



HAYLE TOWN COUNCIL

RESOURCE COMMITTEE MEETING

THURSDAY 24 NOVEMBER 2016

Minutes of the Hayle Town Council Resource Committee Meeting held at the Assembly Room, Hayle Community Centre, 58 Queensway, on Thursday 24 November 2016 at 7.30pm.

PRESENT

Councillors J Bennett, B Capper (Chair), J Coombe, N Farrar, I Lawrence and A Rance

Finance Officer D Gallie

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm.

R23 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors G Coad, C Polkinghorne and J Pollard.

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 CONSIDER MATTERS RAISED AT THE 27 OCTOBER RESOURCE MEETING – ITEMS WITH BUDGETARY IMPLICATIONS

The Finance Officer advised that the items raised under the above heading had been dealt with as follows:-

- a) Britain in Bloom – the proposal that the annual grant be increased from £1000 to £2000 was included in the draft Council budget.
- b) Report to be commissioned on the management of The Millponds – the contribution from the revenue account of £1000 per annum would see the fund standing at £6000 at 1 April 2017 and this sum should be adequate to provide a report and to carry out any initial recommendations.
- c) War Memorial proposals – the fund would stand at £3040 at 1 April 2017 and this figure would be increased to £5000 with a virement of monies from the Amenity Sites budget General Fund.
- d) Towans Ranger – support for the work of the Towans Ranger in the sum of £2500 had again been included in the Council budget and a request had been made for a further

sum of £500 to be added to facilitate the fabrication and erection of 'prohibitive' signage and this too would be covered from the Amenity Sites General Fund.

- e) Inclusive Play Equipment – it was understood that the application to Tesco's Bags of Support scheme would realise a grant of £8000 which may be increased up to £12000. However in the event that it remained at £8000 a virement of £4000 could be made from the Amenity Sites General Fund.

It was resolved to approve the actions outlined at a) to e) above.

R26 PRECEPT 1

- a) Swimming Pool – Draft Budget

The Finance Officer advised members that the meeting of the Amenities Committee which had been held on the 10 November had scrutinised the draft budget which had been copied to members of the Resource Committee with supporting notes. The call on the precept would increase from £16793 to £20598 largely because of the introduction of a general reserve fund in the sum of £3000 which it was proposed should increase by £1000 per annum over the next 2 years, rounding off at £5000 annually. This sum could then be used to give the pool a 'makeover' at least every 5 years, to include the changing of the water and painting of the pool lining.

It was resolved to approve the Swimming Pool Budget for 2017-18 noting the increase in expenditure and that admission charges would remain unchanged and further to note the revisions to the 2016-17 budget. (See Appendix A)

- b) Community Centre – Draft Budget

The Finance Officer referred to the report which had been prepared for the Amenity Committee meeting and the draft budget which had been copied to members of the Resource Committee which gave rise to a call on the precept in the sum of £8910 as against £6740 in the current year. The increase of £2170 was mainly due to the weighting given to salary increases for those employees on the lower scale points and the increase in the reserve fund contribution by £1000 which it is set to do annually until it rounds off at £10000 per annum.

It was resolved to approve the Community Centre Budget for 2017-18, noting that room hire charges would remain unchanged, and further to note the revisions to the 2016-17 budget. (See Appendix B)

- c) Amenity Sites - Draft 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 budget notes.

The Finance Officer further advised that the budget had been updated since the Amenity Committee meeting to group together all aspects of income and expenditure pertaining to the maintenance of sites other than the Swimming Pool and Community Centre. The overall amount contained within this budget remained unchanged but by redistributing money shown at Code 516 (in the current year shown as General Fund but in 2017-18 shown as Reserve Fund) it had been possible to allocate money to the payroll heading at Code 513 and an

increase to Code 505 to cover the probable increase to the cleaning element of the toilet maintenance contract.

The Finance Officer drew Councillors' attention to the notes of the Personnel Committee meeting held on the 21 September and the recommendation at item 4 relating to the creation of a Maintenance Operative Technician Post at full time 37 hours per week. The notes of the meeting had been considered and received at the full Council meeting on the 6 October and the Employees Payroll Analysis presented to the Resource Committee detailed the total cost, to include Superannuation and National Insurance at £30863, with the actual salary being set at £24174. Councillors made the point that when advertising the post the job description should not prescribe the need for a formal electrical or plumbing qualification and rather should require general building and painting qualifications or experience.

The Finance Officer referred to the increased amount in the toilet cleaning budget and to the proposal in the Amenity Sites supporting notes for the possible extension of the current contract held by Cormac for a further year.

It was resolved to approve the recruitment of the Maintenance Operative and the increase in the toilet cleaning budget with the one year extension to the current contract and further to approve the Amenity Sites Budget for 2017-2018 and to note the revisions to the 2016-2017 budget. (See Appendix C)

A request was also made to provide a top dressing of similar material where required to the King George V Memorial Walk path surface the cost of which could be covered from the Amenity Sites General Fund.

It was resolved to authorise the work to the King George V Memorial Walk.

d) Council – Draft Budget

The draft of the Council budget was presented and the Finance Officer advised that the majority of income and expenditure headings remained either unchanged from the current year or had been slightly uprated in line with inflation.

However on the income side the Council Tax support grant had been reduced by nearly £10000 – Code 245 – and the Finance Officer advised that as the grant was likely to cease completely by 2020 he had discontinued the practice of transferring an element of the money to General Reserves.

Following on from the Personnel Committee report referred to in the Amenity Sites section above, the Finance Officer explained that the proposals to employ a Facilities Manager at 30 hours per week had been costed together with the increase in hours for the Finance Officer's replacement, 18 to 21 hours per week, and for the Town Clerk to increase from 35 hours to full time at 37 hours per week. The figures relating to the proposals are included in the Employees Payroll Analysis and provide for an increase of just under £30000 in the forthcoming year over the revised figure for the current year.

It was resolved to approve the costed recommendations outlined above relating to the appointment of a Facilities Manager and the changes in working hours for the Finance Officer when recruited and the Town Clerk.

The Finance Officer advised that the proposal to take over the library from Cornwall Council was being investigated to provide accurate costings and at this stage no provision had been made in the budgets or precept. The precept deadline was normally 31 December but an extension had been agreed to 31 January to allow detailed figures to be presented to full Council so that a final decision could be made.

However, Councillors were being asked to make a decision on the budgets for the 4 cost centres and the resulting precept which, for the reasons outlined in the Council budget notes pertaining to staffing and the loss of Council Tax Support Grant, would result in a precept requirement of £360877 as against £316835 in the current year giving a rise of £44042 which equates to 10.57%.

It was recommended that the precept to date be approved by full Council on 15 December 2016 with a decision on the devolution of the library service to be made by 31 January 2017.

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 year's budget.

R28 TO CONFIRM THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING – 8 DECEMBER 2016

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 26 January 2017.

The meeting closed 8.35pm.