



HAYLE TOWN COUNCIL

RESOURCE COMMITTEE MEETING

THURSDAY 26 NOVEMBER 2015

Minutes of the Hayle Town Council Resource Committee Meeting held at the Assembly Room, Hayle Community Centre, 58 Queensway, on Thursday 26 November 2015 at 7.30pm.

PRESENT

Councillors J Bennett, B Capper (Chair), J Coombe, N Farrar, J Ninnes, J Pollard and A Rance

Finance Officer D Gallie

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm.

R23 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES

No apologies for absence were received.

R24 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

Councillors Capper, Coombe and Farrar advised that they would wish to declare an interest if there was any discussion or debate regarding the ongoing grant to The Day Care Centre and the Finance Officer advised that the grant had already been included in the budget and further debate should not be required.

R25 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING 8 OCTOBER 2015

It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting 8 October 2015 be taken as a true and accurate record with the Chairman to sign each page before placing them in the record book.

R26 PRECEPT 1

- a) Swimming Pool – Draft Budget

The Finance Officer advised members that the scheduled meeting of the Amenities Committee which was to be held on the 12 November could not proceed because it was inquorate. The timetable for setting the precept did not allow for this meeting to be arranged and it now fell to the Resource Committee to recommend to full Council the approval of this budget.

It was resolved to approve the Swimming Pool Budget for 2016-17 noting the marginal increase in expenditure and that admission charges would remain unchanged and further to note the revisions to the 2015-16 budget. (See Appendix ‘A’)

- b) Community Centre – Draft Budget

The Finance Officer referred to the report which had been prepared for the scheduled Amenity Committee meeting referred to at R26 (a) and advised that in addition to the proposed figures which gave rise to a call on the precept in the sum of £1684 the Finance Officer was proposing the creation of a fund for more major repairs and renewals in the sum of £5000 per annum.

The Finance Officer felt that with the precept increase coming in at just over 2.5% including this figure, this budget round provided the opportunity to introduce this much needed expenditure.

It was resolved to approve the Community Centre Budget for 2016-17, noting that room hire charges would remain unchanged and further to note the revisions to the 2015-16 budget. (See Appendix 'B').

c) First Draft Council Budget

The Finance Officer presented Councillors with the draft budget and provided explanations on a number of income and expenditure headings as outlined in the Summary Briefing Note which now appears as Appendix 'C'.

The Finance Officer provided further detail to the summary notes in respect of income at code headings 210 Neighbourhood Plan, 211 Hipparchus Energy Grant (see note in expenditure regarding possible use of this money) and code 245 Council Tax Support Grant and the year on year decrease in this money.

With regard to Expenditure, the proposals outlined in the report relating to Code 101 Payroll were discussed in greater detail with the Finance Officer providing information on the revisions required relating to the 1% proposed pay settlement and increases to employers contributions in superannuation in 2016-17.

Members queried whether all staff are paid the Living Wage and although detailed calculations were not to hand the Finance Officer advised that three of the five members of staff were definitely above the Living Wage rate and it was agreed that he would check the position of the remaining two employees and adjustments would be made to bring them to the Living Wage level for 2016-17.

Under Code 168 Maintenance of Open Spaces, the Finance Officer advised of information which had been gathered and advice taken in respect of the tender and procurement process in respect of the deployment of a contractor to carry out ground maintenance works on the amenity sites returning to Hayle TC control from the 1st April 2016.

The work more generally categorised as 'gardening' as opposed to grounds maintenance would be carried out by the existing employee being transferred under TUPE to the employ of Hayle TC and having received information from Cornwall Council and Cormac it was now necessary to employ the services of a land agent to carry out the procurement process for a five year contract in accordance with Financial Regulations and European rules including the drawing up of site measurements and detailed specifications of work.

Advice taken from clerks of neighbouring councils and the procurement officer at Cornwall council gives rise to the proposal to utilise Savills with a cost estimate for the full tender and

procurement process in the sum of a maximum of £5,500. This would be covered from the current years Maintenance of Open Spaces budget and the power to expend was covered in the Council's Financial Regulation at Section 11.1 (a) (ii).

It was resolved that the proposals in relation to the procurement process be approved noting that the costs would be justified by the continuing use of the tender documentation at each contract renewal date over time.

The Finance Officer advised that there were two items brought forward from the October Resource meeting for further discussion the first of which was support in an unspecified sum the Hayle Youth Centre and although a representative was not available to make a presentation, a summary paper was available which would be enclosed with the papers for the meeting of the Council on the 17 December.

It was resolved that subject to the provision of an open access night at the centre and a presentation on behalf of the project, the Council would consider a contribution in the sum of £2500 in 2016-17 to be taken from reserves and that Cllr Coombe would investigate the possible use of funds held under the Hipparchus Energy Fund referred to above.

One other issue brought forward from the October Resource meeting was financial support for dredging to improve channel navigability and the Finance Officer confirmed that such activity fell outside the legal powers of the Council and no further action would be taken.

The precept incorporating the figures contained within the three cost centres stood at £316,393 as against £302,556 in the current year a rise of £13,837 which equates to a 2.58% increase. This in turn equated to an increase in a full year for a Band D property of £3.07 but subject to any amendment required in respect of the Living Wage proposal.

It was recommended that the precept be approved by full Council on the 17 December.

R27 TO APPROVE THE RELEASE OF £2500 TO CORNWALL WILDLIFE TRUST FOR THE TOWANS' PROJECT

It was resolved to release this payment which is held under this heading in the current years' budget.

R22 TO CONFIRM THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING – 11 DECEMBER 2015

The Chairman advised that this meeting had been listed to take place only if required and given the position reached would not now be needed and the next meeting would therefore be on 14 January 2016.

The meeting closed 8.55pm.