

MINUTES OF THE FINANCE/PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING held in Committee Room No. 3, St. John's Hall, Penzance on Thursday 2 July 2009 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT

Councillor M R Cotton (Chairman)
Councillor J H Dixon (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors M Freeman
 R A Mann
 J Ruhmund
 C A C White

10. APOLOGIES

Councillor S J Reed.

Absent without apologies: Councillors D J Axford, H Worth.

11. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Mann declared a personal interest in Minute 15(a)(iv) as an acquaintance of the engineer to be considered.

The Town Clerk declared a prejudicial interest in Minute 15(a)(iv) as a personal friend of the engineer to be considered.

12. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 21 MAY 2009

Having been circulated, it was

RESOLVED - that the Chairman sign the Minutes as a true and correct record.

13. HERITAGE PLAQUE SCHEME

Members were reminded that the owners of five premises had been approached with regard to having a commemorative plaque erected on the building and three owners had now responded positively. It was hoped that a positive response could also be obtained from the owners of the remaining two buildings and Councillor White offered to approach the owners of 16 Morrab Place and the Town Clerk's Office would chase up a response from Specsavers with regard to 111 Market Jew Street. It was

RESOLVED - that the owners of those buildings requiring listed building planning consent should be asked to process the necessary paperwork and the Town Council would cover the cost of the application.

14. APPLICATIONS FOR GRANT

(a) Minor Awards

(i) Cornwall Blind Association

It was **RESOLVED** - to make a grant of £300 towards the cost of running swimming classes for the blind and visually impaired people of Penzance.

(ii) Home Start

It was **RESOLVED** - to make a grant of £50 to support the work of Home Start.

The Town Clerk informed members that there were two further applications for grant funding that would be dealt with this at this meeting, prior to the summer recess.

(iii) Gulval Village Hall

It was **RESOLVED** - to make a grant of £250 for new kitchen equipment.

(iv) Penzance Sea Cadets

It was **RESOLVED** - to make a grant of £300 towards the cost of a starting motor for the safety boat.

15. BUSINESS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

(a) Penlee House & Park Committee

(i) Penlee House Car Park

The Town Clerk reported that the top half of the car park had been relined and included a new 'hatched' area beside the ticket machine to deter customers from parking in this area when purchasing a ticket and causing an obstruction. The disabled parking bays near the Museum had also been relined.

With regard to the proposal to set up a one-way system in the lower half of the car park, this would be deferred for consideration at the Town Council meeting on 28 September 2009.

Members were reminded that the purchase of a second ticket machine was a previously resolved item as was a replacement machine for the existing one at the entrance to the car park which was now looking very scruffy. Costings for the new machines would be brought to the next meeting of the Finance & Property Committee on 17 September 2009.

(ii) Footpath maintenance

The Town Council's footpath operative had developed a severe allergic reaction to the sap of the hogweed plant and due to this and recurring hay fever he had now tendered his resignation as footpath operative, although he would continue in his capacity as maintenance person in Penlee Park.

A replacement operative would need to be found as a matter of urgency and it was suggested that PAROW or the neighbouring town and parish councils may be able to provide some advice and assistance.

(iii) Gardeners' bonus scheme

The Town Clerk reported that the gardeners in Penlee Park had requested that their performance bonus be paid on a monthly basis rather than annually and it was

RESOLVED - to agree to this request.

(iv) Park machinery

The Town Clerk and the Mayor left the room prior to discussions taking place.

The Committee Clerk reported that there had been difficulties sourcing adequate maintenance and repair services for the machinery in Penlee Park and that Mr J W Pearce, a local agricultural engineer, had offered to take on this role and it was

RESOLVED - that Mr Pearce be appointed to service and repair the machinery on a 12 month trial basis.

The meeting closed at 8.00 p.m.

Chairman
17 September 2009