

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

PRESENT: Cllrs R Brook, P Flinders, E Wrench, J Dodds, M Watson, B Rushforth and R Gott

APOLOGIES: Cllrs C Rimmer, G Turner, K Waites and J Cook.

IN ATTENDANCE: C Wadsworth, Clerk to the Council

11/174 Declarations of Interest

Cllr R Brook declared an interest in agenda items 5 and 9.

11/175 Open Session

No members of the public were present.

11/176 Apologies for Absence

Reasons for absence from the meeting were submitted from Cllrs J Cook, C Rimmer, G Turner and K Waites. **RESOLVED** that the reasons for absence submitted by these councillors be accepted as valid.

11/177 Admission of the Public

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

11/178 Budget 2014/2015

Cllr Brook referred to the budget paper circulated. A discussion was held around significant under spend on some budget lines in this year's budget, and on running costs for volunteer groups. It was agreed to defer a decision on running costs until a full options paper could be produced.

RESOLVED that the two budget line codes for Allotments, and for past spend on Neighbourhood Planning, be added to the budget headings.

11/179 Skelmanthorpe Library Building

A discussion was held around the Skelmanthorpe library building, Cllr Brook referred to previous meetings where it had been agreed that the council investigate running costs of the building, without further commitment. This has now been done, the Clerk presented the latest figures on running costs supplied by Kirklees Council.

RESOLVED that in principle the Finance and General Purposes Committee recommend to Full Council that we look towards adopting the building taking over the management from Kirklees DC and set up a working party involving Full Council members to look at the mechanisms on how to do this, with a proposed budget line of £30,000 to be put in place in next year's budget.

11/180 Draft Budget 2015/2016 and preliminary discussion on Precept

RESOLVED that the F&G Purposes Committee recommended that the budget should be increased in line with inflation, with amendments to lines as per attached paper.

11/181 Council Tax Reduction Grant

RESOLVED that the Council added its support to the letter drafted by Kirkburton PC to Kirklees DC.

11/182 Small Grant Applications

RESOLVED that small grants be awarded as per the attached schedule.

11/183 Internal Auditor

RESOLVED that Michael Fox at Torevell Dent be appointed as internal auditor for next year's audit.

11/184 Financial Regulations

RESOLVED that the amendments to paragraphs 5.2 and 11 recommended by the Clerk be adopted.

11/186 Christmas Trees

RESOLVED that this item be deleted as not applicable this year.

11/187 Orders for Payment

RESOLVED that the orders for payment no. 614 totalling £516.62 be approved for payment.

11/188 Date of next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for 20 January 2015.

Signed..... CHAIR