

Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held at 7pm on Tuesday 12 October 2010 in the Old Abbey House, Abingdon.

Present:

Cllr Lesley Legge	Chair of Committee/ Leader
Cllr Alastair Fear	Chair of Amenities & Recreation Committee
Cllr Jim Halliday	
Cllr Patrick Lonergan	
Cllr Angela Lawrence	
Cllr Julie Mayhew-Archer	Chair CH Museum Management Committee
Cllr Tim Oates	Chair of Planning & Highways Committee

In Attendance:

Mr Nigel Warner	Town Clerk
Mrs Sandra Hill	Deputy Town Clerk

70 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from the Mayor of Abingdon, Cllr Duncan Brown and Cllr Alison Rooke.

71 **Declarations of interest**

Cllrs Halliday, Lawrence, Lonergan and Mayhew-Archer declared personal interests in any matters relating to the Vale of White Horse District Council as they are members of that authority. They also declared personal and prejudicial interests in the Open Air Swimming Pool (confidential item 2) as they are members of the Vale of White Horse District Council which owns and operates the open air swimming pool.

Cllr Alastair Fear declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the Storage Facilities (confidential item 2) as he is a nominative Governor of Christ's Hospital.

72 **Minutes**

Resolved to approve the minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting held on 28 September 2010 as a correct record and agree that the Chair should sign them.

73 **Matters Arising**

Min 62 – Choose Abingdon Partnership (ChAP) Board

Cllr Jim Halliday attended the Choose Abingdon Partnership AGM on 11 October 2010 as one of the Council's representatives. He reported that the Chair of the Choose Abingdon Partnership Board, Mr James White, gave a very thorough report and Heather Brown, ChAP Manager, gave a visual presentation on the Partnership's achievements and future plans. All current board members were co-opted.

The Community Forum's AGM took place early evening of 11 October 2010 and was well attended. A number of issues were raised such as - lack of town centre notice boards, clubs and societies database, venues, guildhall, open air pool and common aspect of sharing resources such as PA systems, overhead projectors etc.

Resolved that Cllr Halliday produce a brief report on the Choose Abingdon Partnership Board AGM and the Community Forum AGM.

74 **Schedule of Accounts**

To approve the Schedule of Payments for 1st August to 31st August 2010 (attached). Members requested further detail in relation to three payments, the details of which were provided by the Town Clerk.

Resolved that the Schedule of Payments for 1 August – 31 August be approved.

75 **Financial and Performance Monitoring and General Report of the Town Clerk/ Responsible Financial Officer**

A Member queried the scope of cost centre 201 (recreation). The Town Clerk stated that this included the costs of maintaining all the open spaces with the exception of play areas and the Market Place, these two service areas having separate cost centres.

Resolved that Financial and Performance Monitoring and General Report of the Town Clerk / Responsible Financial Officer be noted.

Resolved that the report on the Christmas Extravaganza be noted.

76 **Annual Governance Report and Audit Action Plan**

Members discussed and thoroughly analysed each recommendation within the Audit Commission's Action Plan, and **resolved** to agree the recommendations contained within, as appended to these minutes.

77 **Date of the Next Meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee**

In consultation with the Vice Chair of the Committee it had been agreed that an additional item be taken to the committee for consideration under the open agenda, and this had been notified to all Members ahead of the meeting.

The Town Clerk outlined that the next meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee on 9th November 2010, is now proving difficult for a majority of the committee to attend. He further reported that a change of date could be facilitated under Standing Orders.

Resolved that

- (i) the meeting be re-scheduled to 10th November 2010;
- (ii) future meeting dates should be included on all agendas.

78 **Exempt information under section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 (as extended by Section 100 of the Local Government Act 1972)**

- Confidential Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on 28 September 2010.
- Matters arising – report of Town Clerk.
- Banking arrangements.