

CHICHESTER CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD ON WEDNESDAY 22 JANUARY 2014 AT 4.00PM

- PRESENT : Councillors Bell, Campling, T Dignum, French, Plowman, Rankin and Scicluna
- EX OFFICIO : The Mayor (Councillor Hughes)
Councillor Woolley
- ABSENT : Deputy Mayor (Councillor Siggs)
- IN ATTENDANCE : Town Clerk, Finance Manager and Administration Manager

61 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on 26 November 2013 having been circulated, were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

62 REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT TO 30 NOVEMBER 2013

A copy of the Revenue Budget Monitoring Report to 30 November 2013 was circulated with the Agenda.

The Report showed a surplus of £29,333 against the budget to the end of November 2013.

63 CAPITAL MONITORING REPORT 2013/2014

A copy of the Capital Monitoring Report and a 5-year forecast on Capital Projects was circulated with the Agenda.

It was RESOLVED that the Capital Monitoring Report be noted.

The Committee noted that a revised Listed Building Consent application for the external lighting project of the Council House had now been submitted.

64 RENEWAL OF CITY COUNCIL'S INSURANCES

The Finance Manager had prepared a report on the renewal of the City Council's insurances and this had been circulated with the Agenda.

The current City Council's insurance policy will expire on 31 March 2014 following a three-year contract with Zurich Town, Parish and Community Councils. The Finance Manager had contacted and met with insurers and insurance brokers who dealt with Parish Council's insurances and three quotes had subsequently been received and analysed.

It was RESOLVED that the quotation received from Zurich Town, Parish and Community Council's be accepted in the sum of £15,158.18; this would be another 3-year contract with Zurich and represented a saving of £4,500 on the present contract.

65 NEW HOMES BONUS

It was RESOLVED to formally record acceptance of the conditions set out in the agreement between Chichester District Council and Chichester City Council as signed by the Town Clerk as Proper Officer of the City Council authorised to sign such documents.

Councillor T Dignum, as a Chichester District Councillor, advised that previous procedure followed for New Homes Bonus applications would continue however there would be a longer timescale for example it was hoped that application forms and the appropriate paperwork would be available in April with a submission date of June, which would give District Council officers two months before the Grants and Concessions Panel met in September to check and analyse the applications.

All New Homes Bonus applications should not exceed £25,000 and be able to demonstrate community benefit and support.

Councillor T Dignum confirmed that a total of £400,000 for the next 4 years would be available for New Homes Bonus applications.

The Chairman asked members to identify projects in their Wards that may benefit from the New Homes Bonus and submit them to the Town Clerk in the first instance pending determination by Full Council.

66 SECTION 106 FUNDING

The Town Clerk advised that the current Section 106 monies from West Sussex County Council was available until the end of the financial year 2016/2017 and could be used for highway improvements that would benefit the community. Some further points of clarification about Section 106 funding would be sought from West Sussex County Council.

Councillor Woolley had already suggested three possible projects : the Twitten by the Oxmarket, St John's Chapel Forecourt and the widening of the pavement in North Street.

The Chairman asked members to identify projects in their Wards and submit them to the Town Clerk in the first instance. They would be reviewed by the Business Review Committee before going to full Council and if approved submitted to West Sussex County Council for consideration.

67 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

(a) List of Cheques paid for October and November 2013

RESOLVED to note the cheques paid for October and November 2013.

(b) List of Barclaycard Payments for October and November 2013

RESOLVED to note the Barclaycard payments for October and November 2013.

(c) Finance Round-up

The Finance Manager advised that the Final Turnover Certificate from Orion Developments (Ltd) up to 16 December 2013 had been received and the final turnover rent of £31,937 would be received.

68 MINUTES OF SUB-COMMITTEES/WORKING GROUPS

(a) Property Sub-Committee

The Committee considered the Recommendation from the Property Sub-Committee meeting held on 14 January 2014 that in the view of the potential risks to the Council House the proposed public meeting being organised by a third party on the subject of Fracking on Thursday 13 February 2014 be cancelled in the proposed venue, ie. the Assembly Room. However, support is given to the holding of a public meeting on the subject of Fracking at a more suitable location.

It was RESOLVED that the above Recommendation be approved and that the Minutes of the meeting held on 14 January 2014 having been circulated be also approved.

69 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 18 March 2014

The meeting closed at 4.50pm.