

## COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RIPON

### MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 13 April 2015 AT 7PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, THE TOWN HALL, RIPON

PRESENT: Cllr A Skidmore - Chairman  
 Cllr S Brierley  
 Cllr M Chambers  
 Cllr S Hawke  
 Cllr D Todd  
 Cllr M Stanley – Ex-Officio  
 Cllr Barnes as a substitute for Cllr Bateman

The Clerk  
 A member of the press  
 Cllr Bateman – as a member of the public

Late Arrivals: Cllr McHardy (non-committee member) 7.04pm  
 Cllr Martin-Long (non-committee member) 7.24pm  
 Cllr Horton (non-committee member) 7.27pm  
 Cllr Williams (non-committee member) 7.31pm

Early Departures: None

		Action By:
118/14.	<u>To receive apologies for absence</u>  There were no apologies for absence.	
119/14.	<u>Members of the public are now invited to question, seek clarification or make representation to members of the Committee on any agenda item .</u>  There were no questions asked.	
120/14.	<u>To request any Disclosure of an interest in relation to any matter under consideration at this meeting (financial or otherwise) &amp; to consider any written requests for dispensation.</u>  There were no disclosures of interest.	
121/14.	<u>Minutes of the Committee Meetings held on 9 March 2015</u>  Proposed – Cllr Hawke      Seconded – Cllr Brierley  “That the minutes of the said meeting be approved”  <b>RESOLVED</b>	
122/14	<u>To approve the list of payments for 01.02.15-28.02.15</u>  Proposed – Cllr Hawke      Seconded – Cllr Martin  “That the list of payments for 01.02.15-28.02.15 be approved”  <b>RESOLVED</b>	

123/14.	<p><u>To approve the list of payments for 01.03.15-31.03.15</u></p> <p>Proposed – Cllr Martin      Seconded – Cllr Hawke  “That the list of payments for 01.03.15-31.03.15 be approved”</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b></p>	
124/14.	<p><u>To approve the monthly income &amp; expenditure report to 28 February 2015</u></p> <p>Proposed – Cllr Chambers      Seconded – Cllr Brierley</p> <p>“That the monthly income &amp; expenditure report to 28 February 2015 be approved”</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b></p>	
125/14.	<p><u>To approve the monthly income &amp; expenditure report to 31 March 2015</u></p> <p>Proposed – Cllr Martin      Seconded – Cllr Chambers</p> <p>“That the monthly income &amp; expenditure report to 31 March 2015 be approved</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b></p>	
126/14.	<p><u>To consider the options for re-investment of the High Interest Deposit Bond at HSBC</u></p> <p>Members discussed the options presented. As all income from investments for the next 3 years is to be ring-fenced towards Yorkshire Day celebrations it was thought that a 3 year investment would be most suitable to coincide with these celebrations.</p> <p>Proposed – Cllr Barnes      Seconded – Cllr Waiting</p> <p>“that the funds be re-invested in the HSBC High Interest Bond for a 3 year period at an interest rate of 1.05% gross”</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b></p>	

The Chairman took agenda item 128/14. Next

128/14.	<p><u>To consider &amp; if thought fit to approve financial support to Ripon In Bloom – RIB accounts will follow</u></p> <p>The Chairman reported that before discussing any financial support to Ripon In Bloom members needed to know that whilst the end of year accounts are still being finalised it is anticipated that there will be an underspend in the last financial year of appprox.£15-£16k. It is recommended that part of this is retained as a contingency &amp; the rest could possibly be distributed to good causes within the City if members wished.</p> <p>Whilst Hugh Ripley Hall had made a surplus this year this has not been without its problems. The roof had needed urgent repairs together will repairs to the interior wall where the water had damaged the wall. Plastering needed doing along with redecoration. The boiler has been faulty &amp; it had been identified that it is an old boiler (35 years old) &amp; not fitted to current standards. Discussions have taken</p>	
---------	--	--

	<p>place with Harrogate Borough Council (HBC) over the costs that have been incurred since taking over the lease being unacceptable &amp; HBC have been asked to contribute to these costs. There are modifications that can be done to the existing boiler or members can insist on a new boiler. Any works done HBC have agreed to pay half of the costs.</p> <p>Proposed – Cllr Barnes      Seconded – Cllr Brierley</p> <p>“That the Cllr Stanley &amp; Cllr Skidmore be authorised to talk to Harrogate Borough Council to negotiate the costs &amp; responsibilities for the installation of a new boiler at Hugh Ripley Hall rather than modifications to the existing boiler &amp; that HBC should be asked to arrange for an independent dilapidation report on the current condition of the building.”</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b></p> <p>With regard to the funding for Ripon In Bloom &amp; grant monies available. As it is anticipated that there will be underspends this year Cllr Skidmore proposed that £10k be distributed to good causes in the city. Cllr Powell is the Council representative for Ripon In Bloom &amp; informed members that without financial support from the Council the group could fold by the end of the year.</p> <p>It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to support the following organisations unless any councillor lodges an objection within the next 7 days. If no objection is received then the funds will be distributed as follows:</p> <p>Ripon In Bloom - £2500  Ripon Community Link £2500  Ripon CVS £2500  Ripon Festivals £2500</p>	
127/14.	<p><u>To consider the grant support to GRIP for the next financial year &amp; approve this support, if appropriate.</u></p> <p>Cllr Stanley, as Chairman of GRIP reported to members that at the last meeting of the GRIP board they agreed to form a new charitable company limited by guarantee with the objective of improving the economy of the city &amp; meeting the public benefit status. The new company will be able to access public &amp; private sector funding &amp; an investment made by the City Council will leverage additional funding from other organisations. GRIP will have a new constitution &amp; there will most probably be only 1 council member from each of Ripon City Council, Harrogate Borough Council &amp; North Yorkshire County Council.</p> <p>Members felt it was difficult to agree to funding an organisation that wasn't yet formed.</p> <p>Proposed – Cllr Skidmore      Seconded – Cllr Chambers</p> <p>“That on production of the constitution of the new charitable company that meets with the City Council approval the City Council will pay a grant of £5000 to the new company this financial year. The constitution is to be provided to the City Council within 2 months.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b></p>	
129/14.	<p><u>To consider &amp; if thought fit approve the partial use of the £40k ring fenced monies</u></p>	

	<p><u>for City Plan (budget approved at F &amp; GP 15.12.14) – Cllr Skidmore to speak</u></p> <p>Discussions have taken place with Harrogate Borough Council for a study into a twin decked car park at the back of Sainsbury supermarket which would create an additional 150 car parking spaces which would require a financial input of £10k from the City Council. It is not known what the eventual costs of a new car park would be but it is anticipated to be in the region of £3m. If it were to go ahead &amp; if Harrogate Borough Council were to pay for this &amp; then collect the revenue from the car parking fees once the costs were recouped from the parking charges the City Council would get back the £10k invested in the study.</p> <p>Proposed – Cllr Barnes      Seconded – Cllr Martin</p> <p>“That £10k of the ring-fenced City Plan monies are made available towards a study for a decked car park at the rear of Sainsbury supermarket”</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b></p>	
130/14.	<p><u>To consider the quote for the conservation of damaged photos of former Mayors - quote enclosed.</u></p> <p>Proposed – Cllr Hawke      Seconded – Cllr Brierley</p> <p>“That the conservation of the photos be authorised at a cost of £753”</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b></p>	
131/14.	<p><u>To receive a report on the valuation &amp; insurance – memo enclosed</u></p> <p>Proposed – Cllr Hawke      Seconded – Cllr Brierley</p> <p>“that the insurance premium be paid by the end of April &amp; that if once the valuation is received the insurance company reduce the premium there will be a refund due, similarly if there is an increase in the premium due the City Council will pay the extra”</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b></p>	
132/14.	<p><u>To consider &amp; if thought fit recommend to Full Council to approve the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding for ICT services provided by Harrogate Borough Council.</u></p> <p>Proposed – Cllr Powell      Seconded – Cllr Barnes</p> <p>“That the Memorandum of Understanding for ICT services provided by Harrogate Borough Council be approved with any referral in the document to the Town clerk should be replaced with the title City Clerk. The Mayor be authorised to sign the document on behalf of the council”</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b></p>	
133/14.	<p><u>Correspondence to consider</u></p> <p>a. Harrogate Borough Council – Ripon Market layout</p> <p>Feedback received on the new layout had been good &amp; it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to</p>	

	<p>receive &amp; note this item.</p> <p>b. McDonalds Ripon extended opening hours</p> <p>The Mayor had asked the Clerk to bring this item to the earliest available meeting for discussion but as it was a planning matter this is to be referred to the next available planning meeting.</p> <p>c. NYCC highways – proposed waiting &amp; loading restrictions – various roads</p> <p>This item is to be referred to the planning committee for discussion</p>	
--	---	--

The meeting closed at 8.11pm

SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIRMAN

ACKNOWLEDGED AT FULL COUNCIL MEETING FOR INFORMATION ONLY

SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR