
MINUTES of the FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING OF STANLEY TOWN COUNCIL held at Stanley Civic Hall, Front Street, Stanley on Wednesday 8th March 2017 at 6.30pm

PRESENT: Cllr D Walker* Cllr D Marshall Cllr C Bell Cllr J Nicholson
 Cllr W Nixon

*Chairman

OFFICERS: Alan Shaw (Town Clerk)
 Nicola James (PA to the Town Clerk)

OTHER IN ATTENDANCE: Cllrs D Tully, D McMahon & M Wilkinson

325 APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Cllrs D Mills, B Nair & R Ferris were accepted by the Committee.

326 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr D McMahon declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 6 (*Minute #330*) Budgetary Control as a trustee of PACT House.

327 PROCEDURAL AND APPROPRIATE ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN OR TOWN CLERK

The Clerk noted that no one was recording this meeting.

328 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No public in attendance.

329 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

It was proposed by Cllr D Marshall, seconded by Cllr B Nixon and **RESOLVED** that the Committee approve the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 6th December 2016.

330 BUDGETARY CONTROL

Committee accepted the report from the Town Clerk and **RECOMMENDS** to Council that:

- (i) No grants should be awarded from underspend on revenue budgets in future years; and

- (ii) An underspend of at least £13,000 needs to be achieved on revenue budgets in the coming year or the level of the General Reserve will reduce.

The Committee **RESOLVED** that:

- (iii) Consideration should be given to investing a proportion of the reserves in a low risk plan which will generate a return to make the most effective use of public money.

The Town Clerk was asked produce a report detailing options for item (iii) for consideration at a future meeting.

331 **INTERNAL AUDIT REPORTS**

Members **NOTED** that the Budgetary Control, Main Accounting, Income Collection & Banking and Bar Income Collection & Banking audit reports were given **Full Assurance** by the Internal Auditor.

The Chairman thanked the Town Clerk and staff for getting the Town Council into the position to achieve Full Assurance.

Cllr J Nicholson asked the Town Clerk if the assurance given could be changed as she had been told previously that the Council achieved Full Assurance but was then told weeks later that the Council had misappropriated funds.

The Chairman advised Cllr Nicholson that there had been an investigation into the alleged misappropriation of funds in 2013 which had proven there had been no funds misappropriated.

332 **INTERNAL AUDIT CONTRACT**

The Committee **RECOMMENDS** that the Town Council renew the contract with Gordon Fletcher amor a further three years.

333 **DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING**

TBC