

APPLEBY-IN-WESTMORLAND TOWN COUNCIL

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A MEETING OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE WAS HELD IN THE MOOT HALL ON TUESDAY MARCH 5th 2007 AT 7.43pm

Present : Chairman I Potts
 Vice Chairman A Connell
 Councillors AK Morgan
 Mrs E Langan
 HR Potts
 J Pape
 PR Elliott
 F Harland
 S Rooke
 Mrs C Patterson
 KJ Budding (R.F.O.)
 Mrs M Clowes
 CK Duncan
Apologies : Mrs A Potts

F1/03/07 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received by the Chairman.

F2/03/07 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Budding informed Members that he may have to declare an interest in agenda item 14 (ongoing staffing discussions), depending on what was discussed.

F3/03/07 FINANCIAL REPORT

This month's report was given to Councillors by the RFO, Cllr Budding, and noted. Cllr Budding reported that subject to balancing of bank statements the anticipated cash available at the end of February was **£22,200**. He also reported on a financial training course attended.

RESOLVED that the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) Direct Information Service (DIS) publication be ordered for one year, for receipt in electronic form via email to the Clerk, for distribution to Members and for her to print to read at home.

RESOLVED to recommend to Council that the RFO's request for authority to set up a separate bank account and separate V.A.T. registration account for the T.I.C. be granted. Signatories to remain as per the ATC account.

RESOLVED to recommend to Council that the RFO's request for authority to obtain estimates/quotations for a property survey to be conducted be granted.

F4/03/07 T.I.C. WORKING PARTY REPORT

Cllr I Potts presented a report from the T.I.C. Working Party regarding future T.I.C. strategy.

The RFO was requested to send a copy of the report to all Members so they could study it in detail.

The Clerk was asked to add this item to her agenda for Council on March 14th for further discussion.

ACTION

RFO

RFO

Clerk

F5/03/07 APPLEBY CEMETERY CHAPEL COMMITTEE GRANT REQUEST

RESOLVED to recommend to Council that the sum of **£350** be donated from the **Dorothy Chapman fund** towards the costs of a full structural survey (necessary in order that Lottery funding applications could be made).

RFO

F6/03/07 APPLEBY CARNIVAL COMMITTEE GRANT REQUEST

The Clerk was asked to add this item to her agenda for Council on March 14. Cllr Elliott agreed to collect a balance sheet to complete the application pack.

**Clerk
PE**

F7/03/07 APPLEBY JAZZ FESTIVAL GRANT REQUEST

RESOLVED to recommend to Council that the sum of **£250** be donated from the **Dorothy Chapman fund** towards the cost of publicity and that **150 chairs** be lent free of charge by the Public Hall as last year.

RFO

The Clerk was asked to alert the Public Hall Manager re. the chairs.

Clerk

F8/03/07 PROPERTY SURVEYS

This item had been covered earlier in the meeting during the RFO's report (see F3/03/07).

F9/03/07 LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION

This item had already been covered during the Planning Committee Meeting (see P13/03/07) whilst discussing a letter received from CCC on a similar subject.

F10/03/07 MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT

Members had been emailed and asked to consider any comments they may wish to send in response to consultation on a revised model Code of Conduct for Local Authority Members. The revised Code was due to be issued in May. This was noted.

F11/03/07 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS

The Committee Chairman Cllr I Potts gave his report, which was noted. This included attendance on behalf of ATC and Appleby Alliance at an Eden LSP Steering Group meeting. Cllr Potts also advised Members he had obtained details of a rural social and community programme of grants that any organisation in Appleby which could be eligible should have a look at it. He asked anyone with an interest to contact him. Cllr Potts updated Members on a letter he had written to CCC about the Shire Hall, as part of his work on dilapidated buildings (see *Planning minutes*).

F12/03/07 CORRESPONDENCE (for information / recommendation to Council)

None outstanding.

F13/03/07 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED that in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, members of the press & public were excluded from the meeting during discussion of the following items of business, on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Section 1 (2) of the Act.

F14/03/07 FAIR HILL REVIEW

RESOLVED to recommend to Council that they continue with the current grazing licence and review again in twelve months. The RFO was asked to research membership of the NFU.

RFO

At **9.25pm**, as this section of the meeting was concluded, Cllr I Potts handed over the chairmanship for the remainder of the meeting to the Mayor, **Cllr Stan Rooke**.

The Clerk left the meeting at this point and **Cllr Harland** took over to minute the remainder of the meeting.

F15/03/07 ANNUAL REVIEW OF STAFF SALARIES

RESOLVED to recommend to Council that the outcome of national negotiations between NALC and the unions be awaited, before reviewing staff salaries. This item to be placed on the F&GP agenda for April 2nd.

Clerk

F16/03/07 ONGOING STAFFING DISCUSSIONS

Cllr Budding expressed, as a Councillor, a personal and prejudicial interest, but remained in the chamber solely in his capacity as RFO to advise on any financial matters which may have arisen.

Further discussions took place re the ongoing personnel matters. **No final decision was reached at the meeting.**

F17/03/07 NEXT MEETING

Members noted that the next ordinary meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee would be held on **Monday April 2nd at 7.45pm** in the Moot Hall, **or upon the rising of the Planning Committee.**

ALL

There being no further business, **the meeting closed at 10.05 pm.**