



Minutes – Finance & Operations Committee

Minutes of the meeting held at 7pm on Monday 3rd October 2022 at the Parish Council Offices, Chyanhale, Ponsmere Valley, Perranporth, TR6 0DB

Present: Cllrs Byfield (Chair), Arthur, Gaisford, Pentecost and White

In attendance: Tatiana Cant (Clerk), Chris Waters (Property Manager) and Cllr Rogers

Public Participation

There were no members of the public present.

054/22/F&O Apologies

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Bowers, Higgins and Yeo who had personal commitments and the reasons were accepted by members.

055/22/F&O Declarations of Interest and Dispensations Granted

There were no declarations of interest. No dispensations had been granted.

056/22/F&O Property Management Report

Chris Waters from Charterwood Surveyors, newly appointed Property Manager was welcomed by the Chairman and introduced himself to committee members. Initial inspections of most properties had now been undertaken and updated procedures would be required to ensure the council complied with its statutory obligations as landlord including Energy Performance Certificates. The first quarter's invoicing had been completed. Members expressed their appreciation for the professional approach to the management of the council's portfolio.

Members discussed the Watering Hole's development plans and AGREED that all works were to remain within the existing demised footprint of the premises and that there was to be no reduction in toilet provision accessible to the public.

057/22/F&O Bands in the Sands Bond

Members AGREED that the £5,000 bond held by the council for the Bands in the Sands event should be returned in its entirety to the Watering Hole.

Members noted that documentation had been received for the Tunes in the Dunes and Bands in the Sands 2023 events. The date of 12/13 May had previously been agreed for Tunes in the Dunes only. Consideration would be given to agreement for these events at a future meeting.

058/22/F&O Minutes of the Last Meeting

Members approved the minutes of the last meeting on 5th September as a true and accurate record.

059/22/F&O Update on 8 Boscawen Road

The Clerk reported that the Expression of Interest form had been submitted and acknowledged. The deadline for full applications was 4th August 2023 but with 4 review points during this period, the next of which was 2nd December 2022. The Clerk would seek support from Cornwall Council and work with members to complete the application.

[Cllr Arthur left the meeting.]

060/22/F&O Update on car parks and EV Charging Points

Members noted that the income from Droskyn car park was lower than last year but there were still a few weeks left of the season, and the previous post-Covid year had been exceptional. The Clerk reported that she had asked for information from other parishes but not yet received any responses.

Members wished to explore alternative approaches and research options such as pay-on-exit machines and barriers, as well as possibly employing an officer through the parish council to provide enforcement for both off-site and on-site parking.

Income from the EV chargers began at the end of July once the machines were fully operational, the signage in place and the facility publicised, but the council had been paying the standing charge from earlier in the year. The council was aiming to achieve a profit in order to repay the capital costs as soon as possible. It was AGREED to increase the tariff to 85p/kWh.

061/22/F&O Electricity costs for street lighting

A number of concerns had been expressed regarding the financial costs of the council's street lights particularly with tariffs due to increase as well as the visual, environmental and ecological impact of lamps. It was AGREED to create a working group comprising Cllrs: Gaisford, Pentecost, Reynolds and Rogers to consider options for managing these in the future. This might involve turning off lights, reduced hours of activity, dimming and converting to warm light LED lamps. The working group would meet with the Finance Officer to prepare a full proposal.

062/22/F&O Update on Library

A written report from the Library Manager had been received describing activities held over the last few months and the Book of Condolence for the Queen hosted in the library on behalf of the council. Statistics would be provided at the following committee meeting. Members expressed their interest and appreciation for the excellent work undertaken by the library team.

063/22/F&O Works to water infrastructure at Cligga

Item deferred as quote not received.

064/22/F&O Policy Review

The Publication Scheme was reviewed and approved without amendment.

065/22/F&O Updates from Working Groups

Highways

The Clerk reported that the preferred options proposed by the Highways group and selected by Full Council had now been submitted as an Expression of Interest to the Community Network Panel to be assessed for funding and implementation. Cllr Pentecost reported that she had attended an informative session with Cormac. The Clerk would investigate whether there were opportunities for the council to apply for '20 is Plenty' status.

Cemetery

The Clerk reported that she had received notification that day from Rev'd Clarke explaining that the access road into the cemetery had not been registered with land registry and this was being addressed in order to complete the transfer process.

066/22/F&O Items of Correspondence from the Clerk

The Clerk reported that she had received a request from the local fire service to use the 8 Boscawen Road site as a location for an exercise for the firefighting team. Members AGREED that the premises could be used by the fire service for an exercise on the understanding that there was adequate publicity in advance to explain to local residents.

067/22/F&O Confidential Session

Members AGREED to exclude members of the public and press due to the confidential nature of the items to be discussed.

CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

068/22/F&O Handyperson's Working Arrangements

Members noted that it had now been confirmed that responsibility for oversight of the Handyperson's arrangements fell within the remit of the committee. They further considered a proposal regarding the temporary arrangement whereby a younger helper was used by the Handyperson as an extra pair of hands and he had found this extremely helpful and wished to continue on this basis. Members AGREED that the temporary arrangement could continue.

069/22/F&O Date of next meeting

Members noted the date of the next scheduled meeting: Monday 7th November.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9pm.

Signed

Date: 7th November 2022