

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on  
Tuesday, 21 January 2014 in the Civic Chamber, Council Offices, Skelmanthorpe**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs R Brook, J Dodds, G Turner, C Rimmer, J Cook and R Gott

**APOLOGIES:** M Watson, S Kinchin, J Dodds (part of meeting)

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

**11/133 Declarations of Interest**

Cllrs R Brook, J Dodds and G Turner declared an interest.

**11/134 Open Session**

No members of the public were present.

**11/135 Apologies for Absence**

Reasons for absence from the meeting were submitted from Councillors M Watson, S Kinchin and J Dodds (for part of the meeting). **RESOLVED** that the reasons for absence submitted by these councillors be accepted as valid.

Late apologies were also received from Cllr B Rushforth.

**11/136 Admission of the Public**

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

**11/137 Rural Community Broadband Fund – update**

Cllr Brook informed the meeting that Peter Butters would be attending the next Full Council Meeting on 4 February and would provide an update then.

**RESOLVED** that the update be received.

**11/138 Preliminary Discussion on Skelmanthorpe Council Offices**

**RESOLVED** that the Council investigate the annual running costs of the building, without any commitment whatsoever.

**11/139 Feedback from Schools on School Grant Spend**

Discussion was held on the background of the School Grant Scheme and whether it was appropriate to go forward with it in its current form.

**RESOLVED** that the Clerk's feedback report be received.

**11/140 Financial Update on the Heritage Working Party**

Cllr Brook provided an update of the current situation on the finances of the Heritage Working Party, showing that they were within their remit.

**RESOLVED** that the update be received.

**11/141 Budget 2013/2014 and Expenditure Update**

Cllr Brook advised that the current expenditure update showed that the council was on track with budget expectations.

**RESOLVED** that the update be received.

**11/142 Draft Budget 2014/2015 and Discussion on Precept**

The draft budget was discussed. There had been some proposals for extra expenditure from individual councillors to consider.

- Inclusion of a heading for 'emergency works'

**RESOLVED** that community groups apply for funding via the Community Grant Scheme.

- Funding for WW1 Centenary Commemorative Events

**RESOLVED** that community groups apply for funding via the Community Grant Scheme.

- Revised budget for Christmas tree provision

**RESOLVED** that the council retain its current contribution

**RESOLVED** that the F&G Committee recommend that the draft budget for 2014/2015 be altered as follows:

- Dog bags and dispensers increased to £2,000
- Litterbins budget decreased to £1,500
- Community Grant Scheme increased to £17,500

- Election Expenses increased to £13,000
- Community Grant Aid increased to £34,000
- Schools Grants would be retained at current level, however schools would now write in to the Clerk with their proposals and these would be considered on an individual basis.

**Precept**

**RESOLVED** that the F&G Committee recommend that the council should raise the precept by the rate of inflation plus an additional £20,000.00. This would give an estimated precept of £158,378.00.

**11/143 Litterbins**

**RESOLVED** that F&G recommend to Full Council that the Clerk arrange to order and have placed the following bins on provision of exact sitings from councillors.

1 at Clayton West

1 at Upper Cumberworth

3 at Upper Denby

2 at Birdsedge

4 at Denby Dale

Totalling 11 bins at a cost of £3124.00

**11/144 Orders for Payment**

**RESOLVED** that the orders for payment no. 596 totalling £19,482.89 be approved for payment.

**11/145 Date of next meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for 18 March 2014

**Signed..... CHAIR**