MINUTES OF THE POLICY, FINANCE AND PUBLICITY COMMITTEE OF STAVELEY TOWN COUNCIL

Wednesday 22nd January 2014 Commencing at 7.00 pm In The Council Chamber, Staveley Hall

Present:

Councillor A. Hill (Chair)
Councillor D. Collins (Vice-Chair)
Councillor J. Bacon
Councillor J. Barnett
Councillor B. Dyke
Councillor H. Elliott
Councillor E. Tidd

In attendance – Ian Haddock Assistant Financial Officer

		ACTION
446/13	PUBLIC SESSION There were no members of the public present.	
447/13	DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS There were no declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.	
448/13	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Councillor C. Ludlow	
449/13	COUNCILLORS NOT PRESENT There were no Councillors not present.	
450/13	MINUTES OF THE POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE OF STAVELEY TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 24 TH OCTOBER 2013 It was noted that the Minutes had already been approved at Full Council.	
451/13	MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE OF STAVELEY	

TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 24th OCTOBER 2013

335/13 The meeting was informed that Staveley Miners Welfare Football Club had not in fact charged for car parking at the Car Boot sale, it was felt that the Council should write to the Club to clarify matters.

336/13 The Assistant Financial Officer reported that, whilst the report had been sent to the Borough Council the follow up questions had not yet been replied to.

337/13 Employment of a young person – this issue would be pursued once the issue of the Town Clerk's absence had been resolved.

452/13 FINANCIAL ISSUES Budget and Precept 2014/15

The Assistant Financial Officer reported that he was preparing the accounts for the third quarter of the financial year and asked members for a timescale for preparing the precept and budgets for 2014/15 bearing in mind it was normally ratified at the February Ordinary Meeting.

It was agreed that, if possible the budget figures would be made available to the Labour Group Meeting on 4th February.

453/13 HEART OF STAVELEY PROJECT

Councillor Collins gave a verbal report on the funding situation, he felt the targets were somewhat optimistic.

Councillor Hill gave a verbal report on the changes made to the disabled toilet arrangements after their meeting with the project architect, and progress on the cafe and Stables. Also the suggested logo had been rejected and a replacement requested.

454/13 | AFFORDABLE ECO HOMES PROJECT

The Assistant Financial Officer reported that there was a publicity event on Saturday by Guinness. Members felt that there should be no Borough Councillors present at the opening ceremony. Staff would ascertain if there was to be such an event and if so, inform Members of the date and time and ask that a representative from the Town Council be present.

455/13 | SPEEDWELL ROOMS PROJECT

The Assistant Financial Officer reported that whilst no major works were occurring, improvements to the dressing room area were still in progress.

Staff would follow up the issue of signage and the new window.

Regarding the bar franchise the Assistant Financial Officer reported that he had received an approach to take over the franchise and was negotiating with the applicant. Members also noted that it would be possible to operate the bar in house selling bottles only.

It was always possible to obtain an outside bar for major events from local breweries.

456/13 STAVELEY MARKET

Councillor Hill had heard from stallholders that there was not enough publicity. This was not the case, and it may be that the market would have to be returned to Chesterfield Borough Council, who would then franchise it to an outside operator. Members felt that the Town Council should consider this approach to running the market.

457/13 RESTRUCTURING ISSUES

This was moved to the non public session to comply with standing orders.

458/13 WINTER ARRANGEMENTS

The ongoing mild winter meant there had been no problems this year.

459/13 | STAVELEY TOWN COUNCIL WEBSITE

Some of the Members' photographs needed amending.

It was felt that this item should be removed from subsequent agendas.

PART II - CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

460/13 PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS ACT), 1960

RESOLVED - That in view of the fact that publicity would

be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the following matters, the public and representatives of the press be excluded from this meeting during the discussion thereof.

Bank statements to the 31st December 2013 were presented to the Committee.

461/13 RESTRUCTURING ISSUES

Members discussed staffing levels, basic pay, overtime payments and the effect on the budget. The review being undertaken in conjunction with the HR Consultants would address these issues.

462/13 CHAIR'S ALLOWANCE – RECOMMENDATION OF THE GRANTS AND ALLOWANCE COMMITTEE

APPROVED – Subject to the budget being approved.

463/13 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Members noted that it was taking a long time between approval and payment of Section 137 grants. **RECOMMENDED** – That the Committee be given delegated powers.

World War 1 Centenary

RECOMMENDED - That the £1000 budgeted for other activities be ring fenced for the centenary commemorations.