

HUNTINGDON TOWN COUNCIL

FINANCE COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held at the Town Hall, Market Hill, Huntingdon on Thursday 21st February 2019 at approximately 8.00pm.

MINUTES

Present: Councillors: A Beevor; A Blackwell; P Brown; J Cole; A Diaz; C Doyle; S Gifford; V Hufford; P Kadewere; P Kennington; B Luckham; P Pearce (Chairman); T Sanderson; A Sedgwick; T Shrapnel; S Sweek and K Webb

Absent: Councillors: C Wayment.

In Attendance: Mike Addis and Robert Picking, Huntingdonshire History Festival

62. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Approved apologies were received from Councillor S McAdam

63. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

64. PUBLIC ADDRESS

A Member indicated that they wished to address the meeting. It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED to adjourn the meeting.

A Member raised concerns that the Council had committed to a financial expenditure without knowing the financial impact with regards to waiving the burial fees for children under the age of 16.

A compassionate approach to this change in legislation was advised, there was a low financial risk. Members had already approved this change at Town Council. After the 29th March, it would be clearer when the burial fund from the Government would be established.

With no further comments or questions, it was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED to reconvene.

65. HUNTINGDONSHIRE HISTORY FESTIVAL

The Chairman invited Mike Addis and Robert Picking to give their presentation on Huntingdonshire History Festival.

The presentation contained a proposal to provide a Napoleonic re-enactment at the following locations: Castle Hill, Market Square and Bloomfield Park in Huntingdon and to launch the Norman Cross Trust (a trust designed to purchase the Norman Cross camp for the Nation). Mike Addis presented a five-year plan for the Huntingdonshire History Festival and commented on the potential for tourism; to promote the Hight Street and raise the profile of Huntingdon Town. A sum of £10,000 was requested from Huntingdon Town Council to fund the event.

The Chairman thanked the Huntingdonshire History Festival for their presentation and invited Member's questions and comments.

A Member noted the enthusiasm for the project. It was clarified that the Stamford Georgian Festival would not clash with the event. Details were requested on what was included within the £4,000 fee to the Napoleonic Association. It was highlighted that the fee covered: public liability insurance, gun powder and marshalling. The park would be provided, and the reenactors would camp for the duration of the event.

Concerns were raised on the price of temporary toilets and security for the event. It was confirmed that public security would not be covered within the fee to the Napoleonic Association.

Concerns were raised regarding the space at Castle Hill and public safety. It was questioned if there was enough space for the public, the reenactors and crowd barriers, to conform to fire safety regulations.

It was advised that a more detailed budget on where the £10,000 would be spent would be required to make a final decision. It was agreed that the Huntingdonshire History Festival would provide a detailed report following the Safety Advisory Group meeting on 20th March. Then a separate Finance Sub Committee would be scheduled to discuss the funding request in detail.

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED to do so.

66. MINUTES

The minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on the 10th January 2019 (M5) were presented to Members.

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED to approve the minutes, which were duly signed by the Chairman.

67. RECOMMENDATIONS OF SUBCOMMITTEES.

Members had before them minutes of the following Sub Committee meetings:

- (i) Finance Sub Committee, held on 3rd January 2019 (M5)

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED to receive, approve and adopt the recommendations contained therein.

68. MONTHLY EXPENDITURE

Members had before them a copy of the monthly expenditure of Huntingdon Town Council for January 2019. The Chairman asked for comments and questions, there were none.

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED to approve the monthly expenditure for January 2019 the reports were signed by the Chairman.

69. BANK RECONCILIATION

Members were informed that the Bank Reconciliation Report had been misplaced and a full report would be provided at the next meeting. The Finance Manager apologised for any inconvenience caused.

70. BUDGET VS ACTUALS

Members were presented with the Budget vs Actuals up to 31st January 2019. The Chairman asked for comments and questions, there were none.

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED to note the budget vs actual up to 31st January 2019.

71. DATE & AGENDA OF THE NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was noted as Thursday 18th April 2019, Town Hall, Market Hill, Huntingdon.

Chairman