

**MARLBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL**  
**FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE**

Minutes of a meeting of the Finance and Policy Committee held on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2016 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Marlborough, at 8.20 pm

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<b>PRESENT</b>	Councillor A Ross Councillor Mrs. M Rose Councillor S. Dobson Councillor Mrs P. Dow Councillor N. Fogg Councillor N. Barrett-Morton Councillor A. Kirk Wilson Councillor G. Loosmore Councillor M. Hall	Chairman Town Mayor
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<b>ALSO PRESENT</b>	Mrs S. Parker Mrs D. Whitehall Councillor B. Castle Councillor Mrs E.M. Hannaford-Dobson	Town Clerk Administrator Observing Observing
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**PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no questions.

**584/15 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies.

**585/15 DECLARATION(S) OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest or requests for dispensations.

**586/15 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Members were reminded that legal costs were an ongoing burden for the Council. Costs had been substantial in the current financial year and were expected to be high next year too. We continued to uncover matters that had not been correctly finalised in the past that are now taking time to investigate and correct.

The Mayor had recently presented a grant cheque to the Greatwood Charity. It was a pleasant occasion resulting in some favourable publicity.

As agenda items 7 and 9 were related, the Chairman would take these items together.

**587/15 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:** by 7 votes for with 1 abstention that the minutes of the meeting of the Finance and Policy Committee held on Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2016 be approved.

**588/15 TOWN CLERK'S REPORT**

The Town Clerk's report was noted.

**589/15 TOWN COUNCIL GRANT SCHEME**  
Members noted a report by the Town Clerk and considered two applications for grant funding.  
**RESOLVED:** to award £540 to Relate Mid Wiltshire, and £1,000 to The Bruce Trust.

It was noted that a balance of £1,472 remained unallocated from the 2015/16 Grants Scheme budget which would be returned to General Reserves.

**590/15 COMMITTEE BUDGETS 2014/2015**  
The Committee income and expenditure reports to end-February 2016 (Month 11), together with a list of payments, were noted, and informatives given for a number of individual budget lines.

**591/15 INSURANCE RENEWAL**  
Members noted a report by the Town Clerk concerning insurance.  
**RESOLVED:** to extend the current three year Long Term Agreement with Zurich by a further two years.

**592/15 EAR MARKED RESERVES**  
Members noted a report and recommendations by the Town Clerk.  
**RESOLVED:** that current ear marked reserves should remain for 2016/17 and if unspent budget allowed for it at the 2015/16 year-end then the current ear marked reserves should be increased and additional ones added as follows:

CCTV	£ 2,452
Neighbourhood Plan	£13,400
Youth Council (Skate Park)	£ 1,000
Cemetery Extension	£ 2,000
Town Hall Maintenance/Restoration	£30,000
Open Spaces Projects	£10,000
George Lane Toilets	£25,000

*Cllrs. Hannaford-Dobson and Dobson left the meeting*

**593/15 MARLBOROUGH NEW ZEALAND**  
Members considered a report from the Town Clerk concerning an exchange of books with Marlborough New Zealand for display in their respective public libraries. A number of potential titles/subjects were discussed (John Betjeman; William Golding; Marlborough College, WWI/WWII; David Chandler's local history books) and Cllrs. Castle and Fogg offered additional donations. Cllrs. Fogg and Hall agreed to put together a list of suggestions.  
**RESOLVED:** to purchase relevant books up to a value of £200, with a small event to be arranged for a formal handover from the Mayor, to possibly coincide with the Literature Festival.

**594/15 CIVIC MATTERS**  
Members noted information about the Civic Service and insignia in the Town Clerk's Report, and considered whether to purchase commemorative items to mark the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Merchant's House Trust.  
**RESOLVED:** to purchase commemorative items for the Anniversary of the Merchant's House Trust.

The meeting closed at 8.52 pm

Signed ..... Date .....  
Chairman