

APPLEBY-IN-WESTMORLAND TOWN COUNCIL

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A MEETING OF THE **FINANCE COMMITTEE** WAS HELD IN THE MOOT HALL ON MONDAY SEPTEMBER 29th 2008 AT 6.45pm

Committee Members Present : [in alphabetical order]	Chairman	I Potts
	Vice Chairman	LH Thwaytes
	Councillors	GI Holloway
		J Pape
		HR Potts
		Mrs C Patterson
		S Rooke
Apologies from Committee Members :	Councillors	Mrs E Langan PR Elliott <i>(Apologies were also received from the Acting RFO, Mrs Helen Newbury, who was attending a CALC Course that evening regarding Audit Issues but had sent her written report to the meeting for the Chairman to read out)</i>
Copies to all remaining Members of Council for information, <i>some of whom were in attendance at this Committee Meeting in an advisory capacity.</i>		

F1/10/08 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received by the Chairman on the Committee's behalf.

F2/10/08 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Members **AGREED** that the minutes of the last meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee, held on September 1st 2008, were a true and accurate record. The Chairman was authorised to sign them as such. Any recommendations contained in these minutes had been considered for adoption by Council on September 10th 2008.

F3/10/08 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Holloway declared an interest in the Volunteer Centre Eden.

F4/10/08 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS

No report this month, but Cllr I Potts gave an update on a successful Music Festival. Cllr Holloway proposed a vote of thanks to the Chamber of Trade, their Secretary Mrs Karen Greenwood and to Cllr I Potts for such a successful event.

Electrical Survey estimates were discussed and it was **AGREED** that Cllr Mrs Anderton would seek an updated estimate from the company in Penrith who had provided the original estimate in 2006, since the regulations had changed on July 1st this year and take information to Council on October 8th so that a decision could be taken to move things along. The Clerk was asked to include an agenda item.

Cllr Mrs Anderton was thanked by Members, the Clerk and the RFO for all her many hours spent meeting workmen and obtaining estimates for many repair items on behalf of her Building Repairs Working Party.

Cllr Holloway and Cllr Thwaytes updated Members that a meeting of the Charitable Trust Status Investigation Working Party would be held soon. The Clerk was asked to check her correspondence to ensure no instructions had yet been issued by Voluntary Action Cumbria regarding preparation of a Deed. *(since checked – none yet issued)*

ACTION

IP

DA

Clerk

Clerk

F5/10/08 ACTING FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT

The Acting RFO's report was received and noted. It was **AGREED** that a letter from a tenant would be considered during **Part Two** of full Council on October 8, with a view to asking for a further 2% rent increase. The Clerk was asked to include an agenda item.

Clerk

F6/10/08 FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF GRANT REQUESTS

Members further considered the following grant applications, having previously requested copies of Balance Sheets for the last financial year ...

Appleby Chamber of Trade & Community Association towards this year's Christmas Lights for the town :

Comprehensive figures had now been received from the Chamber's Secretary, Mrs Karen Greenwood, of how much the Chamber had in the bank and how much the lights cost last year. It was **AGREED** that expected costs for this year's lights would be requested (and whether new lights would be needed) and information brought to Council for consideration on October 8, in order to make a decision in good time as it would soon be necessary for the Chamber to place their orders for lights. *(information now to hand)*

Clerk

Appleby in Westmorland Society towards setting up costs for a new Appleby Archive in the Public Hall :

The Acting RFO had written to request copies of Balance Sheets for the last financial year to be with her by the working day prior to this meeting, but unfortunately they had not yet arrived. The Acting RFO was asked to follow this up and this item was therefore

DEFERRED until the next Finance Committee on November 3rd. *(information since received by the RFO)*

The Clerk was asked to include an agenda item.

RFO

Clerk

Further consideration was given to the planned recommendation to Council that £200 be granted towards core costs for future development of the **Upper Eden Time Bank** to the Volunteer Centre Eden from the Hannah Kennington Charity fund. This item was

DEFERRED to the next Finance meeting on November 3rd, due to Members' reservations about the grant benefiting other than just Appleby residents and there was also an ongoing issue relating to the relocation of the Volunteer Centre. The Clerk was asked to include an agenda item.

Clerk

F7/10/08 PUBLIC TOILETS WORKING PARTY

Cllr Connell reported on behalf of the Working Party on a recommendation to express an interest in adopting the Shire Hall Public Toilets, but request more information from EDC to enable Council to fully consider this. A formal proposal would be made at the October 8 Council meeting.

AC

F8/10/08 EXPENDITURE RECOMMENDED BY WORKING PARTIES

None this month.

Cllr Pape took the opportunity to update Members on his current work regarding the Parish Paths Initiative Grant to make repairs to riverbank footpaths. Members thanked Cllr Pape for all his work on this important project.

Cllr Mrs Anderton reported on her attendance at CCC's recent "Together We Can" meeting and asked for a Member to attend the next meeting, as she would be on holiday. Cllr Mrs Patterson kindly agreed to take her place at this next meeting, on Monday October 6th at 9.30am in the Supper Room of the Public Hall.

CP

F8/10/08 EXPENDITURE RECOMMENDED BY WORKING PARTIES (continued ...)

Cllr Thwaytes took the opportunity to update Members on his extensive work as part of the Finance Working Party to put the Council's Budget Sheets into a more understandable format and Members thanked Cllr Thwaytes for much time spent transferring all the relevant figures to enable the Acting RFO to use this format for her budget work this month.

F9/10/08 CORRESPONDENCE

None outstanding

F10/10/08 LATE CORRESPONDENCE AFTER AGENDA PUBLISHED

None outstanding this month.

F11/10/08 NEXT MEETING

Members noted that the next ordinary meeting of the Finance Committee would be held on **Monday November 3rd at 6.45pm** in the Moot Hall.

There being no further business, **the meeting closed at 7.45pm.**

ALL