

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RIPON

MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 13 JANUARY 2014 AT 7PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, THE TOWN HALL, RIPON

PRESENT: Cllr A F Skidmore - Chairman
 Cllr Mrs S E Brierley
 Cllr M C Chambers
 Cllr S J Hawke
 Cllr S Martin
 Cllr C Powell
 Cllr M F Stanley - The Right Worshipful The Mayor – Ex-Officio
 Cllr D Todd
 Cllr L Barnes – as a substitute for Cllr Bateman
 Cllr P McHardy – as a substitute for Cllr Williams

The Clerk,
 Admin Assistant
 2 Councillors (non committee members)

Late Arrivals: none

Early Departures: none

		Action By:
109/13.	<u>To receive apologies for absence</u> Cllr Williams	
110/13.	<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> None	
111/13	<u>To request any Disclosure of an interest in relation to any matter under consideration at this meeting (financial or otherwise) & to consider any written requests for dispensation.</u> None	
112/13.	<u>To approve the Minutes of the committee meeting held on 2 December 2013</u> Proposed – Cllr Brierley Seconded – Cllr Chambers The Committee would like to add to the minutes the amounts of the claim for the Serjeant-At-Mace to attend the training & conference, agenda item 105/13, these being travel costs up to a total of £220, accommodation up to a cost of £140 & a conference fee of £30 & then RESOLVED that the minutes of the said meeting be approved with this addition to the minutes”	

113/13.	<p><u>To approve the expenditure approval to 31 October 2013</u></p> <p>Proposed – Cllr Chambers Seconded – Cllr Brierley</p> <p>“That the expenditure for period to 31 October 2013 be approved & accepted”</p> <p>RESOLVED</p>	
114/13.	<p><u>To approve the expenditure approval to 30 November 2013</u></p> <p>Proposed – Cllr Chambers Seconded – Cllr Hawke</p> <p>“That the expenditure for the period to 30 November 2013 be approved & accepted”</p> <p>RESOLVED</p>	
115/13.	<p><u>To approve the monthly income & expenditure report to 31 October 2013</u></p> <p>It was pointed out that the City Plan expenditure is to be claimed back from Harrogate Borough Council from the grant approved & an additional grant was approved from reserves to Ripon In Bloom earlier in the year. These amounts distort the budget figures for the year to date slightly. It was RESOLVED to accept & approve the report.</p>	
116/13.	<p><u>To approve the monthly income & expenditure report to 30 November 2013</u></p> <p>Proposed – Cllr Brierley Seconded – Cllr Todd</p> <p>That the report be approved & accepted</p> <p>RESOLVED</p>	
117/13.	<p><u>To consider the vire of the underspends in some of the 2013/14 budget headings– see paper attached</u></p> <p>Due to envisaged underspends in some of the budget headings it has been identified that the following virements need to be carried out to balance the budget.</p> <p>That £600 be vired from Subscriptions budget (4006) to Civic Events New Years Eve budget (4161)</p> <p>That £50 be vired from Office sundries budget (4007) to Civic Events New Years Eve budget (4161)</p> <p>That £700 be vired from Cleaning Materials (4008) to Civic Events New Years Eve budget (4161)</p> <p>That £500 be vired from MO uniforms & insignia (4172) to Grants budget (4201)</p> <p>Proposed – Cllr Chambers Seconded – Cllr Brierley</p> <p>“That the above virements to the budget are accepted & actioned”</p> <p>RESOLVED</p>	

	<p>There is also £6841 to be reclaimed from the Harrogate Borough Council grant for the City Plan expenses. This reclaimed amount together with the £500 above will mean an additional £7341 is available in underspends, £5000 will be available for the Tour de France group as agreed in principle at the Finance & General Purposes committee meeting on 11 November 2013, agenda item 99/13 & the rest will be made available for a grant for the WW1 projects planned for next year to commemorate the start of the Great War (£2341)</p> <p>Proposed – Cllr McHardy Seconded – Cllr Skidmore</p> <p>“That these virements above be approved & actioned”</p> <p>RESOLVED</p>	
118/13.	<p><u>To consider & recommend the budget for 2014/15 for Full Council approval</u></p> <p>Cllr McHardy declared an interest in the Allotments should any part of the budget discussions involve the allotments.</p> <p>All budget headings had been increased by 2% to reflect inflation with the exception of the salary budget, which was increased by 1% reflecting the NJC guidelines in the prepared draft budget but there was no allocation in the budget for grants or a budget for Hugh Ripley Hall. A lengthy discussion took place on the proposed budget & the implications this could have on the precept needed next year. A budget of £5550 had been proposed & prepared for Hugh Ripley Hall to be added to the draft budget amount. It was identified that the grants requested for the next financial year amount to approximately £85,000 so it is going to be difficult to allocate & distribute even a small budget for the grants which are all worthy causes.</p> <p>Proposed – Cllr Martin Seconded – Cllr Chambers</p> <p>“that the budget as presented at a total of £162119 plus the budget of £5550 be recommended to the Full Council meeting to follow this committee meeting”</p> <p>RESOLVED</p>	

The Chairman returned to agenda item 117/12. He asked for members approval to vire £122 from the subscriptions budget (4006) to the stationery budget (4003) to cover the overspends in this budget

Proposed – Cllr Brierley Seconded – Cllr Barnes
 “that £122 be vired as above”
RESOLVED

119/13.	<p><u>To recommend the precept amount for Full Council approval for the financial year 2014/15</u></p> <p>A lengthy discussion took place over the difficult decision on whether or not</p>	
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	<p>to raise the precept or not. If the precept remained at the same level as last year it would mean that some worthy organisations that were in genuine need could not be supported.</p> <p>It was proposed that the precept be raised by 3% for the financial year 2014/15, this will mean an increase of £0.95 per year on a band D property in Ripon from last year.</p> <p>Proposed – Cllr Barnes Seconded – Cllr Skidmore</p> <p>“That the precept be raised by 3% in the financial year 2014/15 from last year”</p> <p>RESOLVED</p>	
120/13.	<p>Correspondence received to consider:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">a. Harrogate Borough Council Tour de France Projects 2014</p> <p>It was RESOLVED to pass this correspondence to the Tour de France group to consider.</p>	

Prior to the meeting closing Cllr Stanley wished to inform members that there was no budget again this year for the Alderman TF Spence charity . The Chairman asked to bring this to the next meeting for discussion & will not be recommending a budget for the next financial year either.

The meeting closed at 8.05pm

SIGNED _____

DATE _____

CHAIRMAN

ACKNOWLEDGED AT FULL COUNCIL MEETING FOR INFORMATION ONLY

THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR

DATE