

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on
Tuesday, 22 October 2013 in the Civic Chamber, Council Offices, Skelmanthorpe**

PRESENT: Cllrs R Brook, J Dodds, G Turner, S Kinchin, B Rushforth, J Cook and R Gott

APOLOGIES: C Rimmer, M Watson, M Fahey, A Hinde King

IN ATTENDANCE: C Wadsworth, Clerk to the Council

11/116 Declarations of Interest

Cllr R Brook declared an interest in item 8 (Friends of Skelmanthorpe Textile Heritage Centre) and Cllr J Cook declared an interest in item 8 (Denby Cricket Club). There were no other declarations of interest.

11/117 Open Session

No members of the public were present.

11/118 Apologies for Absence

Reasons for absence from the meeting were submitted from Councillors C Rimmer, M Fahey and A Hinde King. **RESOLVED** that the reasons for absence submitted by these councillors be accepted as valid. Late apologies were also received from Cllr M Watson.

11/119 Admission of the Public

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

11/120 Rural Community Broadband Fund – update

There were no further updates on the Rural Community Broadband Fund. It was decided to allocate the £4,000 from the Community Grants budget.

RESOLVED that the £4,000 committed to the Rural Community Broadband Fund was to be taken from the Community Grant budget.

11/121 Budget 2013/2014 and Expenditure Review

RESOLVED that the current expenditure review be accepted.

RESOLVED that the Clerk write to schools to request information on what the grant awarded to them was spent on.

11/122 Draft Budget 2014/2015 and Preliminary discussion on Precept

The draft budget was discussed. It is not clear as yet what impact the Council Tax Support Grant will have this year. The setting of the precept was discussed and it was recommended that this decision should be held as long as possible to see what the position is after Kirklees Council budget meetings. It was also suggested that the council raise the precept as a minimum by the rate of inflation, and that the budget then be expenditure driven.

RESOLVED that the F&G Committee recommend to Full Council that the Precept decision be held until the position is clear following Kirklees Budget Meetings.

RESOLVED that the Precept be raised as a minimum by the rate of inflation

RESOLVED that the F&G Committee recommend to Full Council that the budget be expenditure driven.

11/123 Small Grants Applications

The F&G Committee recommended that grants be approved at the December Full Council Meeting as per the attached schedule.

11/124 Internal Auditor

RESOLVED that Torevell Dent be appointed to carry out the internal audit.

11/125 Internal Controls for Finance

RESOLVED that the Clerk's spend on administrative items up to a maximum of £500 be added to the Financial Regulations.

11/126 2013/2014 National Salary Awards

RESOLVED that the Clerk's Salary be raised in line with the new pay scales and that the Clerk did not request this pay award be backdated.

11/127 Hanging Baskets Tender Review

RESOLVED that the council maintain its current contract with Premier 1 (UK) Ltd.

11/128 Christmas Trees

RESOLVED that expenditure for the parish would be for 9 trees at a cost to the council of £75 each totalling £675.00

11/129 Dog bins - cost of further provision

RESOLVED that the clerk receive suggestions for the siting of one of the remaining dog bins, and that there was a budget of approximately £252.60 for the provision of four further bins.

11/130 Phone Boxes

RESOLVED that the cost of repairs of £67.87 be approved for payment.

11/131 Orders for Payment

RESOLVED that the orders for payment no. 590 totalling £26,497.48 be approved for payment.

11/132 Date of next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for 21 January 2014

Signed..... CHAIR