

GREATER WILLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL
Resource Committee
Minutes of Meeting
3rd September 2014

IN ATTENDANCE

Councillor Tinsley, Councillor Henfrey, Councillor Graham,
Councillor Smith, Councillor Etherington, Councillor Todd,
Councillor Carr, Councillor Cogdon, Councillor Buckham
Helen Cogdon Town Clerk,
Emma Mennouni Community Services Officer
County Councillor Gunn

Councillor Etherington opened the Resource Committee meeting. He informed those in attendance of housekeeping rules regarding the use of the washroom and fire exits. He asked all present to switch off mobile phones throughout the conduct of council business.

ACCEPTANCE OF APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Bennett and Councillor Greensmith. Acceptance of apologies were proposed by Councillor Smith and seconded by Councillor Graham

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Councillor Cogdon declared an interest in item 4 and 5 as his wife is the Responsible Financial Officer.

Councillor Buckham said it was good to be back and described his health problems. He will get back to full time as soon as possible. He plans to catch up on what he has missed and intends to increase his workload over the next few weeks.

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF 2ND JULY 2014

The minutes of the 2nd July 2014 as printed and circulated were approved and taken as a true record.

Proposed Councillor Carr
Seconded Councillor Henfrey

Matters Arising (for information only)

None

APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURE AND CHEQUE RECONCILIATION

Councillor Etherington said the expenditure for July and August 2014 was

£9,608.75

The balance of funds on the current account at 31 August 2014 is £7,519.49
Councillor Graham said that two dates on the cheque reconciliation report were incorrect, namely 18/09/14 twice and 30/01/14.

The Clerk apologised for overlooking the typing errors and will amend for the financial records and signature.

Resolved 1. Approval of the report.
Proposed Councillor Etherington
Seconded Councillor Tinsley

APPROVAL OF BUDGET REPORT

Budget 2014/2015 £92,600

Total spend to date £26,194.67

Committed costs £374.91

Available resource on budget £66,030.42

Councillor Graham said at the last meeting in the absence of Councillor Etherington and the Clerk he had requested that the £420 paid back to the council by the tenant to cover site clearance costs, should be added to the allotment budget head.

Councillor Etherington said this was the first time he had been made aware of this.

The Clerk said the budget report was based on expenditure not income. All income is deposited in the current account. It is then recorded at the end of a financial year as a receipt.

Councillor Tinsley asked if this went into the general council funds. The Clerk confirmed this was the case.

She said this was an unusual situation as the expenditure had been approved. However she could not see it being a problem to increase the allotment budget head by this amount on this occasion, if Councillor Graham needed the funds.

Councillor Etherington said he would discuss how to report on allotment income with the Clerk.

Resolved 1. This is a true record
Proposed Councillor Buckham
Seconded Councillor Etherington

CONSIDERATION OF COMMUNITY FUND APPLICATIONS

Two applications discussed at the previous Resource Committee meeting on 2nd July 2014 have both now supplied the additional information that was requested.

Weardale Holiday Activity Planning Group asked for £500 towards the total budget cost of between £838 - £1433 to provide day trips for local families.

They are asking for any help towards two day trips that they have organised for this year. One trip will be to Adventure Valley in August and the second trip near to Christmas is yet to be confirmed as voting forms have not yet been released. Destination to be chosen from either Beamish Museum or the Polar Express

They will use some of their own funds, fundraising activities and families will be asked to pay a contribution towards the cost of seats/tickets.

Councillor Tinsley has met with Lorraine Reid. They have applied to Tow Law T.C and Councillor Eddie Murphy (recently deceased)

Resolved 1. That this application is approved for £250.

Willington & District Angling Club asked for £500 towards their River Improvement Project. Total project cost is £1400. Has met with the Clerk and agreed to use the funds towards fish and the fishing lease costs that are considerable.

They will use some of the membership fees towards the total cost of the project. Councillor Graham said he didn't agree with throwing money away to swim down the river.

Councillor Smith, Henfrey, Etherington and Tinsley agreed they were keen to protect one of the best natural community assets present in the community.

Councillor Buckham said the river provides an international standard of fishing and needs Fishing Clubs to help sustain this and provide a Bailiff service.

Councillor Buckham said he would cover the funding application shortfall.

Resolved 1. That this application is approved for £250.

Oakenshaw Community Association have offered to return their £498 grant.

The Banks Foundation who funded the work on the Nature Reserve have withdrawn their normal request for 10% of the grant costs.

However the Association has recently bought a new computer.

The Clerk proposes that they resubmit the budget to include equipment and community activity costs with receipts.

Resolved 1. Approved in principle subject to receiving copies of receipts.

Willington Methodist Church sent a letter of thanks for the £500 Community Fund award. The money will be used to re-route the sewer which needs to be carried out before they can proceed with the actual building works of the Open Door Project.

7. CONSIDERATION OF CIVIC FUND APPLICATIONS

No new applications received.

Members from Dovedale Social Club visited the office to thank the Council for the donation of £50 from the Civic Fund Award. The money will be used on a buffet supper when the newly refurbished Dovedale Centre reopens.

The date for reopening is delayed.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)

We have received a formal letter this morning from BDO that our audit has been successfully completed. Our Annual Return, financial management and practices have been approved and there has been no request for additional information. Cost of the audit was £360.

The Public Notice will be displayed in accordance with audit requirements.

9. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 1st October 2014

Signed by the Chairman

1st October 2014