previous Mayor Appeal.

The RFO informed Members that £500 is allocated for Homestart and £500 for Sewing for Scrubs.

Councillor Turner **PROPOSED** that Members **APPROVE** the transfers to reserves of £98,125 and from reserves £75,580.

This was **SECONDED** by Councillor Bailey.

It was **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the transfers to reserves of £98,125 and from reserves £75,580.

PR2031

REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK – ITEMS TRANSFERRED FROM AMENITIES WORKING PARTY

Members were in receipt of the above report

Item no. 1 – Provision of additional benches at West Park.

Councillor Walker informed Members that when new benches were proposed last year, some old ones were refurbished by Men in Sheds. He asked about the possibility of this happening again as it would save the Council money.

Item no. 2 – Signage at West Park relating to dog control.

The Town Clerk explained that it is not a legal requirement for dogs to be kept on leads, they must however be kept under control.

A discussion took place regarding the need to consider children in the park who may be afraid of dogs. Dogs are much easier to control when on a lead.

The Town Clerk informed Members that the PSPO's (Public Spaces Protection Orders) run out in August 2022 and consultation on any changes will begin soon.

Item no. 4 – Littering – West Park.

Councillor Moore **PROPOSED** that the possibility of contracting with a private company to provide a warden service, funded by fixed penalty notices, be investigated by the Town Clerk.

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

The Chair, Councillor Flynn, asked Members whether they were in agreement with the items on the Agenda, Recommended by the Amenities Working Party.

It was **RESOLVED** that the recommendations of the Amenities Working Party be **APPROVED** and that the Town Clerk investigate the possibility of contracting with a private company for a warden service funded by fixed penalty fines.

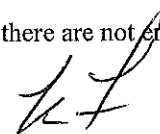
PR2032

REQUEST OF COUNCILLOR TURNER – ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR MEMORIAL GARDENS

Members were in receipt of the above report

Councillor Turner informed members that there have been several incidents of Anti-Social Behaviour in the Memorial Gardens including flowers being destroyed, littering and drinking. A Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) is in place which bans the consumption of alcohol in the Gardens and therefore any contravention of this is a criminal offence.

It was suggested that the Police be asked to enforce the PSPO however there are not enough Police to cover the area.



Members are being asked to consider the locking up of the gardens overnight. This has been tried in the past unsuccessfully due to the fact that grounds maintenance staff would have to lock the gardens from about 4pm and open them around 8am on weekdays and weekends.

A discussion took place regarding whether a nearby resident could become a key holder.

The Town Clerk informed Members that this is a possibility however it could cause issues should they forget or for some reason be unavailable. There is also the concern that a member of the public could struggle having to ask people to leave if necessary.

Councillor Turner informed Members that he agrees to the gardens being locked up overnight during the week but feels that they need to be open during the day at the weekend as that's the time many people like to visit.

It was agreed to post a notification in the Goole Times informing Goole residents of the intention to lock the gates and gauge any reaction. Following this, the issue will be on the Agenda at the next P&R Meeting in May. The Town Clerk was asked to contact the Police asking them to check on the gardens over the next few weeks as many people use the gardens on an evening for the consumption of alcohol which is a criminal offence. No alcohol signs are in place visibly in the gardens. ERYC Councillor Handley informed Members that she has already written to the police.

PR2033 REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK – COUNCIL AGM AND TOWN'S MEETING

Members were in receipt of the above report

The Town Clerk informed Members that the legislation to hold remote meetings expires on the 7th May. As the AGM is being held on the 6th May it can still be held remotely and advice from the National Association of Local Councils and the East Riding of Yorkshire Council's Monitoring Officer is that it should be held remotely. He told Members that the other difficulty with holding a face to face Meeting is that the room is being hired earlier that day and a deep clean would be required.

Members agreed that following the legal advice the AGM would take place via Zoom.

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 they contain 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.

PR2034 MONTHLY DEBTORS – MARCH, 2021

Members were in receipt of the above report

The RFO informed Members that Debtor B's debt has reduced. The case has gone to Court and she is awaiting the outcome.

The RFO informed Members that Debtor D is for money that should have been received prior to the year-end but was actually received on the 12th April.

PR2035 DRAFT LICENCE AGREEMENT – RIVERSIDE CAFÉ

Members were in receipt of the above report

Councillor Raspin informed Members that he thinks it is a great agreement however he is uncomfortable with the amount of the daily rate. He feels that this is unnecessarily high when utilities etc have to be paid.

The Town Clerk informed members that this is the daily rate agreed by Members from the 1st April.

Discussions took place amongst Members with various daily, weekly and yearly fees being mentioned. All agreed that the rate should help ensure the café's success.



Councillor Bailey suggested that a deposit be charged. He informed Members that in his view rent should be charged per week. Charging per day will encourage weekend opening only where the most profit can be made. He said that the rate needs to be reasonably competitive and seven-day opening should be encouraged.

Councillor Moore agreed with Councillor Bailey that a deposit should be paid and a weekly rent charged. He also stated that the daily rate was set by Councillors and has budget implications so should remain as it is.

Councillor D Jeffreys informed Members that this is a permanent fixture and will bring money in even at a low weekly rate as the owner must be able to afford to pay the rent. He said that structure is needed with set opening days. He believes that it will prove very popular.

The RFO informed members that 4 or 5 people have already expressed interest. Once a decision has been made, the packs are ready to be sent out. She told Members that the selection process would involve applicants presenting a business plan, cash flow forecast and sample menu at a meeting of P&R. These will then be scored using a points based system.

Councillor Bailey stated that as different rates including £100 and £200 per week had been mentioned, he would suggest £150 per week which is a fair and very competitive rent. He suggested that this could be looked at year on year with a view to increasing.

Councillor B Jeffreys reminded Members that there will be no revenue for the Council should the café not exist. She agreed that a weekly rent be set which should be flexible enough to encourage new business.

Councillor D Jeffreys **PROPOSED** that the rent be set at a weekly rate of £150.

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

Members voted: - 6 - For 3 – Against

It was **RESOLVED** that the rent be set at a weekly rate of £150.

Councillor D Jeffreys **PROPOSED** that a £500 deposit be charged.

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

Members voted: - 6 - For 0 – Against 3: - Abstained

It was **RESOLVED** that a £500 deposit be charged.

Meeting concluded at 8.43pm

