

FALMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on Monday 26th November 2012 in the Council Chamber, Municipal Buildings, Falmouth at 7:00pm.

Present: Councillors Dr D A Sterratt (Chairman), A K Ayres, Mrs A J Biggins, I J Body, Mrs J A Booth, O K Cramp, Mrs M Davies, A J Jewell, Ms D Merrett and D W Saunby

In Attendance: Mr A M Williams (Town Clerk)
Mrs R N Thomas (Finance Officer)

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F4210 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received and approved from Councillors Chin-Quee (ill), Choak (work), Evans (Cornwall Council business), Mrs Hrydziuszka (family illness), O'Brien (work) and Mrs Ryan (ill).

F4211 **INTERESTS**

None received.

F4212 **MINUTES**

It was proposed by Councillor Ms Merrett, seconded by Councillor Mrs Davies and

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 29th October 2012 be confirmed as a correct record of the proceedings and signed by the Chairman.

F4213 **GRANT APPLICATIONS**

It was proposed by Councillor Sterratt, seconded by Councillor Ms Merrett and

RESOLVED that pursuant to Section 19 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1976, the Phoenix Project be awarded £1,509.09 to part fund additional personal protective equipment for Phoenix Project participants.

It was proposed by Councillor Ms Merrett, seconded by Councillor Sterratt and

RESOLVED that pursuant to Section 19 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1976, The Friends of St Francis School be awarded £1,500 towards the 'Pirate Ship for a Princess' play proposal.

A Motion proposed by Councillor Ayres that the full grant request of £2,000 be awarded was not seconded.

It was proposed by Councillor Saunby, seconded by Councillor Mrs Booth and

RESOLVED that pursuant to Section 145 of the Local Government Act, 1972, the Gorsedh Kernow (The Cornish Gorsedd) be awarded £200 towards the publishing costs of the book 'The Bards, Past and Present of the Falmouth and Penryn Area'.

A Motion proposed by Councillor Mrs Biggins and seconded by Councillor Ms Merrett that the grant request of £100 be awarded was lost.

The Chairman agreed that this could be considered as an urgent item so a grant award could be made expediently.

It was proposed by Councillor Body, seconded by Councillor Ms Merrett and

RESLOVED that pursuant to Section 137 of the Local Government Act, 1972, CHICKS be awarded £722 to assist the cost of providing free respite breaks to disadvantaged children, including two Falmouth children.

The Chairman agreed that this could be considered as an urgent item so a grant award could be made expediently.

A letter of thanks from the Merlin Project Mini-Bus Service for a recent grant award (£200) was received and the 2012/13 grant schedule was duly noted.

F4214 MEMBERS CODE OF CONDUCT

The Town Clerk reminded members of the requirement to undertake training on the Code and advised on training opportunities. This was duly noted and some Councillors advised they would await the May 2013 elections, or prefer training delivered at the Council Offices.

F4215 MUNICIPAL INSURANCE

The Town Clerk reported that municipal insurance provision was being investigated for the cessation of the current long-term insurance provision in April 2013. This was duly noted.

F4216 MOSS AND WEED TREATMENT

Climatic conditions and contract amendments had resulted in non effective weed treatment measures. Moss growth had also been problematic. There were particular problems on the Council's sites and the Town Clerk reported upon possible mechanical removal measures.

It was proposed by Councillor Jewell, seconded by Councillor Saunby and

RESOLVED that

- (i) the Town Clerk be delegated in consultation with the Chairman to acquire mechanical removal for moss growth on pathways on Council sites and to utilise the underspend for weed spraying; and
- (ii) the Council reviews the Weed Spraying Service Level Agreement in early 2013.

F4217 **STREET FURNITURE**

The Town Clerk reported that Cornwall Council were unable to maintain and repair highway benches.

It was proposed by Councillor Sterratt, seconded by Councillor Body and

RESOLVED that

- (i) the Council develop with Cornwall Council a schedule identifying all highway benches
- (ii) the Council to consider individual repairs on the merits of each bench and the asset to become the property of the Town Council.
The Council to not consider bench repairs in Cornwall Council Car Park sites.

F4218 **FATHOM**

It was duly noted the latest edition of Fathom had been published.

F4219 **KIMBERLEY PARK**

It was duly noted that play provision opening would be slightly delayed due to the weather and that the catering facility would shortly be operational.

F4220 **CHARTER 350**

The Finance Officer updated upon project completion and that all funding had been received. This was duly noted.

F4221 **CCTV**

The response of Cornwall Council Car Parks Service to the representations of the Council was duly noted.

F4222 **STAFFING COMMITTEE REFERENCE**

The Committee duly noted the reference of the Staffing Committee (Minute S545 refers) and that those matters be incorporated into the 2013/14 draft budget.

F4223 **2013/14 DRAFT BUDGET**

The Committee further considered the draft budget and additional matters raised by Councillors and residents.

The Town Clerk reported that clarification regarding tax base and referenda requirements was still awaited and the Council might consider delaying precept setting until after that time. Further he advised that the use of reserves to offset 2013/14 expenditure was not best practice.

It was proposed by Councillor Ms Merrett, seconded by Councillor Mrs Biggins and

RESOLVED that the Council be recommended to approve the 2013/14 budget as attached as part of these minutes and further that it be recommended to set the precept on that basis (a 0% increase upon 2012/13).

F4224 **ACCOUNTS AND PETTY CASH**

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Biggins, seconded by Councillor Ayres and

RESOLVED that the Accounts and Petty Cash
Schedules (attached) for October 2012 be
approved.

There being no further business to transact the Chairman declared the meeting closed at
8.20pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....