
MEETING OF FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

HELD ON 15th NOVEMBER 2022 AT 7.30PM

Present: Cllrs S. Alexander (Vice Chairman), Trundle, Goldsmith, Bell and Campbell.

Clerk: John Fullbrook

Members of the Public in attendance: 0

Meeting commenced: 7:41 pm {Start delayed as had to wait for member to arrive for quorum}

MINUTES

ACTIONS

F&GP/22/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

21.1 Apologies were received from Cllrs Northam, Lloyd, Norcross and Parsons.

F&GP/22/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

22.1 None

F&GP/22/23 QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR

23.1 None

F&GP/22/24 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

24.1 Cllr S. Alexander **proposed, seconded** by Cllr Trundle that the minutes of the meeting held on the 3rd October 2022 be agreed as a true and fair record. **Agreed**

F&GP/22/25 MATTERS ARISING AND ACTIONS

25.1 £250 grant awarded in support of the Steyping Country Fair 2023 - **Actioned**

25.2 SPC Monies being transferred from HSBC Account to Unit Trust Bank – **Actioned**

25.3 Steyping Cricket Club made aware of Country Fair use of field and Car Park – **Actioned**

25.4 Insurance Brokers asked to supply more information, and quotes and to do this sooner next year – **Actioned**

25.5 'Love to Move' £1000 grant awarded after receiving confirmation of accounts – **Actioned**

25.6 £2,200 grant paid to Steyping in Bloom on receipt of their accounts – **Actioned**

25.7 Clerk attended 'Empowering Communities' conference – **Actioned / See item 28.1**

25.8 Clerk to deal with outstanding FOI items - **Actioned / See item 27.1**

25.9 Preparations made, and invitations sent out, for the 9th December '22 Chairmans Function – **Actioned**

25.10 Publicity in place to invite nominations for the SPC Community Awards 2022/23 – **Actioned**

25.11 Take proposal to invoke reserve membership of committees to Full Council – **Actioned**

25.12 Correct use of appropriate RPI checked in regards Swimming pool annual charge uplift - **Actioned**

F&GP/21/26 FINANCE MATTERS

- 26.1 To approve list of payments.** Cllr Campbell made some suggestions for possible future 'Ring fenced Earmarking' of the following items listed – Memorial Bench £700 donation, The Cleansing Grant, Sport England donation, and Cil Monies from HDC and SDNP. The Clerk explained what happens with these payments – effectively Bench, Grant and Donation monies being used already, and Cil Monies goes straight to Earmarked Reserves (as per supporting paper). The Clerk also said that there will be a future meeting to discuss possible Earmarked Reserves. Cllr S. Alexander **proposed, seconded** by Cllr Trundle that the list of payments for September and October 2022 be approved as a correct record. **Agreed**
- 26.2 F&GP I & E Reports.** Cllr S. Alexander **proposed, seconded** by Cllr Trundle that SPC accepts and agrees the income and expenditure reports for September and October 2022. **Agreed**
- 26.3 SPC 2022/23 Action Plan update.** The Clerk elaborated upon the information given as per supporting papers and answered members questions arising.
- 26.4 Notification of 2022/23 National Salary Award and agree implementation of this award.** The Clerk noted that there was not a percentage rise on this occasion, rather each spinal point was to receive an annual increment of £1,925. Cllr Campbell **proposed, seconded** by Cllr S. Alexander that SPC implement as soon as possible the recommendations in the letter from NALC dated 2 November 2022, and backdated as they recommend to the 1st April 2022. **Agreed** **CLERK**
- 26.5 Thoughts on SPC project priorities for 2023/24.** The committee discussed this item at great length in order to begin to decide where the percentage increase in precept should be or not in respect of how and when funding possible expenditure on SPC projects for the year 2023/24. The Clerk to send out further information in regard to expectations for what SPC should be holding within their General Reserves. **CLERK**
- 26.6 To discuss the F&GP draft budget for 2023/24 as per supporting papers.** The Clerk was asked to discuss with Vintage Years their ongoing budget consideration for Isolation and loneliness. Besides this request the committee endorsed the amounts as shown within the current draft of the F&GP budget as per supporting papers with full agreement to be discussed at the December meeting. **CLERK**
- 26.7 The 'Rural Market Town Group' promotion and agree any actions.** After consideration the committee did not make a proposal to agree to the promotion. **CLERK**

F&GP/22/27 DATA PROTECTION AND FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

- 27.1** The Clerk updated that on the 19th October SPC received two Decision Notices from the ICO which basically means there needed to be a response made to the requester that had previously been refused as vexatious. One response has gone out, with the other to be responded to by the 18th Nov. Also, there are a number of responses that need to go on the FOI web site and will be completed as soon as possible. Cllr Campbell suggested there was also an ongoing FOI decision notice discussion from the 30th August 2022. **CLERK**
D Clerk

F&GP/22/28 GOVERNANCE MATTERS

- 28.1 Report from the Clerk on his attendance at the 'Empowering Communities' conference.** The 7th November conference was unfortunately reduced to a large zoom meeting due to a rail strike. The speakers were largely very good and covered areas of interest such as Levelling up and rebuilding Britain, creating dementia friendly communities, the housing crisis, putting civility and respect at the heart of the council, tackling climate change, and a 'how resilient is your council' session. As some of the sessions become available online the Clerk will disseminate them to all members for their information. **CLERK**
- 28.2 Notification of Internal Audit on the 23rd of Nov. and agree Cllr attendance.** The clerk confirmed that in order of availability the F&GP Chair and then the F&GP Vice Chair have agreed to attend **CLERK**

F&GP/22/29 PROGRESS REPORT

29.1 F&GP/22/15.10 Clerks office produce an interim Land and Asset register whilst waiting for Registry search to be completed via the SPC solicitors. The Clerk asked to check if the deeds for the clock tower had been applied for. **CLERK**
CLERK

29.2 F&GP/22/15.13 Funding sought for Bus Shelter DDA compliance works by Premises team and Cllrs Lloyd and Platt **CLERK**

F&GP/22/30 INFORMATION/CORRESPONDENCE ITEMS

30.1 None

F&GP/22/31 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 13th December 2022 @7.30pm.

The Chair closed the meeting at 9.43pm

Signed Date 13th December 2022
Chair

Here is the link to the video recording of this meeting:- <https://youtu.be/Vlpi2UhDRUU>