

MARLBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL

FINANCE AND POLICY

Minutes of a special meeting of the **Finance and Policy Committee** held on the **25th June, 2012** in the **Council Chamber, Town Hall, Marlborough at 7.00pm**

PRESENT

Councillor A Ross	Chairman
Councillor R. Pitts	
Councillor G. Loosmore	
Councillor Mrs P. Dow	

ALSO PRESENT

Mr. Derek Wolfe	Town Clerk
Mrs V. Compton	Adviser
Councillor Mrs M. Hannaford-Dobson	

126/12 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors S. Dobson, Mrs E. Fogg (Town Mayor), N. Fogg and N. Barrett-Morton.

127/11 **DECLARATION(S) OF INTEREST**

Councillors A. Ross and R. Pitts and the Town Clerk (Prejudicial) – Agenda Item 7 – Members of Transition Marlborough and prospective Directors of Marlborough Communities Market.

128/11 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None.

129/12 **APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

Councillors received a schedule indicating that the following organisations had applied to the Town Council for financial assistance. The Committee was advised that the Council's 2012-13 budget included an allocation of £6,600 for the awarding of grants. The Chairman pointed out that, as two Councillors had declared prejudicial interests in the TM and MCM applications, it wouldn't be possible to determine these this evening. Instead, both applications would need to be referred up to the Town Council's next meeting on 2nd July.

Councillor Hannaford-Dobson enquired whether the Council should only be awarding grants to organisations that were also registered charities. The Town Clerk replied

that this all depended upon the Council's eligibility criteria, but certainly there was no reason in law why grants should be restricted in that way.

The Chairman made reference to the Pensioners Christmas Lunch organisation. Although no application had been received, he felt it might be appropriate to earmark £200 for this purpose at this early stage, but obtain additional information in the meantime.

a) Greatwood Charity – amount applied for £1,000

RESOLVED: unanimously that the Greatwood Charity be awarded a grant of £300, but that the organisation be advised that it might find it helpful to apply to the Marlborough Area Board for a grant also.

b) Marlborough Communities Market – amount applied for £3,000

RESOLVED: unanimously that this application be referred to the Town Council for determination at its meeting on 2nd July.

c) 2nd Marlborough Scout Group – amount applied for £500

RESOLVED: unanimously that the 2nd Marlborough Scout Group be awarded a grant of £500.

d) St. John Ambulance Wiltshire – amount applied for £500.00

RESOLVED: unanimously that St. John Ambulance Wiltshire be awarded a grant of £100.

e) The Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust – amount applied for £500

RESOLVED: unanimously that The Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust be awarded a grant of £200.

f) Transition Marlborough – no amount specified.

RESOLVED: unanimously that this application be referred to the Town Council for determination at its meeting on 2nd July.

g) Pensioner Christmas Lunch – no amount specified.

RESOLVED: unanimously in principle that the sum of £200 be awarded to this organisation in principle, subject to receiving a copy of its most recent set of Annual Accounts.

130/12

KENNET PLACE FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEME – Budgetary Considerations

The Committee made reference to the Town Clerk's report on funding options for the flood alleviation scheme, which had been circulated in advance. The report provided detailed information related to the three available funding options, these being (a) the

Council's Revenue Budget; (b) seeking Loan Consent; and (c) utilising funding from the Council's reserves.

Councillors were aware that the sum of £6,000 had already been set aside in the Council's budget for the proposed scheme. Councillor Mrs. Dow therefore proposed, and it was seconded by Councillor Pitts, that the remaining funding of £30,000 required to ensure that the Town Council could fulfil its obligations in relation to this scheme be obtained by way of loan consent via the Public Works Loans Board.

RECOMMENDED: by 2 votes in favour as opposed to 1 against with 1 abstention that the Flood Alleviation Scheme be funded via £6,000 from within the A&OS Committee's 2012-13 budget and by obtaining loan consent in relation to the remaining sum of £30,000, via the Public Works Loans Board.

131/12 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE 2011-12 FINANCIAL YEAR

The Chairman opened discussion on this agenda item by drawing the Committee's attention to amended copies of pages 4 and 9 of the Council's Statement of Accounts for the 2011-12 Financial Year. These had been circulated to the Committee at the commencement of its meeting. He advised that the revised pages would be integrated within the overall Annual Accounts documentation, before this was circulated to all Councillors in advance of the Council's meeting on 2nd July.

Councillor Mrs. Dow proposed and it was seconded by Councillor Loosmore and:-

RESOLVED: unanimously that the Committee's thanks to the Chairman plus the Council's staff be placed on record in respect of their work on the Annual Accounts;

RECOMMENDED: unanimously that the Statement of Accounts for 2011-12, including the Council's statutory Annual Return, be approved by the Council at its meeting on 2nd July.

The meeting ended at 7.30pm.

Signed Dated
(Chairman)