GOOLE TOWN COUNCIL

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Minutes of meeting held on 16th September, 2021 commencing at 7.11pm.

PRESENT:

Councillors Flynn (In the Chair), Handley, Harrison, B Jeffreys, D Jeffreys, Moiser, Moore,

Raspin, Walker and Whitehead.

OFFICERS:

Mr B. Robertson (Town Clerk)

Ms. S Norfolk (RFO/Deputy Town Clerk)

Mrs C. Brophy (Admin Assistant)

PR2072 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors Bailey, Boatman, Bottomley, Marshall, Penn, Turner and Vause.

PR2073 TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND THEIR NATURE

No declarations of interest were received

PR2074 MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Policy and Resources Meeting held on 15th July, 2021 approved at Council on 2nd September, 2021 be signed as a true record by the Chair (Councillor Flynn).

This was PROPOSED by Councillor Moore and SECONDED by Councillor Moiser.

PR2075 REPORT OF THE RESPONSIBLE FINANCE OFFICER/DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

Members were in receipt of the following reports.

(a) Monthly Payments – June & July 2021

Members were recommended to approve the schedule of payments for June & July, 2021.

Councillor Handley questioned the use of Facebook at Junction.

The RFO/Deputy Town Clerk informed members that Junction advertises on Facebook. She explained that the charges are broken down on the monthly bank reconciliation report.

Councillor D Jeffreys queried the arrears payments to Fishers.

The RFO/Deputy Town Clerk informed Members that the payments will continue until March 2023.

Councillor Moiser PROPOSED that Members APPROVE the schedule of payments for June & July, 2021.

This was SECONDED by Councillor D Jeffreys..

It was **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the schedule of payments for June totaling £107064.55 & July,2021 totaling £114422.08.

(b) Monthly Bank Reconciliation & Bank Statement – June & July, 2021

LT.

Members were recommended to approve the bank reconciliation for June & July, 2021.

Councillor Moiser **PROPOSED** that Members **APPROVE** the bank reconciliation & bank statement for June & July, 2021.

This was SECONDED by Councillor Walker.

It was RESOLVED to APPROVE the bank reconciliation & bank statement for June & July, 2021.

(c) Monthly Income & Expenditure to 31st July, 2021

Members were requested to note the report for 31st July, 2021.

Councillor D Jeffreys PROPOSED that Members NOTE the report for the period ending 31st July, 2021.

This was SECONDED by Councillor Moiser.

It was **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** the report for the period ending 31st July, 2021.

PR2076 REQUEST OF COUNCILLOR B. JEFFREYS - WAITING SHELTERS, NORTH STREET

Members were in receipt of the above report.

Councillor B Jeffreys discussed the report with Members stressing the need for the shelters. If agreed the Town Clerk will apply for a licence from ERYC's Highways Department.

Councillor Walker informed Members that this should be welcomed as bus use should be encouraged. He questioned the insurance and maintenance of the shelters.

The Town Clerk informed Members that this has not been accounted for in the bid, however the shelters are essentially maintenance free.

Councillor B Jeffreys **PROPOSED** that Members **APPROVE** the submission of a bid to the Do it for East Yorkshire fund for bus waiting shelters.

This was SECONDED by Councillor Harrison.

It was **RESOLVED** that the submission of a bid to the Do it for East Yorkshire fund for bus waiting Shelters be **APPROVED**.

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.

PR2077 MONTHLY DEBTORS – JULY, 2021

Members were in receipt of the above report.

Members agreed to note the report.

PR2078 PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDERS REVIEW - 2022

Members were in receipt of the above report.

Councillor Moore asked whether a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) could be applied for, for the area

1

surrounding the Railway Station. There have been incidents of anti-social behaviour around there and with the onset of dark nights it can be quite daunting for passengers particularly as the station is unmanned.

Councillor Handley informed Members that ERYC's Anti-Social Behaviour Team and the PCSO's are fully aware of the situation and are looking into it. She asked that any further evidence of anti-social behaviour be presented to the PCSO's.

A discussion took place regarding the areas covered by PSPO's. The Town Clerk informed Members that the area from the Clock Tower to Greenawn Corner is covered.

Councillor D Jeffreys asked whether an application for a PSPO could be made for Centenary Gardens as there has been evidence of rough sleepers in there and the gardens cannot be locked.

Councillor Raspin asked about the possibility of enforcing that dogs must be kept on leads within West Park.

The Town Clerk informed members that a PSPO could be applied for, however following conversations with the Animal Warden, it is unlikely to be supported.

It was agreed that PSPO's for the Railway Station and Centenary Gardens be applied for.

PR2079 REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK - HOME WORKING

Members were in receipt of the above report.

The Town Clerk informed Members that this item was deferred from the July meeting. He explained that home working is only one aspect of flexible working and can be applied for by any member of staff. Good reasons would need to be provided if not granted. He told Members that a policy would be required if home working is going to be considered.

Councillor Flynn expressed his concerns regarding home working saying that this could present problems with Staff interaction and training. He is also concerned about the affect on the Town centre economy.

The Town Clerk told Members that all issues will be considered when creating the home working policy.

Councillor Handley stated that there should always be someone in the building looking after Staff as the Council provides a frontline service.

The Town Clerk reiterated that this would be taken into consideration in the policy. He said that many staff have worked successfully from home for the past 18 months.

Councillor Handley asked whether staff could be asked how they feel about home working.

The Town Clerk informed Members that staff could be asked and that anyone can apply to work from home. He assured them that the trade union will be involved.

Regarding the issue of security, the Deputy Town Clerk/RFO informed Members that Kingston Technology have installed antivirus on all computers.

Councillor Moore **PROPOSED** that Members **APPROVE** the introduction of a home working policy based on the framework provided and that a draft policy be received at the next Council meeting.

This was SECONDED by Councillor Raspin.

It was **RESOLVED** that Members **APPROVE** the introduction of a home working policy based on the framework provided and that a draft policy be received at the next Council meeting.

k fl