

MINUTES OF THE FINANCE/PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING held in Committee Room No. 3, St. John's Hall, Penzance on Thursday 8th December 2005 at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT

Councillor M.R. Cotton - Chairman
Councillor R. Clark - Vice-Chairman

Councillors J.H. Dixon
F. Granger
R.A. Mann
A.J. Richings (joined meeting 7.10 pm)

22. **APOLOGIES**

Councillors D.J. Axford and J.W. Champion

23. **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 3RD NOVEMBER 2005**

Having been circulated, it was

RESOLVED: that they should be signed as a true and correct record.

24. **TOWN CLERK'S REPORT**

(a) **Zapcat National Championships**

The Town Clerk advised that from the enquiries made, only one response had been received from the Luggar which offered support for the staging of the championships on an annual basis.

However, it was understood that not all establishments supported the event and in order that the matter could be considered further, it was

RECOMMENDED: that the Town Clerk write to the Hotel and Restaurant Association and Penwith District Council to establish the level of financial support which they proposed to provide.

(b) **Resolution to Exclude the Press and Public**

Due to the confidential nature of the next matter to be discussed, it was

RESOLVED: to exclude the press and public from the next part of the meeting.

(c) **The Lodge, Penlee Park**

See Confidential Appendix "A".

(d) Resolution to Re-Admit the Press and Public

It was

RESOLVED: to re-admit the press and public to the meeting.

(e) Seating on Coast Path - Penzance to Marazion Section - Liveability Fund

The Town Clerk advised that he had been approached by Councillor Chris Goninan, the Older Peoples Champion at the District Council, requesting that the Town Council take the lead in an application to provide seating on the above stretch of the coast path.

Councillor Goninan had walked the path which was level and very accessible to the elderly, but on which there were no resting points from which the stunning views of the bay could be enjoyed.

The Town Clerk had been pleased to take a lead on behalf of the Town Council in this matter and in respect of a bid for £9,000.00, the Town Council was being asked to make a small financial contribution in the sum of £50.00 and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the actions of the Town Clerk be approved and that a contribution of £50.00 should be made.

(f) Thank You Letters

The Town Clerk advised that “thank you” letters had been received from Gwavas Residents’ Association, Vitalise (formerly Winged Fellowship) and Penzance Royal British Legion in respect of support for the Remembrance Service and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

25. **FINANCIAL POSITION**

(a) Finances

The Committee acknowledged receipt of the financial papers including the covering letter, the proposed budgets of the four standing committees and supporting notes and the financial summary in respect of 2005/06 and 2006/07.

The Town Clerk confirmed that the other three standing committees had recommended acceptance of their budgets and that in respect of the Penlee House and Park Committee, the bid in the sum of £5,000.00 written into the revised estimates in respect of the West Cornwall Arts Archive would be supported by a report prepared by the Director of Penlee House. (Report to be presented at full Town Council Meeting).

The Committee then considered its financial position to the 31st October 2005, the revised estimates in respect of the current year and the proposed budget for 2006/07.

In respect of the annual contribution being made in support of closed-circuit television within Penzance, it was

RECOMMENDED: that the Town Clerk should write to Kerrier District Council seeking full details of contributions made by other Councils within the two District Council areas and also details of contributions from the commercial sector.

In respect of support for Golowan Community Arts, Councillor J.H. Dixon declared a code of Conduct Interest in this matter and retired from the meeting.

It was

RESOLVED: that Golowan Community Arts be given advance notice that by the 30th January 2006, the Town Council would wish to receive copies of the ledger showing full income and expenditure on the festival, together with a copy of the latest audited accounts and a management analysis of income and expenditure on the festival together with a cultural narrative which would provide cultural justification in respect of the events which had been staged.

Councillor Dixon returned to the meeting.

In respect of the contribution being made in support of the Leisure Centre, it was

RECOMMENDED: that the Town Clerk enter into early discussions with the District Council with regard to the benefit to be provided through 'the voucher' and how this would cater for different groups within the community.

The Committee then turned its attention to the confidential report prepared by the Town Clerk in respect of staffing in the Town Clerk's Office which now appears as Confidential Appendix "B" to the minutes.

After considerable discussion, it was

RECOMMENDED: that the proposals contained within the paper be supported, giving rise to the precept requirement as outlined in the 2006/2007 summary contained within the budgetary papers.

(b) Resolution to Exclude the Press and Public

Due to the confidential nature of the next matter to be discussed, it was

RESOLVED: to exclude the press and public from the next part of the meeting.

(c) Town Clerk's Hours

See Confidential Appendix "C". The Town Clerk retired from the meeting.

(d) Resolution to Re-Admit the Press and Public

It was

RESOLVED: to re-admit the press and public to the meeting.

26. **APPLICATIONS FOR GRANT**

(a) Minor Awards

(i) Tom Bawcock Committee

RESOLVED: to make a grant of £150.00

(ii) Federation of Old Cornwall Societies Summer Festival - 1st July 2006

RESOLVED: to make a grant of £190.00.

(iii) St. Michael's Way Charity Walk 2006

RESOLVED: to make a grant of £100.00.

(iv) Penzance Orchestral Society - 100th Year Publication

RESOLVED: that the Town Clerk obtain further information with regard to publishing the document and to indicate that Councillor Clark would be prepared to provide support in this respect.

(v) Boyan Ensemble - Possible Sponsorship/Advertising of Penzance through Provision of Fleeces to be worn by the Ensemble on its UK Tour

RECOMMENDED: that this matter be retabled for consideration during the January cycle of meetings.

(vi) The Bishops Forum

RESOLVED: to make a grant of £50.00 and, for information purposes, the Town Clerk to obtain details of the number of youngsters from the Penzance schools benefiting from the scheme.

9.00 pm

Chairman
19th January 2006