

LANCING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on Wednesday 15 March 2017 at 7.00pm

Present:- Chair: Cllr Geoff Patmore; Lee Cowen, Mick Clark and Jean Turner.

Ex-officio:- Cllr Gloria Eveleigh.

Officer:- Helen Plant, Clerk

95. Apologies

Apologies were received, and with the reasons outlined, were accepted from Cllrs Clive Burghard and Liz Haywood.

96. Declaration of Substitute Members

None.

97. Declarations of Interest

None.

98. Minutes of the Previous Meeting held on 15 February 2017

The Minutes of this meeting were agreed at the Full Council meeting held on 1 March 2017. There were no matters arising.

99. Public Forum/Questions

None.

100. Accounts for payment

Committee **RESOLVED** that amounts in the sum of:-

101.1 Expenditure (Current A/C) in the sum of £29,591.99

101.2 Expenditure (Clerks Payment A/C) in the sum of £17,204.91

102. Approval of Cash Balances & Investments

It was **RESOLVED** that the cash balances and investments of the Council totalling **£151,710.50** was a true record.

103. Detailed Income & Expenditure by Budget Heading

The information included in the report was noted. Questions were raised in respect of the Internal Auditor fees and income received from the Beach Green and Widewater kiosks. It was also considered that rebates should be applied for in respect of all the Business Rates that the Council is responsible for taking into account the recent changes to rateable values that were introduced.

Resolved – (a) That the Clerk investigates the costs of alternative Internal Auditors and confirms the income received from the Beach Green and Widewater kiosks at the next Committee meeting.

(b) That rebates be applied for in respect of all the Council's Business Rates.

104. Clerk's Report

104.1 Cost of Normal Elections - 2020

Pursuant to Committee Minute 94.1/Feb/17, it was reported that Electoral Services had advised that it was difficult to provide a meaningful estimate for the cost of the next normal elections in 2020, other than adding year-on-year inflation. It was also noted that there was the possibility that further changes to procedures might be introduced by 2020. It was acknowledged that a review of the amount earmarked for this purpose would be carried out during the 2018/19 budgetary considerations.

104.2 Cost of December By-Election

It was reported that the cost of the December by-election to fill the three casual vacancies for Churchill, Manor South and Mash Barn wards had been confirmed as £9,420.

104.3 Staffing matters

Pursuant to Committee Minute 94.2/Feb/17, it was confirmed that the new NJC pay scales for Clerks had been announced and an increase of 1% would be applied as from 1 April 2017. The increase had been anticipated and had been included within the 2017/18 budget.

105. Exclusion of Press and Public

That under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and any press / broadcast media representatives be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following item of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

106. Review of Risk Management Reports

It was reported that the Council's Financial Risk Management and Health and Safety Risk Assessments had been updated and needed reviewing by the Committee for onward approval by full Council.

Resolved – That the submitted Financial Risk Management and Health and Safety Risk Assessments be agreed for onward approval by full Council.

The meeting closed at 8.51pm.

Helen Plant
Clerk to the Council
16 March 2017

Signed Chairman
Date