

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on  
Tuesday 15 November 2016 in the Civic Chamber, Council Offices, Skelmanthorpe**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs G Turner, B Jewitt, P Flinders, J Depledge, M Wood, N Denby, M Blanshard and Cllr Brook.

**APOLOGIES:** Cllrs R Gott and S Hellewell

**IN ATTENDANCE:** C Wadsworth, Clerk to the Council

**16/067 Declarations of Interest**

Declarations of interest were received from Cllrs Turner and Flinders in the grant application from the Friends of Skelmanthorpe Library, and from Cllr Denby in the grant application from Denby Dale First & Nursery School.

**16/068 Open Session**

No members of the public were present

**16/069 Apologies for Absence**

Reasons for absence from the meeting were submitted from Cllr Hellewell. **RESOLVED** that the reason for absence submitted by the councillor be accepted as valid. Cllr Gott submitted late apologies.

**16/070 Admission of the Public**

**RESOLVED** that there were no items requiring the exclusion of the press and public.

**16/071 Budget 2016/17 and Expenditure Review**

Cllr Brook spoke about the budget outturn, noting that there was a further £3000 awarded to Denby Cricket Club from the community grant budget line, and another community grant application on the agenda. He also advised that there would be an estimated spend of £15,000 (plus contingencies) on the allotment budget line this financial year. The countryside budget had been split due to the Parish Council taking over the salary of the countryside officer, £20,000 was now drawn out of the employment costs budget, with the remaining £5,000 so far spent on vehicle hire and PPE. The Library Building budget showed a deficit, explained by the spend on windows which were covered by a New Homes Bonus grant award, and a number of one off solicitor fees. It was suggested that the Building Working Group convene to discuss a marketing strategy. The Clerk noted the need to vire funds from travel expenses and annual allowances to the administration budget line to cover the IT costs incurred by the change in building ownership,

**RESOLVED** that the expenditure review was accepted

**RESOLVED** that funds be vired from clerk's travel expenses and the annual allowance to the administration budget line

**16/072 Draft Budget 2017/18 to be recommended to Full Council**

It was noted that the Consumer Price Index was forecast to go up again, therefore it was suggested that a 2% increase should be added to the relevant budget lines (excluding grants, insurance & wages).

It was highlighted that the Library Building forecast for this year could meet the budget allotted, impacting on its contingency, and could therefore need increasing. Dog bags/Dispensers should also be increased.

**RESOLVED** that the Emley Show budget line be retained

**RESOLVED** that the Employment costs budget be increased to £46,000

**RESOLVED** that a 2% increase be added to the budget

**RESOLVED** that the budget be recommended to Full Council with the additional changes noted.

**Preliminary Discussion on Precept and Precept Capping Consultation**

Cllr Brook noted the update on the consultation, which was not to be extended. As the consultation affected councils raising precepts of over £500,000, this did not affect this parish council or any others in Kirklees.

The Clerk noted that there was no information yet on the Council Tax Reduction grant as this was usually notified nearer Christmas. Cllr Turner agreed that Kirklees Council would receive its settlement at Christmas. The Clerk noted that the precept would be estimated using 2% increase on CPI.

**16/073 Small Grants Applications**

**RESOLVED** the following small grants were awarded using the Power of General Competence provided by the Localism Act 2011.

Hobsons Chorus	Music	200.00	AWARDED
Connect Magazine	Noticeboard lock	41.32	AWARDED
Darby & Joan Club, Clayton West	Boiler	389.00	AWARDED
Emley Brass Band	Music stands for concerts	439.50	AWARDED
Friends of Skelmanthorpe Community Library	Arts and Crafts materials	500.00	AWARDED
5 <sup>th</sup> Skelmanthorpe Scout Group	ICT equipment	500.00	AWARDED
Scissett Youth Amateur Swimming Club	Uniforms for volunteers	432.00	AWARDED

Total = £2,501.82

**16/074 Community Grant Application**

**RESOLVED** that a grant of £1,500 be awarded to Denby Village Conservation Group for a history board using the General Power of Competence provided by the Localism Act 2011

**16/075 Schools Grant Application**

**RESOLVED** that a grant of £500 be awarded to Denby Dale First & Nursery School for a seating area using the General Power of Competence provided by the Localism Act 2011

**16/076 Internal Auditor**

**RESOLVED** that Michael B Fox of Torevell Dent Ltd be retained as Internal Auditor to undertake the Internal Audit in March 2017 at a held cost of £550 + VAT

**16/077 Orders for Payment**

**RESOLVED** that orders for payment number 667 totaling £12,290.18 be approved for payment

**16/078 Date of next meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for 17 January 2017

Signed..... CHAIR