

STAVELEY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes a meeting of the Policy, Finance and Publicity Committee held at 6.00 pm on Tuesday 17 October 2023 in the Frecheville room at Staveley Hall.

Present:

Cllr B Bingham
Cllr C Chambers
Cllr C Jackson
Cllr P Jacobs

Cllr P Mann
Cllr J Ridgway
Cllr E Tidd

PFP2324/10

To Note Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillor B Dyke.

PFP2324/11

To Receive Declarations of Interests

No declarations made.

PFP2324/12

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

It was pointed out that there was a typographical error and that the resolution under minute no. PFP2324/2 should be amended to include the word 'Deputy'.

RESOLVED: That, subject to the above amendment, the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 25 July 2023 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

PFP2324/13

Public Participation Session

There were no members of the public present.

PFP2324/14

To determine which items if any from the remainder of the agenda should be taken with the public and press excluded.

There were no confidential matters to be discussed.

PFP2324/15

Staveley Town Council Improvement Plan

Councillors considered the report of the Town Clerk and RFO. Members were reminded that the plan followed the LCAS framework and that this had been asked to be brought back with some prioritisation. It was explained that the Council would focus primarily on the Foundation level items now that Council had agreed that it would like to pursue accreditation, however some of the higher level items would also need to be looked at for immediate best practice, such as the corporate delivery plan.

In response to a query the Clerk confirmed that some of the red items were currently in progress and the report would be

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updated for the Council meeting where it would go for approval and adoption.

RECOMMENDED:

That Council approve and adopt the Staveley Town Council Improvement Plan.

PFP2324/16

Proposal for a community fund

Councillors considered a proposal put forward by Councillor Mann to establish a community fund out of CIL monies for community groups to apply for.

Councillors discussed the merits of the idea and the amount proposed and felt that a new form should be created for this which set out some detailed ground rules for applicants to follow. The Town Clerk would prepare this as part of the report to Council.

RECOMMENDED:

That Council approve the creation of a £15,000 Community Fund for community groups to apply for grants upto £300 between December 2023 and April 2024.

PFP2324/17

Draft Biodiversity Policy Statement

Councillors considered the report of the Town Clerk and RFO.

Members were keen to see the specific inclusion of schools and care homes in any activities and discussed numerous ideas for potential projects. The town clerk confirmed that there would be opportunity to discuss details as part of the action planning phase in the new year.

RECOMMENDED:

That Council adopt the draft Biodiversity Policy Statement.

PFP2324/18

Finance Update

a) Quarter 2 Report

Councillors considered the Q2 report.

A query was raised about the air hall. The Town Clerk advised that the potential buyer had decided against buying the air hall but had provided details for a website where an advertisement could be placed for £18. The difficulty at present was getting the air hall erected and cleaned so that photographs of the current condition could be used. Councillors felt that this was a priority that needed to be addressed as soon as possible.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

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b) Budget Forecast (forecast from 30 September 2023)

Councillors considered the budget forecast and it was confirmed that the Council was still on track to have a small general reserve by year end.

A query was raised regarding the solar farm grant income. The Town Clerk confirmed that this was now scheduled to be received in April 2024. It was also queried which developments the CIL money had come from and the Clerk undertook to find out and report back to a future meeting.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

c) Reserves Balance

Councillors considered the list of reserves. The Clerk pointed out that an additional capital reserve had been set up to hold the money received from the sale of the hedgerow land at Mastin Moor Allotments.

There was some discussion over the remembrance event and Christmas arrangements. There was an expected donation of £1350 to be given to the Town Council for the Remembrance event.

A discussion was held about the markets and the new shopwatch scheme that had been introduced by the SPOT group.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 7:25pm.

Signed: _____